



## Rotary District 7610 2011 - 2012 Speech Contest



### Speech Theme:

### *Reach Within to Embrace Humanity*

Contestants, who must be in grades 9 – 12, will speak on the Rotary theme: *Reach Within to Embrace Humanity*. Each Club should hold a contest in January or early February and make awards as they choose. Club first place winners advance to a contest conducted by the area Assistant Governor. Each first place winner in the Area contests will compete in the finals, which has awards of \$1000 for first place, \$500 for second and \$250 for third.

NOTE: The Speech Contest Entry Form is located at the end of this information packet on page 9.

The District Speech Contest winner is invited to deliver the winning speech at the District Conference on March 31, 2012. The sponsoring Rotary Club must provide all expenses and a member must accompany the student.

Finals for the District 7610 Speech Contest will be March 10, 2012. Clubs should complete their contests and report winners to the Assistant Governor and District Speech Chair no later than Feb. 10 2012. AGs should hold area contests, with winners from each of their clubs, no later than March 3, 2012.

Contest booklets will NOT be mailed; all information concerning the Speech Contest is found on the District website. However, reminders WILL be sent periodically to AGs and Presidents. Any questions may be directed to the District Speech Chair, Jennifer King, at 434-293-9104 or [jenniferking@chaseinv.com](mailto:jenniferking@chaseinv.com).

### **Contest Planning**

#### **Club Level Contest**

Each Club should appoint a Speech Contest chair to make contact with area schools in September. The school principal, guidance counselor, or teacher/sponsor of the Interact Club would be appropriate to contact with information about the speech contest.

#### **Club Level Rules**

1. All general rules, including judging criteria, apply to Club competitions.
2. Judges may be Rotarians.
3. Contestants will be DISQUALIFIED if they use notes, prompts or props OR if they do not speak on the speech contest theme: *Reach Within to Embrace Humanity*.

## Club Level Check Off List

### **September – January:**

- Schedule the club contest for January or early February. Set the date, time and place.
- Determine Club level prizes.
- Review the general rules.
- Visit the school principal, guidance counselor, or advisor. Give them copies of the entry and judging forms and speech contact.
- Arrange for advertising in school paper and with posters in school.

### **January/February**

- Secure registration forms from school.
- Names of contestants should be sent to AG to assure no student is participating in more than one Club contest.
- Advertise in Club bulletin.
- Secure four judges (one as backup). They may be Rotarians.
- Secure one timekeeper and two tellers.
- Arrange for a proctor to sit with contestants while others are speaking.
- Request newspaper coverage.

### **Late January/Early February**

- Hold contest.
- Forward information of winner and alternate to AG and District Speech Contest chair no later than Feb. 10.

### **One week prior to Contest**

- Secure prizes (if applicable) and make certificates.
- Confirm date, time and place with judges, tellers and timekeeper.
- Locate calculators for tellers.
- Locate stopwatch for timekeeper.
- Prepare DO NOT ENTER signs for doors.
- Prepare cards with numbers designating order of contestants giving speeches.
- Duplicate Judging sheets.
- Duplicate Timekeeper's sheet.
- Duplicate Teller's instructions.

### **Day of Contest**

- Arrange seating for contestants and parents. (Do not seat parents together in the room.)
- Arrange for a place for contestants and proctor to wait while others are speaking.
- Set up tables for judges, timekeeper and tellers.
- Greet contestants and guests as they enter room.

### **After contest**

- Write thank you letters to judges, tellers and timekeeper.

- Write congratulations letter to winner and advise them of date, time and place of Area contest.

## **General Speech Contest Rules**

1. Contestants must be high school students attending a public or private school or being home schooled in grades 9 – 12.
2. The contest topic is ***“Reach Within to Embrace Humanity.”***
3. The speaker must convince listeners how he/she will reach within and find their inner strength to accomplish great things within their community and around the world.
4. The student should emphasize their family as the starting point in serving others and describe how good families lead to good neighborhoods, and how good neighborhoods build good communities.
5. The speech must be at least five minutes in length, but not more than eight minutes. A penalty will be imposed if the time frame is not kept.
6. All contestants agree to speak at the area and final levels should they advance in the competition.
7. Students may speak in only ONE Club competition.
8. All contestants must arrive at the designated contest location no later than ten minutes prior to the start of the contest. Late arrivals will receive a penalty. Contestants arriving after the competition has begun will be disqualified.
9. Microphones may be used if the contestant so desires. The decision must be made in advance with the Rotary Club. Note: Contestants are required to use microphone at District level competition and at District Conference.
10. Speakers MAY NOT use notes, prompting or props.

