



THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA
**JUNIOR SPEECH
PROGRAM**
2024-2025

Americanism Committee

Mike Hatfield, Lexington (*Chairman*)

Dean Chase, Allen

Mike Landkamer, Columbus

Gabe Skalka, Sutton

Teresa Johnston, Lincoln

Roxanne Sones, Rushville

Katie Lovelace, Fairmont

Gary Wachter, Blair



Produced by
The American Legion
Department of Nebraska
Americanism Committee

PURPOSE

The main purpose of the Nebraska American Legion Junior Speech Contest is to develop a deeper knowledge and appreciation of the Constitution of the United States on the part of middle school students. Other objectives of the contest include the development of leadership qualities, the ability to think and speak clearly and intelligently, and the preparation for acceptance of the duties and responsibilities, the rights and privileges of American Citizenship.

It will also serve as a stepping stone for The American Legion National High School Oratorical Contest and develop at a young age the ability to address an audience.

AWARDS

First Place: Gold Medallion
Second Place: Silver Medallion
Third Place: Bronze Medallion

All participants will receive a Certificate of Participation from The American Legion Department of Nebraska.

ELIGIBILITY

All students in accredited Nebraska middle schools or home school students in 6th through 8th grades shall be eligible through their assigned school. All middle school students are eligible to compete in the individual school contest. Please note that only one middle school student from each school will be allowed to advance to the district speech contest.

PREPARED SPEECH

The subject of the prepared speech will be

Amendment XXVI

Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States, who are eighteen years of age or older, to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of age.

Section 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

The prepared speech must be between 3 and 5 minutes, can be drafted in advance and students will be allowed to read from note cards. But will not be allowed to use any amplification instrument.

JUDGING

Contestants will be judged on:

- > Originality
- > Skill in selecting examples
- > How well they know the topic
- > Voice and diction
- > Style of word arrangement
- > Body action

JUDGES

Qualified judges will be selected by the District Chairman for the speech contest. If you have any questions regarding The American Legion Junior Speech Contest feel free to contact:

The American Legion
Department of Nebraska
150 NW 40th Street, Unit A
Lincoln, NE 68528
402-464-6338

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For more information please visit:

www.legion.org/oratorical

www.nebraskalegion.net/Programs/Programs.html

