

California Society, Sons of the American Revolution **Oration Contest Procedures**

Students entering the Oration Contest should submit their entries to a chapter of the *Sons of the American Revolution*. Chapters can be located at www.californiasar.org. If the local chapter isn't participating, the contestant should contact Dan McKelvie, CASSAR Oration Contest Chairman (mckelvie@sbcglobal.net). Each student entry must include:

1. A written speech that is the original composition of the student. It must be between five and six minutes in length when presented. The topic is an event, personality, or a document pertaining to the Revolutionary War, and its relationship to America today. The written speech should be double spaced.
2. A digital recording on a USB flash drive of the contestant presenting the speech, saved as an .mpg, .mov, .m4v, or other easily opened video file. The oration must be given from memory without the use of notes or any kind of props or costume. The oration must be essentially the same as the written manuscript. The video should show the contestant from the waist up, not just a head shot.
3. Contestant entry form signed by the student, and optional signature if the contestant has an oratorical coach (NSSAR Form B, page 1), with biographical sketch (NSSAR Form B, page 2).
4. Signed parent authorization and release form for viewing of video recording.
5. Photograph of contestant with their name on the back. (for national competition)

The Chapters will judge the entries using the NSSAR Oration Contest judging sheet. The winning chapter entries will be forwarded with the CASSAR Oration Contest Winner Form to Dan McKelvie, CASSAR Oration Contest Chairman.

The state winner will receive the Olympic-size Joseph S. Rumbaugh Oration Contest medal and a prize of \$1,000. The winner will be offered the opportunity to compete in the national contest at the 2017 NSSAR Congress in Knoxville, Tennessee. The state winner will be responsible for his/her travel expenses to the NSSAR Congress if he/she chooses to complete for the national prizes.

Deadlines

March 1, 2017 – Oration manuscript, digital recording on USB flash drive, entry form, biographical sketch, parent consent form, and photograph are due to Chapter Oration Contest Chairman, or Chapter President.

March 10, 2017 – Entries from Chapter Oration Contest winners due to Dan McKelvie, CASSAR Oration Contest Chairman.

April 8, 2017 – California Society, SAR Spring Meeting Youth Awards Luncheon

July 9-10, 2017 – NSSAR Oration Contest in Knoxville, Tennessee