

**The
American
Legion**



For God and Country

September 2017

Department of New Hampshire 121 S. Fruit St. Concord, NH 03301

(603) 856-8951* * Fax (603) 856-8943

Dan Yoder: adjutantnh@legionnh.org

Lisa Beale: nhsect@legionnh.org

TO: High School Principals and Guidance Counselors
American Legion Post commanders and Adjutants

SUBJECT: 2017-2018 American Legion High School Oratorical Contest

Enclosed Please find the following:

A Poster to be placed on your school scholarship bulletin board.

A Brochure that explains the rules of the Oratorical contest, the prepared speech and the assigned topic speech.

The American Legion strongly encourages any high School student who is a United States citizen to participate because it is designed to create interest, foster appreciation and gain a better understanding of the United States Constitution.

Your local American Legion Post or District Oratorical chairman will be contacting your school in the near future to answer any questions you may have about the American Legion Oratorical Contest.

The American Legion Oratorical Contest is open to all 9-12 grades students in public, parochial, private, and approved home school programs in New Hampshire. Each high school may select one student to participate in its local American Legion District contest. For More information please see <http://www.legion.org/oratorical> and <http://www.legionnh.org/>

All District Contests will be held before February 25, 2018. If your school has a contestant, please contact the local American Legion Post. Contestants will be notified of the district contest date and location. The State finals will be held on March 10, 2018 at St. Anselm College at 9:00am.

District prize money varies from district to district.
State finals contestants receive:

First	\$1000.00	Gold Lapel Pin
Second	\$750.00	Silver Lapel Pin
Third	\$500.00	Bronze Lapel Pin
Fourth	\$250.00	Bronze Lapel Pin
Remaining	\$100.00	Bronze Lapel Pin

The 2018 American Legion High School Oratorical National Finals will be held on April 21-23, 2018 at the Wyndham Indianapolis West Hotel, .in Indianapolis, Indiana. The State Winner and one chaperone will receive an expense paid trip to the National Finals.

The Department (state) winner will receive for participating in the first round of the national competition a \$1500.00 scholarship. Each first round winner who advances to and participates in the second round, but does not advance to the final round will receive an additional \$1500.00 scholarship.

Scholarship awards are presented to the three finalists in the Final Round.
The awards are:

First Place	\$18,000
Second Place	\$16,000
Third Place	\$14,000

For further information regarding the contest, please call the following chairman:

Ken Maynard 603-817-0515
Department HQ 603-856-8951
John Graham, Vice Chairman 603-472-4637