

Americanism Committee

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Produced by
The American Legion
Department of Nebraska
Americanism Committee



THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA
**JUNIOR SPEECH
PROGRAM**
2026-2027

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

The Preamble

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

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

e-mail: emartin@nebraskalegion.net

For more information please visit:
www.legion.org/oratorical

www.nebraskalegion.net/Programs/Programs.html

