



## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

The American Legion, Department of Nebraska

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### **Creighton Prep Senior Wins State Oratorical Contest**

Michael McClellan, a senior at Creighton Prep high school and son of John and Katie McClellan, earned first-place at the 80th annual American Legion Oratorical Contest held on January 13 at the Sandhills Convention Center in North Platte. He was awarded a check from the Nebraska American Legion for \$1,100.

Thomas Bosmeniel, Seward High School, placed second and was awarded \$700; Audrey Worthing, Elm Creek High School, placed third and was awarded \$500; and Kollyn Weimer, Sidney High School, placed fourth and was awarded \$300.

McClellan will now compete at the National Oratorical Finals on April 13-15 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, \$16,000, and \$18,000 from The American Legion.

Since its inception in 1919, The American Legion has been a key advocate for veterans' benefits, patriotic American values, instilling values in young people through numerous programs, and a strong nation defense with focus on quality-of-life issues for those serving in today's armed forces. The youth Oratorical Competition is part of the Americanism pillar and helps to educate our youth on government.

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