



# NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA

[www.nebraskalegion.net](http://www.nebraskalegion.net)

Contact: John Thompson @ 402-464-6338

January 19<sup>st</sup>, 2017

## **CREIGHTON PREP SOPHOMORE WINS STATE ORATORICAL CONTEST**

Michael McClellan, a junior at Creighton Prep high school and son of John and Katie McClellan, earned first-place at the 79th annual American Legion Oratorical Contest held on January 14 at the Hotel Grand in Grand Island. He received a check from the Nebraska American Legion for \$1,100.00.

Juan Lasso Velasco, Columbus, placed second and was awarded \$700.00; Thomas Bosmeniel, Ulysses, placed third and was awarded \$500.00; and Janessa Carley, Daleton, placed fourth and was awarded \$300.00.

McClellan will now compete at the National Oratorical Finals on April 22-23 in Indianapolis, Indiana against various state champions from across the United States and France and Germany. The first day of competition will narrow the field of participants down to the "Final Three" who will square off against each other the following day.

The three finalists will receive scholarships of \$14,000.00, \$16,000.00, and \$18,000.00 from The American Legion.