## **Conducting the Contest**

1. Greet contestants and families as they enter the room
2. Be sure each contestant has completed a registration form and is in the contest room by the appointed time.
3. Seat the contestants together and introduce them to each other, but do not introduce them to others in the room.
4. Families of contestants must be in a separate area of the room.
5. Be sure the Sergeant at Arms is on duty. A proctor should stay with contestants as they wait to speak and no one is to enter the room while a contestant is speaking.
6. Visiting Rotarians and other guests should be introduced, but contestants and their parents are not introduced at this time.
7. When all contestants have arrived and are seated, have each pick a number to determine speaking order.
8. If the contest is held during a regular club meeting, fines, Happy Talk, announcements, etc. should be delayed until the calculation time between speeches (3 – 4 minutes).
9. To begin the contest:
  - a. Welcome contestants; do not use their names.
  - b. Read the contest rules.
  - c. Ask that the audience not applaud or talk during the speech.
  - d. Ask if judges, timekeepers and tellers are ready.
  - e. Ask all contestants except #1 to leave the room.

- f. After speaking, contestants should leave the room.
- g. Call the contestants to speak in numerical order.
- h. After a contestant has spoken, tellers should collect judges' and timekeeper's sheets.
- i. At end of speeches, bring all contestants back to room.
- j. Ask for applause for all contestants.
- k. Ask students to introduce themselves and their families.
- l. When tellers have reached a decision, obtain results.
- m. Announce results, beginning with third place, and award prizes as appropriate. All contestants not placing first, second or third will be considered fourth place winners.
- n. Announce that, if the winner is unable to attend the Area contest, the second place winner will advance to first.

## Speech Contest Judging Procedure

Identical score sheets will be used at all levels of the competition. Each judge weighs each speech in the range of 1 – 100 points within three sets of criteria:

Delivery and Presentation	1 – 45 points
Content	1 – 40 points
Originality	1 – 15 points

The highest scored speech will be declared the winner.

Penalties will be imposed if the contestant arrives late or the speech is not within the required time frame.

In the case of a tie:

1. The contestant with the highest scores for Delivery and Presentation will be declared the winner.
2. If a tie still remains, the contestant with the highest score for Originality will be declared the winner.
3. The decision of the judges is final.

**NOTE:** Judges must NOT confer during or after a speech. After all score sheets have been given the tellers, then the judges may confer. Individual scores will not be announced.

## **Speech Contest Area Level**

### **NOTE: Area Level contest conducted by Assistant Governors**

2. All general rules apply to the area competitions.
3. Winners from the Club competitions will compete at the area level (unless only one Club in the area has conducted a contest. In that case, that winner will proceed to the finals.)
4. Clubs sending contestants to the area competitions will provide transportation and accompany the student to the competition.
5. Judges **MAY NOT BE** Rotarians.
6. All contestants at the Area level will receive certificates.
7. Contestants **MAY NOT** use notes, props or prompting.

### **Area Level Contest - Late February/Early March**

- By February 10, notify the Clubs' Speech Contest chairs when and where the area contest will be held.
- Be sure to have one or two Rotarians assigned as Sergeant at Arms.
- Secure judges, a timekeeper and tellers.
- Judges **MAY NOT** be Rotarians.
- It is recommended this contest be held in the evening so parents/family members can attend.
- Follow general procedures for conducting a speech contest.
- Sponsoring clubs must accompany student contestants to this level.

