

CASSAR Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest

Procedures

Students entering the Oration Contest should submit their entries to a local chapter of the California Society 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 Mark Torres, CASSAR Oration Contest Chairman (mblastus@yahoo.com). Each student entry must include:

1. Participants must write an original oration of not less than five minutes, or more than six minutes. The oration must be delivered from memory and without the use of notes or any kind of props. The subject of the oration shall deal with an event, a personality, or a document pertaining to the Revolutionary War with an emphasis on our nation's 250th anniversary celebration. It is essential that each oration show the relationship it bears to America today. Evidence of historical research and creative presentation are also important. The oration will be judged based upon its composition, delivery, significance, historical accuracy and relevance to our 250th anniversary. The written speech should be double spaced.
2. A digital recording of the contestant presenting the speech is required. The Video Requirement The contest video must be of continuous feed and not exceeding 800 Megabytes in size. Absolutely no editing is permitted. It should be recorded in a horizontal frame on an iPhone or Android Phone. By recording it in this manner, the judges will be able to evaluate the contestant's stage presence. We also suggest that you find a venue with a stage and an American 50 star flag on the left (See photo above) and a SAR flag on the right (See photo above). No state flags or other signage should be present. It is important not to identify the location where the video was recorded. Please keep the background simple, so it doesn't distract from the contestant. We'd like the videos to appear to be on stage because we will be posting the three top national winners to the NSSAR website. Please make sure to test that the sound is clear and audible before you start recording. You may use a lavalier microphone when recording (recommended.) 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 standing from the waist up, not just a head shot. Send the video as an actual video file in either a .mov or a .mp4 format only. Youtube videos are not accepted.
3. Contestant Entry Form shall be signed by the student. If the contestant has an oratorical coach, their signature shall be included (NSSAR Form B, page 1). The biographical sketch (NSSAR Form B, page 2) shall also be signed.
4. Signed parent authorization and release form for viewing of video recording.
5. Electronic photograph of contestant.

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 Mark Torres, 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 yearly NSSAR Congress. If the state's winner is selected as a National Finalist, the state society will cover a reasonable cost of economy air travel and a shared hotel room for the winner and a chaperone only. No other expenses will be covered by the State Society.

Deadline: February 1st. Entries from Chapter Oration Contest winners due to Mark Torres, CASSAR Oration Contest Chairman (mblastus@yahoo.com.)