

January 27, 2018

2018 James F. Wertz Oratorical Contest Pertinent Information



**The James F. Wertz Oratorical Contest:
Host Pastor & Church
Reverend Dr. William T. Newkirk, Sr. (Former Moderator)
Oak City Baptist Church
726 Method Road
Raleigh, NC
Telephone Number-919.839.5869
CONTESTANTS SHOULD ARRIVE BY 11:45 A.M.**

Date of Contest: May 5, 2018 - Time: 1:00 P.M.

**All applications and speeches must be in the post office of the WMBA, INC., by April 13, 2018
Applications and speeches must be typed**

**Please mail application and address to:
Wake Missionary Baptist Association, INC.
ATT: Congress/Ms Juanita Bright
P O Box 25847
Raleigh NC 27611**

**PLEASE NOTE:
THERE WILL BE ONLY ONE CONTESTANT PER DIVISION FROM A CHURCH. THIS APPLIES TO ALL 3 DIVISIONS.
The Oratorical Contest is open to all young people in grades 6-12 in the year that the contest is being held).**

**Division 1- Preparatory
(Grades 6th, 7th, 8th)
Contestant must be entering Grade 6, as of July 1, 2018
TIME-3-4 Minutes
Not Under 3 minutes, but not over 4 minutes**

**Division 1-Topics:
How God's Power Unfolds in My Life
The Benefits of Living God's Way
We Shall Overcome---Just Be Strong**

**Division 11- Junior
Grades -9th, 10th, 11th**

**Division 11- Topics:
How the Glory of God Shines Through Me
The Challenges and Benefits of Living God's Way**

Time: 4-5 Minutes

Not under 4 minutes but not over 5 minutes

Division 111-Senior

THE CONTESTANT MUST BE A 2019 High School GRADUATE.

Seniors who will graduate from high school as of July 1, 2018 ARE NOT eligible to participate.

Senior Division- Topic:

How the Power, the Mercy, and the Glory of God Helps in My Daily Walk With Him

Time-5-6 Minutes

Not under 5 minutes, but not over 6 minutes

RULES AND PROCEDURES

The James F. Wertz Oratorical Contest is divided into three levels for contestants (1) Your local church sponsors an oratorical contest. The highest place winner from each division - are then eligible to proceed to the District/Association level, (2) the highest place winners at the District/Association level-one from each division are able to compete at the state level (3) On the state level, there are 3 divisions as well. .Preparatory, Junior & Senior. First, second and third place winners in each division are honored with a trophy and a monetary award.

The contestant who places first in the Senior Division also has the honor of competing on the national level at the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education.

During the Spring Institute, there will be a workshop for Participants, Judges, Time Keeper, and Coaches- Wednesday, April 18, 2018-Immediately Following Devotion or at 7:00 P.M.

Site to be Determined

RULES

1. The contestant must prepare a speech on one of the official topics from their division.
2. The contestant entering the contest who has been called into the ministry may participate with the understanding that their speech **MUST BE AN ORATION, NOT A SERMON OR SERMONETTE.**
3. **ALL SPEECHES MUST BE MEMORIZED.**
4. All contestants are required to speak on the official topics for their division.
5. All contestants are required to state their official topic **FIRST.**
6. **EACH** contestant should prepare his/her own speech. However, the contestant may receive advice in the preparation of the speech.
7. The use of props, such as special costumes, clothing, books or other items will not be permitted. Bibles, notes, papers or anything that can be construed as a prop cannot be taken to the podium by the contestant.
8. No reference may be made that might identify the contestant, or their family or the specific geographical or political area from which they originate.
9. The time allowed will not be over or under the specified length for each category. Should the time be over or under the designated time, **THE PENALTY IS FIVE (5) POINTS!!**
10. Appropriate dress is necessary. Remember, you are being judged on your appearance as well as your overall presentation. **MAKE A GOOD FIRST IMPRESSION.**
11. **THE JUDGES HAVE THE FINAL DECISION OF ALL ORATIONS.**
12. We will try to have 3 judges at all times, however, in the event one of the judges fail to show, we will continue the contest with remaining judges.

13. Once applications are submitted, all speeches are the property of The Congress of Christian Education. (This applies to WMBA, INC. and The Congress of The GBSC of NC.).

14. ALL INFORMATION ON APPLICATIONS MUST BE TYPED.

CONTESTANT'S AFFILIATION

1. Contestants who compete on the State Level are representatives of their District or Association, not their local churches, therefore, all contestants must be affiliated with an Association.
2. The District or Association is allowed one representative for each division: Preparatory, Junior, and Senior.
3. ALL CONTESTANTS MUST BE A MEMBER IN "GOOD STANDING" IN THEIR LOCAL CHURCH, AS WELL AS IN THEIR DISTRICT OR ASSOCIATION.

2018 APPLICATION INFORMATION

REQUIREMENTS:

1. There must be an oratorical contest entry form submitted. (Application)
2. SPEECHES must be typed--
(Must be double spaced, using Times New Romans, FONT SIZE(12 Point)
3. A current picture must be submitted.
4. The application must be completed in its entirety. APPLICATIONS THAT ARE NOT TOTALLY COMPLETED WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.
5. All requested signatures must be visible.
6. APPLICATIONS & SPEECHES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED ON SITE.
7. ALL ORATORICAL CONTEST APPLICATIONS AND SPEECHES MUST BE IN THE POSSESSION OF WMBA's CONGRESS BY 4/13/18.

Applications will be posted on WMBA's website soon. Applications are to be sent to the Post Office Box of WMBA, INC.!!!

Contestants, Thank you very much for participating in this important effort to strengthen your oratorical skills. Gratitude is extended to Pastors, contestants, parents, host churches, and coaches.

The goal of the Congress- 25+ churches participate. Pastors, Directors, Superintendents, and Coaches- PLEASE ASSIST US IN REACHING THE GOAL.

May God bless all.

Sister Juanita Bright, President
Congress of Christian Education
919.244.5162

bronzylady811@gmail.com

aservingleaderplus1@icloud.com

bronzylady@aol.com

To be safe, please send only questions, etc. to all three (3) email addresses.

DO NOT SEND ORATORICAL APPLICATIONS AND SPEECHES TO SIS. BRIGHT'S PERSONAL EMAIL ADDRESSES.

WE ARE IN PRAYER MODE FOR ALL OF OUR CONTESTANTS. WE ARE THANKING GOD IN ADVANCE!!