



GOD, FLAG, & Country

ORATORY COMPETITION



God, Flag & Country Purpose

The purpose of this program is to instill in our young people a deeper understanding of God, Flag and Country in our common lives and to make them aware of their heritage and to make it more meaningful to them in the world today.

It is designed to work in conjunction with the basic teachings of the Fraternal Order of Eagles and at the same time reinforce the basic tenet of our country. Some may call it flag-waving, but flag-waving is never out of style.

We believe the young should know and appreciate the advantage of democracy, possess a real love for their country and desire to take an active, intelligent part in its operation.

They should show intelligent respect for their parents, and any other person acting in an official capacity, learn to give and take criticism, assume responsibility, and accept the consequences of their own actions.

All young adults should develop respect for other persons and to be able to live and work cooperatively with others.

God, Flag & Country History

The God, Flag and Country Oratory Program originated in Cheviot, Ohio in 1967. Cheviot Eagles No. 2197 and the American Legion A.J. Schwab Post 425 started the program to inspire patriotic ideals in the youth of the area. The program was enthusiastically received and after a short period of four years, several other Aeries and American Legion Posts got together and arranged the Greater Cincinnati God, Flag and Country Oratory Program. This program was held on March 28, 1971 at Xavier University Armory in Cincinnati, Ohio, and the awards were presented on May 3, 1971 at Fountain Square in Cincinnati at the Law Day Observance Program.



Sponsoring Organizations:

Bluegrass Eagles No. 964
Cheviot Eagles No. 2197
Cheviot Legion Post No. 425
Elmwood Eagles No. 1694
Loveland Eagles No. 3006
Loveland Legion Post No. 256
St. Bernard Eagles No. 1162

How To Get Started

The Worthy President of each Aerie appoints a chairman and a committee, or the chairman may select his own committee.

The chairman contacts the schools in his Aerie's jurisdiction asking for their support and participation. The school should be provided with copies of the rules, a list of awards, contest scoring forms and a letter explaining this is a local competition and its progression to a state/provincial and national competition.

The committee should contact the local newspaper, radio stations and television stations to get maximum coverage of the local event and put up posters around town announcing the competition.

Get the members of your Aerie/Auxiliary interested. When the competition takes place, be sure there is a strong turnout of members to show support of local youth.

Financing of the event is nominal. Your Aerie/Auxiliary should raise funds by holding special raffles, dances, etc., to use to support the local competition.

Local Level (suggested)

- First place: \$50
- Second place: \$25
- Third place: \$20

State/Provincial Level (suggested)

- First place: \$300
- Second place: \$200
- Third place: \$100

International Level

- First Place: \$1,000
- Second Place: \$500
- Third Place: \$250

Rules for the God, Flag & Country Oratory Program

1. Contestants will be limited to schools/organizations within the jurisdictional area of the sponsoring Aerie.
2. Contestants may speak on any or all of the three titles in the program: God, Flag and Country



3. Contestants will be divided into three (3) age groups: 10 to 11, 12 to 13, and 14 to 15 years of age. Each school/organization may send contestant(s) for each age group to compete in the local program. As the program grows, it may be necessary to limit the number of contestants. Each school/organization will conduct their own elimination to arrive at its representative(s). Age of participants is determined as of THE LAST DAY OF JANUARY (31) OF THE YEAR OF THE PROGRAM.
4. Contestants are allowed to speak for three (3) minutes on their theme. Any time over three (3) minutes will result in the deduction of points. (SEE SCORING SHEET).
5. During the competition, prompting/coaching of the contestants will not be allowed.
6. If props are used, set up time should be kept to less than 1 minute. No computer/electronic equipment requiring the use of an electrical outlet or cord are to be used.
7. All contestants must furnish a copy of their speech after speaking. Such copies become the property of the sponsoring organization to be used for possible promotional material.
9. Points for judging are listed on scoring sheet.
10. The judges will be the final authority in all matters coming before them.

Judges' Guidelines for Scoring Contestants

Review the scoring sheet to become familiar with the categories on which each contestant will be judged.

During the competition, record only the scores for each category. Do not total the categories. Tabulation of totals and determination of order of finish will be done when you adjourn to another room after all contestants have made their presentations.

While you will be allowed time after each contestant to write your scores down, we ask that you record them as soon as possible. The emcee will be sure that you have enough time.

Scoring is based strictly on the presentation by the contestant. Above all else, keep an open mind. Your scores should not be based on whether you agree or disagree on the presentation or its' content, but solely on the criteria as set forth on the score sheet.

When recording scores, it is recommended a whole number or decimal number be used. When a decimal number is used, only record the number in tenths (i.e. 7.1).

It is also recommended that you not start the first contestant with scores of 10, as this allows no room for improvement. Rather, we recommend you select a number to use as the average score (i.e. 5, 7, 8, etc.). No matter what number you select, as long as you use the same number throughout the competition, the scores will be consistent. Your number does not have to be the same as the other judges.



Points System for Contestants

Contestant: _____

Name of Judge: _____

	Points	
1. Topic Content, Theme Relativity	1 to 10	
2. Directness, Style of Oral Presentation, Memorization	1 to 10	
3. Word Selection & Arrangement, Selection of Examples, Descriptions, Analogies	1 to 10	
4. Logic, Logical Transition, Knowledge of Subject Matter, Specific Data	1 to 10	
5. Originality	1 to 10	
6. Voice & Diction, Sound Projection & Control, Word & Phrase Clarity	1 to 10	
7. Poise, Body Action, Eye Contact, Posture, Gestures, Physical Presentation	1 to 10	
8. Effectiveness of Delivery	1 to 10	
9. General Impression	1 to 10	
10. Appearance	1 to 10	
Penalty, If Any	Deduct	
Maximum Possible Points - 100	Total	

Penalty: 5 points will be deducted per judge for each minute or fraction thereof, over the allotted 3 minutes. Scoring can be in whole numbers or fractional (i.e. 7.4).