

*Greater Augusta Chapter Georgia Right to Life
PO Box 3061, Evans, GA 30809
706-726-1269
www.grtlaugusta.org
gvozniak@aol.com*

PRO-LIFE ESSAY CONTEST

Eligibility- High School Freshmen and Sophomores

Entry Deadline Date- April 1, 2011

Greater Augusta Chapter Contest Date- April 19, 2011

Greater Augusta Chapter Contest Prizes

First Place- \$100

Second Place- \$50

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ESSAY CONTEST APPLICATION FORM

Student Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____

School: _____

School Address: _____

Student's Signature: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Sponsoring Organization: _____

Area Coordinator: _____

Area Coordinator Phone Number: _____

NOTE TO CONTESTANTS:

Please complete and return this form to:

Greater Augusta Chapter – Georgia Right to Life
PO Box 3061
Evans, GA 30809

Or you may email it to:

gvozniak@aol.com

DEADLINE FOR ENTRY IS APRIL 1, 2011

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Pro-Life Essay Contest Statement of Purpose

The Greater Augusta Chapter – Georgia Right to Life Essay Contest strives to promote the ability of high school freshmen and sophomores to share their pro-life views with others.

2011 Contest Rules

1. High school freshmen and sophomores, in that grade February 1st of 2011, are eligible to compete. In the case of advanced students or home schooling, the school must recognize the student as a freshman or sophomore.
2. Students who have competed in their freshman year may compete the following year as Sophomores (with an entirely new essay)
3. Contestants are to research, write and provide an original pro-life essay on abortion, infanticide, euthanasia or stem cell research. No copyrighted essays are to be used in this contest.
4. The contestant should use up-to-date information.
5. The essay:
 - a. must be 800-1100 words in length,
 - b. should have a cover sheet with contestant's name, grade, level, name of school, name of parents or guardians address and phone number,
 - c. should NOT have the student's name on any pages of the actual essay,
 - d. should have all pages numbered and stapled,
 - e. should follow MLA format for documenting researched information and facts,
 - f. should give attention to organization, ideas, sentences, word choice, and mechanics,
 - g. should consist of words only. Pictures, icons, graphs or diagrams should not be included.
6. Quotes to support a position or statement are appropriate, but they should not dominate the essay and should be appropriately cited.
7. Essays will be judged on persuasiveness, accuracy and creativity.
8. The decision of the contest director concerning the application of these rules will be final. The contest director's decision concerning the winners will be final. Ties will be handled by the contest director.
9. **Essays must be received on or before April 1, 2011**
Three paper copies of the Essay should be mailed to GAC-GRTL, PO Box 3061, Evans, GA 30809. Also, please send an electronic copy of the essay to: gvozniak@aol.com.
10. The winners will be announced at the Greater Augusta Chapter – Georgia Right to Life Oratory contest being held April 19, 2011. All students entering the contest are encouraged to attend. Winners will be advised in

advance. If unable to attend, arrangements will be made for the winner to receive his/her prize at a future chapter meeting.

11. Once the contest is completed, the Greater Augusta Chapter of Georgia Right to Life reserves the right to redistribute submitted essays to contestants, Georgia Right to Life, and other pro-life groups. Essays will not be used for profit.

(These rules consist of two pages, rules numbered 1-11, also please see the additional page that contains the general guidelines for MLA format)

General Guidelines for MLA Format

- Type your paper on a computer and print it out on standard, white 8.5 x 11-inch paper,
- Double-space the text of your paper, and use a legible font like Times New Roman or Courier.
- Leave only one space after periods or other punctuation marks
- Set the margins of your document to 1 inch on all sides. Indent the first line of a paragraph one half-inch (five spaces or press tab once) from the left margin.
- Create a header that numbers all pages consecutively in the upper right-hand corner, one-half inch from the top and flush with the right margin
- Use either italics or underlining throughout your essay for the titles of longer works and, only when absolutely necessary, providing emphasis.
- If you have any endnotes, include them on a separate page before your Works Cited page.

Formatting the First Page of Your Paper

- In the upper left-hand corner of the first page, list your name, the title, and the date. Again, be sure to use double-spaced text.
- Double space again and center the title. Don't underline your title or put it in quotation marks; write the title in Title Case, not in all capital letters.
- Use quotation marks and underlining or italics when referring to other works in your title, just as you would in your text, e.g.,
 - Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas as Morality Play
 - Human Weariness in "After Apple Picking"
- Double space between the title and the first line of the text.
- Create a header in the upper right-hand corner that includes your last name, followed by a space with a page number; number all pages consecutively with Arabic numerals (1, 2, 3, 4, etc.), one-half inch from the top and flush with the right margin.

