

2022 Contest Rules

Auglaize County Right to Life Oratory Contest

Statement of Purpose

The Auglaize County 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 teens organize and express their pro-life views. We also strive to give the contestants an opportunity to meet other pro-life teens.

2022 Auglaize County Right to Life Oratory Contest Rules

1. All High School students are eligible to compete and win in the local county contest. **Only high school juniors and seniors** in that grade as of February 1, 2022 are eligible to advance and compete in the Ohio Right to Life and National Right to Life Contest.
2. Students who have competed in a previous year may compete (with an entirely new speech) except if the student has won first place in the national 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. The speech should address one of these topics directly.
4. The speech is to be 5 – 7 minutes in length. A contestant will be disqualified if the speech is timed to be under 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 how the 4-5 minute and the 7-8 minute speech will reflect in the score.
5. Appropriate gestures are allowed. Props are not allowed.
6. Speech content may not be significantly changed as a contestant advances. Fine-tuning for minor corrections or to adjust time is allowed and encouraged. If a contestant advances to the state or national contest, a written copy of the contestant's speech must be forwarded to the state or national contest.
7. The contestant should use up-to-date factual information.
8. The style should be appropriate to the message of the speech. A dramatic presentation is not acceptable. A dramatic presentation is considered anything that is read or performed that has been previously written by another author; a short story, a poem, etc. Although quotes to support a position or statement are appropriate, they may not dominate the speech, and should be appropriately cited. Dramatic presentations are 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 to rule out the use of emotion.
9. The judges' background and qualifications differ, although all are pro-life, the speech should

appeal to a broad audience.

10. No copyrighted speeches shall be used in the contest.

11. If the contestant advances, the contestant's recording will remain the property of National Right to Life.

12. Contestants may use notes.

13. The judges score the contestants in 4 areas; introduction, content, presentation, and conclusion. Contestants are given a score of 1-10 (10 being the best) in each area. The scores are added together (40 being perfect). The judges' scores are added together for the grand total. The grand total will determine which contestants move to the next level.

14. The judges' decision will be final.

15. All efforts are made for accuracy. In the event of a mistake, every effort will be made to correct it.

16. Ties will be handled by the Auglaize County Right to Life chair members.

17. These rules apply only to the Auglaize County Right to Life – Jane B. Thompson Oratory Contest. No other rules from any national, state or local speech contest or groups apply.

18. Any concerns or issues shall be dealt with by the Auglaize County Oratory Contest Chairs.

19. The decision of the Auglaize County Oratory Contest Chairs concerning the application of these rules or the contest will be final.

20. Submissions will not be accepted after the deadline on Friday April 8th at 11:59pm unless an amendment has been made to extend the deadline to all participants.

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