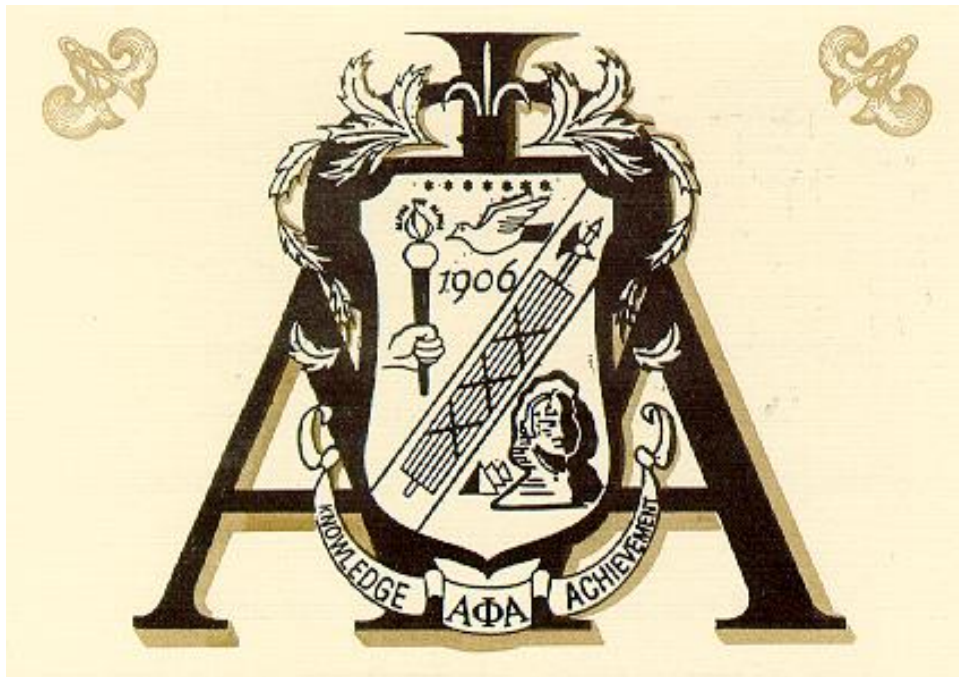


2022
BELFORD V. LAWSON
MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL
ORATORICAL COMPETITION
INFORMATION/APPLICATION



Sunday, February 27th, 2022

3:00 p.m.

St. John Baptist Church
30 Fred L. Maxwell Blvd.
Orlando, FL 32805

Application Deadline is Friday, February 18, 2022
Live event will be for vaccinated parents and participants only.
Competition will be streamed online

For more information:

Call: (561) 660-0660

Send email to: DXLAlpha@gmail.com

Send correspondence to: Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., PO Box 555038, Orlando, FL 32855

Applications available online at <http://www.orlandoalphas.com/>

THE DELTA XI LAMBDA CHAPTER OF ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY, INC. (HANKINS/JOHNSON EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION, INC.) Education Committee, is sponsoring the 2022 Belford V. Lawson Oratorical Contest for middle and high school students in four Central Florida Counties (Lake, Orange, Osceola and Seminole). The purpose of the contest is to develop 1) knowledge and appreciation of the art of public speaking and 2) the ability to think and speak clearly and critically on an assigned topic. The competition meets the guidelines of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

ELIGIBILITY

All contestants shall be citizens or lawful permanent residents of the United States, Covid-19 vaccinated, and presently enrolled in grades 6 through 12 in either a Lake, Orange, Osceola or Seminole County school (public, parochial, military or private). Home schooled students are eligible. Online competition viewing is open to the public. Schools and the public are invited to cooperate with the Foundation in promoting this educational enterprise. Constructive criticism and suggestions will be considered by the Committee at its annual retreat.

PREPARED ORATION

Each contestant shall deliver a prepared oration addressing the assigned oration topic and it must be an original effort. Plagiarism may cause disqualification. Quotations must be clearly indicated. If quotations exceed ten words, the author's name shall be given both orally and in the manuscript. All speeches are delivered in English (except for short phrases from other languages).

ASSIGNED ORATION TOPIC

What are some specific tasks community leaders can implement to stimulate, develop, and promote leadership in the pursuit of freedom and equality?

DELIVERY TIME

Prepared oration shall be not less than 4 minutes and 30 seconds and not more than 7 minutes. If a contestant uses less than the minimum or more than the maximum time, the presentation shall be disqualified from the competition.

AWARDS

Prizes will be awarded for First (\$500), Second (\$300), and Third (\$100) place.