## **District Level Rules**

1. First place winners from each of the area competitions will compete.
2. A Rotarian should provide transportation and accompany the student to the District level.
3. All general rules apply to the District competition. Notes may **NOT** be used, nor are props or prompting allowed.
4. Judges may be Rotarians from **OUTSIDE DISTRICT 7610**.
5. The top three winners will receive a monetary prize. All contestants will receive certificates.
6. Awards have been set by the District as:

First Place	\$1000
Second Plate	\$ 500
Third Place	\$ 250

## 2012 Rotary District 7610 Speech Contest Judge's Score Sheet

Contestant # \_\_\_\_\_

Points Available	Subject	Points Awarded	Comments
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**Delivery and Presentation:** Enunciation and pronunciation are basic to any good speech. Animation, humor, holding interest and power of persuasion are attributes of a winning speech.

15	Does the speaker have good stage presence?		
15	Is the speaker easily understood?		
10	Does the speaker show good memorization?		
5	Is the speaker wearing proper attire?		
45	<b>Total Points Awarded</b>		

**Content:** The content should relate to the theme. Students should be positive in their speech and approach. Ideas should be presented logically, clearly and concisely.

15	Is there a general understanding of the theme?		
15	Does the speech stay on theme?		
10	Is the speech structured properly with an opening and summary?		
40	<b>Total Points Awarded</b>		

### Originality

15	Does the speech contain imagination, human interest and have an individualistic approach?		
15	<b>Total Points Awarded</b>		

100	<b>Total Points for Speech</b>		
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	Less penalties invoked by teller for tardiness		
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	Less penalties invoked by teller for violation of speech time frame		
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	Grand Total Awarded (after any penalties)		
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## 2012 District 7610 Speech Contest - Timekeeper's Instructions

1. Record minutes and seconds for each speech in the appropriate blanks. Begin timing after contestant has addressed the audience or stated the title, but immediately at beginning of speech.
2. Check "yes" if there is a time penalty (speech is under 5 minutes or over 8 minutes).
3. Calculate and record amount of penalty.
  - Penalty is 2 points for each minute or fraction of a minute that the speech is less than 5 minutes or more than 8 minutes.
4. After the final contestant has spoken, give Timekeeper's sheet to the Teller or Contest Chair.

Contestant Number	Length of Speech		Penalty (yes or no)	Amount of Penalty
	Minutes:	Seconds:		
#1				
#2				
#3				
#4				
#5				
#6				
#7				
#8				
#9				
#10				
#11				
#12				

## 2012 Rotary District Speech contest - Instructions for the Tellers

1. There will be two tellers.
2. After each contestant has spoken, tellers will receive the judges' Score Sheets and check the math.
3. After the final contestant has spoken, tellers will receive the Timekeeper's records and check the math.
4. Tellers will invoke any time penalties noted by timekeeper.
5. Tellers will designate First, Second and Third places.
6. Directions in case of a tie are noted in the Judging Procedures.
7. Only First, Second and Third place winners are announced.

### Tellers' Calculations

	Judge #1	Judge #2	Judge #3	Penalty(ies)	Total Points
<b>Contestant</b>					
<b>#1</b>					
<b>#2</b>					
<b>#3</b>					
<b>#4</b>					
<b>#5</b>					
<b>#6</b>					
<b>#7</b>					
<b>#8</b>					
<b>#9</b>					
<b>#10</b>					
<b>#11</b>					
<b>#12</b>					



**Rotary District 7610**  
**Speech Contest Entry Form**  
**Speech Theme:**



***Reach Within to Embrace Humanity***

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher/Coach \_\_\_\_\_

I will be available to compete in the Rotary District 7610 Speech Contest at the Rotary Club of \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_

at \_\_\_\_\_ (a.m./p.m.) at (location) \_\_\_\_\_

If selected as winner (or alternate) in this contest, I will be available to advance to the Area level of competition in February or March. The date, time and location will be announced. If selected as the winner (or alternate) of the Area contest, I will be available to speak at the Final level of competition at 9:30 am on Saturday, March 10, 2012 at the Cannon Ridge Country Club in Fredericksburg.

I agree to abide by the rules of the Rotary District 7610 Speech Contest and to create and present an original speech (without using notes). I understand my parents are invited to attend each level of competition and that a Rotarian will make arrangements for me.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

Return to \_\_\_\_\_

not later than \_\_\_\_\_ to enter the competition.