

SCHEDULE OF 2023-2024 DISTRICT ORATORICAL CONTESTS **NORTH DAKOTA AMERICAN LEGION**

Listed below is the schedule of the 2023-2024 District Oratorical Contests for your information. Posts that will have a contestant to compete in the District Contest are urged to alert the student and the school of the scheduled contest in your District and to see to it that arrangements are made for any transportation that may be necessary for that student to appear at the contest.

<u>DISTRICT CONTESTS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>CITY</u>
9th	Nov 18 (Sat)	1:00 pm	Tioga Assembly of God 19 4 th St. NW	Tioga
3rd	Dec 2 (Sat)	9:00 am	Leeds School Library 530 1 st St. SE	Leeds
5th	Dec 2 (Sat)	1:00 pm	AMVETS 2402 Railroad Ave.	Bismarck
6th	Dec 2 (Sat)	11:00 am	Veteran's Center 104 Main St.	Bottineau
10 th	Dec 9 (Sat)	10:00 am	Fairmount High School Music Room	Fairmount
7th	Dec 16 (Sat)	10:00 am	Memorial Hall 108 Burt Ave	Almont
8 th	Dec 16 (Sat)	11:00 am MT	Dickinson State Univ Murphy Hall Stroup Aud 1003 5 th St. W.	Dickinson
2nd	Dec 20 (Wed)	1:00 pm	Legion Hall 102 5th St. E.	Park River
1 st	Dec 30 (Sat)	1:00 pm	West Fargo VFW 3088 Sheyenne St.	West Fargo

<u>DIVISION CONTESTS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>CITY</u>
East	Jan 13 (Sat)	1:00 pm	Legion Hall 102 5 th St. E.	Park River
(Winners of Districts 1-2-3-4-10 will compete in the East Division Contest)				
West	Jan 13 (Sat)	12:00 pm MST	Dickinson State Univ Murphy Hall Stroup Aud 1003 5 th St. W.	Dickinson
(Winners of Districts 5-6-7-8-9 will compete in the West Division Contest)				

<u>STATE FINALS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>CITY</u>
	Jan 27 (Sat)	1:00 pm	Bismarck Hotel 800 S 3rd St	Bismarck

Winners and Runners-up in East and West Division Contest appear at the Winter Conference for the 2024 State Championship.

A W A R D S

District Contest - All District Oratorical Contest Champions will receive a District Oratorical Contest Champion Medal. In addition, through the Chuck Schroeder Memorial Oratorical Fund, the top three finishers of each District Contests will also receive cash awards as follows:

District Champion - \$300 Cash Award
2nd Place - \$200 Cash Award
3rd Place - \$100 Cash Award

Division Contest

West Division Champion - \$300 Cash Award and Desk Pen Set

West Division Runner-up - \$200 Cash Award and Desk Pen Set

East Division Champion - \$300 Cash Award and Desk Pen Set

East Division Runner-up - \$200 Cash Award and Desk Pen Set

State Finals Contest

State Champion - \$ 250 Cash Award from ND American Legion Foundation,
\$ 175 Cash Award from Sam Tolchinsky Endowment Fund

2nd Place -\$200 Cash Award from the North Dakota American Legion Foundation
\$125 Cash Award from the Sam Tolchinsky Endowment Fund

3rd Place -\$150 Cash Award from the North Dakota American Legion Foundation
\$ 50 Cash Award from the family of the late John K. Kennelly

4th Place -\$100 Cash Award from North Dakota American Legion Foundation

Plaque awards are also presented to the four finalists in the State Contest. In addition, our State Champion will receive the C. W. Leifur Traveling Trophy for display at the winner's school.

National All State Champions will compete at the National Oratorical Contest under a 3-round format. This year's National Contest will be held in Hillsdale, Michigan, at the Hillsdale College Campus on May 17-19, 2024. All contestants and chaperones will arrive on Friday, May 17, 2024. The first and second rounds of competition will be held on Saturday, May 18 beginning with 9 separate contests. The winners of these 9 first-round quarter-final contests, advance to three second-round semi-final contests followed by the national final involving three finalists. All contestants participating in the first round will receive a \$2,000 scholarship. Each first-round winner who advances to and participates in the second round, but does not advance to the final round, will receive an additional \$2,000 scholarship. Those contestants eliminated in the first and second rounds will remain and become members of the audience. The three (3) second round winners will participate in the Finals on Sunday, May 19 and have an opportunity to earn scholarships of: 1st Place - \$25,000; 2nd Place - \$22,500; 3rd Place - \$20,000. A banquet honoring all contestants will be held Sunday afternoon. All contestants and chaperones will then depart late Sunday afternoon May 19.

Mike Weyrauch, Chairman, Department Oratorical Contest Committee
20 Winther St., Ray, ND 58849 Cell -701-641-1105