CRITERIA FOR SPEECHES

The oration shall be evaluated on the following criteria that total 100 points:

1. Content (50%)

a. **Speech Development** is the way the speaker puts ideas together so the audience can understand them. The speech is structured around a purpose, and this structure must include an opening, body, and conclusion. This development of speech structure is supported by relevant examples and illustrations, facts and figures, delivered with such smoothness that they blend into the framework of the speech to present the audience with a unified whole.

b. **Effectiveness** is measured in part by the audience's reception of the speech, but a large portion is the contestant's subjective judgment of how the speech came across. The contestant should ask himself or herself such questions as: "Was I able to determine the speech's purpose? Did the speech relate to that purpose?" and "Was the subject of this speech understood by the audience?"

c. **Speech Value** justifies that act of speaking. The speaker has the responsibility to say something meaningful and original to the audience. The listeners should feel the speaker has made a contribution to their thinking. The ideas should be important ones although this does not preclude a humorous presentation.

2. Delivery (30%)

a. **Physical presentation** of a speech carries part of the responsibility for effective communication. The speaker's appearance should reinforce the speech, whether profound, sad, humorous, or instructional. Body language should support points through gestures, expressions, and body positioning.

b. **Voice** is the sound that carries the message. It should be flexible, moving from one pitch level to another for emphasis, and should have a variety of rate and volume. A good voice can be clearly heard and the words easily understood.

c. **Manner** is the indirect revelation of the speaker's self as the speech is delivered. The speaker should speak with enthusiasm and assurance, showing interest in the audience and confidence in its reactions.

3. Language (20%)

a. **Language** refers to the choice of words that relate to the speech's purpose and to the particular audience hearing the speech. Language should promote clear understanding of thoughts and should fit the occasion precisely.

JUDGING

The competition will be judged by either three or five judges. Judges will be trained or experienced in public speaking, and (preferably) previously judged speech contests. Judges should not have judged a prior contest including the contestant, or be employed by a school represented by a contestant. Arrangements for judges are made by the Chair of each contest, who will brief the judges before the contest. During the contest, judges will be seated in designated locations. Each judge individually ranks the contestants without consulting anyone else. Judges must use and follow the scorecard in the section "Criteria for Speeches" above. Tabulators check each scorecard and then tally the rankings.

OTHER CONTEST RULES

- **Copies of Prepared Oration** – Contestants shall give the Chair two typed copies (double spaced, 14 pt) of their prepared oration, which clearly show the title. Contestants may possess and consult a copy of their oration.
- **Dress** – Contestants shall not wear uniforms, or awards and medals from previous competition. Business attire is recommended for all contestants.
- **Notes and Rostrums** – Contestants may use notes, speaker's stands, or amplification systems while speaking. Prompting is not allowed, nor props of any kind.
- **Applause** – The Chair at each contest shall try to prevent applause until all contestants speak, so that speakers are judged on merit.
- **Order of Speaking** – Contestants speak in the order determined by a drawing conducted with the Chair, who will refer to the speakers only as Number 1, Number 2, etc.
- **Announcement of Winner** – The Chair does not introduce the contestants by name until after the judges have finished all scoring. The Chapter President/Foundation Chair shall announce the winners. All participants will receive a certificate of participation.
- **Time Keeper** – The Chair names an official timer to keep an accurate time record of each contestant. The timer shall sit on the main floor in full view of the contestants. The timer has a stop watch and colored time cards. Timing starts when the contestant starts speaking. At the 4 minute 30 second mark, the GREEN card is placed in full view of the speaker, for ten seconds. (The green card indicates that the speech qualifies for presentation), followed by the YELLOW card at the 6 minute mark, for ten seconds and the RED card at the 7 minute mark, until the speech is concluded.
- **Tabulators** – The Chair appoints the Tabulator to compile and check the judges' scorecards before handing them to the Chair. The Chair and the Tabulators shall not divulge the judges' scorecards to anyone at the site of the contest. Persons interested in the scoring, for professional purposes, may request, from the Chair, copies of the scores of a contestant (with judges' names omitted).
- **Application Deadline** – Friday, February 18, 2022. Applications are available online at <http://www.orlandoalphas.com/>

Participant Application

(Please type or print legibly with black ink)

Last Name

First Name

Middle Name

Street Address

City

State

Zip Code

Home Phone #

Date of Birth

Email

Current School Attending

G.P.A. (weighted)

Grade Level

Parent/Guardian Information:

Last Name

First Name

Middle Name

Emergency Contact:

Last Name

First Name

Middle Name

Daytime Phone

Evening Phone

Please list any extracurricular activities that you participate.

Please list leadership positions that you have held in the above activities.

Please list any community service activities that you have participated.