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/01/>

Essay Contest Ballot

Contestant ID _____ Region _____

NOTE: 10 is the highest score.

Persuasiveness 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 SCORE: _____
Comments:

Accuracy 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 SCORE: _____
Comments:

Creativity 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 SCORE: _____
Comments:

TOTAL SCORE: _____

Judge's Signature _____



GEORGIA RIGHT TO LIFE

ORATORY CONTEST

Eligibility - High School Juniors and Seniors

Entry Deadline Date- April 1, 2011

Greater Augusta Chapter Contest – April 19, 2011

Georgia Right to Life State Contest – April 29, Lawrenceville, GA

National Right to Life Contest Date – TBD

Greater Augusta Chapter Contest Prizes

First Place- \$150 plus entry in the Georgia Right to Life (State) Contest

Second Place- \$75

Third Place- \$50

Georgia Right to Life Contest Prizes

First Place - \$ 250 plus paid trip to National Right to Life Competition and registration for National Convention

Second Place - \$100



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ORATORY CONTEST APPLICATION FORM

Student Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____

School: _____

School Address: _____

Student's Signature: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Sponsoring Organization: _____

Area Coordinator: _____

Area Coordinator Phone Number: _____

NOTE TO CONTESTANTS:

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DEADLINE FOR ENTRY IS APRIL 1, 2011



Pro-Life Oratory Contest Statement of Purpose

The Georgia Right to Life Oratory Contest strives to promote the ability of high school juniors and seniors to share their pro-life views with others. Although speaking ability is important, this contest also seeks to help our teens organize and express their pro-life views. We also strive to give the contestants an opportunity to meet other pro-life teens.

*****MAKE SURE ALL CONTESTANTS RECEIVE A COPY OF THE RULES PRIOR TO THE CONTEST DATE*****

2011 Contest Rules

1. High school juniors and seniors, in that grade February 1st of the year of the national competition, are eligible to compete. In the case of advanced students or home schooling, the school must recognize the student as a junior or senior (a letter from the school is suggested) or the year the student will enter college will be used to determine eligibility.
2. Students who have competed in their junior year may compete the following year as seniors (with an entirely new speech) except if the student has won first place in the state contest. Second place winners may compete again.
3. Contestants are to research, write and present an original pro-life speech on **abortion, infanticide, euthanasia, or stem cell research.**
4. The speech is to be 5-7 minutes in length. A contestant will be disqualified if the speech is timed to be less than 4 minutes or over 8 minutes in length. Judges are instructed to use their judgment regarding under or over time limit speeches. It is at the judges' discretion whether the time will be reflected in the contestant's score.
5. The speech is an oration. Appropriate gestures are allowed. Props are not allowed.
6. Speech content may not be significantly changed as the contestant advances. Fine-tuning for minor corrections or to adjust time is allowed and encouraged. A written copy of the contestant's speech must be forwarded to the next level of competition to insure that no major changes have been made.
7. The contestant should use up-to-date factual information.
8. The style or speech type should be appropriate to the message of the speech. Any type the student deems appropriate is acceptable (except a dramatic presentation). A dramatic presentation is considered anything read or performed that has been previously written; a short story, a poem, etc. Although quotes to support a position or statement are appropriate, but they may not dominate the speech, and should be appropriately cited. Dramatic is also defined, for the purposes of this contest, to

include acting as a thing or another person, such as acting out the life of an unborn baby. This rule is not to be interpreted as to rule out the use of emotion. The judges' background and qualifications differ, although all are pro-life, therefore the speech should appeal to a broad audience.

9. No copyrighted speeches are to be used in this contest.
10. The contest may be videotaped. The videotape will remain property of Georgia Right to Life or National Right to Life.
11. The use of microphones will not be allowed. The only case in which an exception may be made is when it is determined by the Contest Director that the room used for the contest deems the use of a microphone.
12. The oratory contest will have three (3) judges, one (1) timekeeper, and at least two (2) individuals to tally scores. The contest will begin with at least one preliminary round, depending on the number of participants. For the preliminary round contestants will be divided into groups of 5-7 to compete. The two (2) contestants from each group with the highest scores will proceed to the next level until there are six (6) contestants participating in the final round.
13. The order in which the contestants speak will be determined before the contest by lot. In following rounds speaking order will be determined by scores in the previous round.
14. Each judge will receive a ballot for each contestant. The ballots will be pre-marked with the contestant's name and state.
15. The timekeeper will provide the judges with the time of the speech. The judges will mark the time on the ballot. The contest director will be informed by the timekeeper of any under or over length speeches.
16. Each judge will sign their name on each ballot upon completion of scoring and writing pertinent comments.
17. The judges score contestants in four areas: introduction, content, presentation, and conclusion. Contestants are given a score of 1-10, with 10 being the best, in each area. The scores are then added together for a perfect score of 40. The total scores from all three judges are added together to achieve a grand total.
18. The contest director's decision concerning the winner will be final.
19. The judge's decision during the contest will be final.
20. All efforts will be made toward accuracy. In the event of a mistake, effort will be made to correct it.
21. Ties will be handled by the contest director.
22. These rules apply only to the Georgia Right to Life Oratory Contest. No other rules from any national, state, or local speech group apply. Only the rules here apply to this contest.
23. The decision of the contest director concerning the application of these rules will be final.

(These rules consist of two pages, rules numbered 1-23)



Instructions for Judges

Thank you for agreeing to judge the contest. The contest would not be possible without adults willing to help.

Three judges will judge each round, where a round generally consists of 5-7 speakers, but there could be as many as 10. Each judge will be provided with the contestant speaking order and a set of ballots, the name of the contestant will be marked on the ballot.

Traditionally, the first judge to enter the room is considered the judges' spokesperson. But any of the three judges may act as the spokesperson. In many cases the timekeeper will act as the spokesperson, signaling when the judges are ready for the next speaker, etc. The spokesperson makes sure all of the judges are in the room and ready to begin the round when the next speaker is called.

As each contestant is speaking, the judge may wish to write comments on the ballot, or choose to write the comments after the speech is complete. Each judge has one ballot for each contestant. The purpose of the ballot is to maximize the educational experience for the contestant.

Judging and the Ballot

Take a minute to familiarize yourself with the ballot and the rules before the contest.

A. There are four areas of judging criteria: Introduction, Content, Presentation, and Conclusion.

1. Introduction: Does the introduction make you want to hear more? Does it have a clear thesis? How well is the beginning laid out?
2. Content: Is each point relevant to the topic and substantiated with current documentation? Are the facts and figures used current? Good word usage? Does it have a logical, clear organization? Does it send a pro-life message?
3. Presentation: Appropriate eye contact, audibility, rate of delivery, voice inflection, fluency, tone, gestures, pronunciation, general sense of confidence, etc.
4. Conclusion: Does the conclusion sum up the main points of the speech?
*These are the areas of criteria, but you are not limited to commenting on only these areas. The questions above are designed to help you, feel free to expand them.

B. Each has a 1-10 score, 10 being the best. (Don't worry about re-checking your addition, which will be done during the tallying.)

C. Sign the bottom of the ballot.

D. Write pertinent comments on the ballot. Comments should be largely encouraging with positive, but not overly so a student who receives middle to low score has the right to know why. It is okay to be honest, by doing this you can help the contestant to become a better speaker. The students will be given the ballots after the contest. Comments can relate to the areas of scoring or the right to life

issue. Judges' comments need not to be detailed or lengthy. (Judging Hint: One experienced judge takes a few minutes before the contest to write down a list of words that may be used for comments on the ballot. It lessens the time between speeches and helps prevent the "block" you might have during the contest.)

At the end of the speech, the timekeeper will provide you with the time of the speech. The students are given a 5-7 minute limit, although they are not disqualified unless the speech is less than 4 minutes or over 8 minutes. If the speech is within 4-8 minutes, it is at your discretion to use the time issue in your scoring. You may ask yourself; was the extra time a critical part of the speech, or could the contestant cut something? How much overtime was the speech, one minute or ten seconds? (It is not your responsibility to disqualify students that are under or over time. If that does happen, complete your ballot and continue with the contest. The timekeeper or spokesperson should inform the contest director after the round is complete. The director will handle any issues regarding disqualification.)

The spokesperson or timer should check to see if all judges are finished scoring and then call the next contestant.

When the contest has been finished and the ballots are completed, give them to the spokesperson or timer. They will give them to the individuals who will tally the results.

Oratory Contest Ballot

Speaker Name _____ Region _____

NOTE: 10 is the highest score.

TIME: _____

Introduction 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
Comments:

SCORE: _____

Content 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
Comments:

SCORE: _____

Presentation 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
Comments:

SCORE: _____

Conclusion 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
Comments:

SCORE: _____

TOTAL SCORE: _____

Judge's Signature _____

Judging Criteria:

Introduction: How well is the speech laid out at the beginning? Does it have a clear thesis? Does it make you want to hear more?

Content: Does it have a logical, clear organization? Good word usage? Is each point relevant to topic & substantiated by current documentation? Does it send a pro-life message?

Presentation: Appropriate eye contact, audibility, rate of delivery, fluency, voice inflection, tone, gestures, pronunciation, appearance, general sense of confidence, etc.

Conclusion: Does conclusion sum up main points of speech?

