

SPEAK UP, SPEAK OUT, SPEAK LIFE!

BE A VOICE FOR LIFE!

2021 Pro-Life Oratory Contest High School Students

Thursday, February 25

CONTEST REGISTRATION DEADLINE

*Thursday, February 11th
(See Application)*

For more information: www.rtlswin.org

ORATORY SCHOLARSHIP

11-12th grades

\$1,000 First Place

\$500 Second Place

\$250 Third Place

**LIFE
ISSUES**

- STEM CELL RESEARCH
- ABORTION
- INFANTICIDE • EUTHANASIA



Right to Life of SW Indiana Statement of Purpose
 The Right to Life of Southwest Indiana 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.

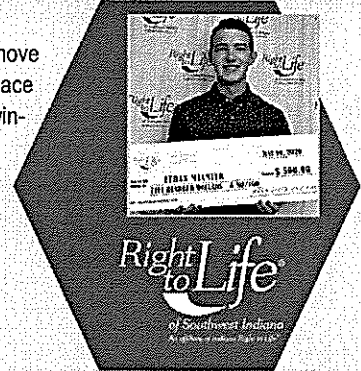
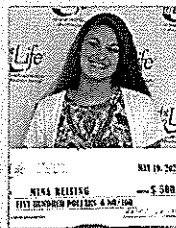


Indiana Right to Life Oratory Contest

Winner of the 2021 Right to Life of SW Indiana Oratory contest can move on to the State level and present their speech. This event will take place in May, 2021. Right to Life of SW Indiana will provide details to the winner.

National Right to Life Oratory

The winner from the State Oratory contest can proceed to the national level at the National Right to Life convention on June 25 and 26, 2021.





Right to Life of Southwest Indiana Oratory Scholarship

Statement of Purpose

The Right to Life of Southwest Indiana Oratory Contest strives to promote the ability of high school students to share their pro-life view with others. Although speaking ability is important, this contest also seeks to help teens organize and express their pro-life views and includes an essay and art contest.

Oratory Scholarship Rules ~ 2021

1. Student must be a high school junior or senior as of February 1, 2021. In the case of advanced students, non-traditional students, or home-schooled students, the school must recognize the student as a junior or senior or the year the student will enter college will be used to determine eligibility. Students from Spencer, Posey, Gibson, Warrick and Vanderburgh Counties may enter. **Applications are due by Thursday, February 11, 2021.**
2. Students who have competed in their junior year may compete the following year as a senior (with an entirely new speech) with one exception: a student who has won the national contest may not compete again.
3. Contestants are to research, write, and present an original pro-life speech.

The following specific issues can be addressed: **Abortion, Euthanasia, Infanticide, 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 over or under time limit speeches. It is left to the discretion of the judges how the 4-5 minute and 7-8 minute speech will be reflected in the contestant's 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. A written copy of the contestant's speech must be forwarded to the national contest.
7. The contestant should use **up-to-date, factual** information.
8. Any statistics used in the speech content must be referenced (on paper only).
9. The style or speech type should be appropriate to the message of the speech. A **dramatic presentation is not acceptable**. A dramatic presentation is considered anything read or performed that has been previously written by another author; a short story, 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.

10. The judges' background and qualifications differ, although all judges are pro-life, the speech should appeal to a broad audience.
11. No copyrighted speeches shall be used in the contest.
12. The contest may be videotaped or recorded.
13. Contestants may use notes or note cards, but should not directly read word-for-word off of them.
14. The use of microphones will not be allowed. The Contest Director may make an exception if the contest room creates the necessity for the use of microphones.
15. The contest will have three (3) judges and one (1) timekeeper.
16. Speaking order for the contest will be determined before the contest by drawing.
17. The judges will score contestants in four areas: **INTRODUCTION, CONTENT, PRESENTATION, and CONCLUSION**. Contestants

are given a score of 1-10 in each area (10 being the best). 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. The grand total will determine which contestants will be named for first, and second place.

18. **A hard copy of the contestant's speech must be submitted prior to February 25, 2021. Speeches can be emailed to Cathie Francis-Martin at cfrancis@rtlswin.org.**

19. The judges' decisions will be **FINAL**.

20. All efforts will be made to ensure accuracy. In the event of a mistake, every effort will be made to correct it.

21. In the event of a tie for first, each contestant may be asked to present his/her speech a second time.

22. These rules apply only to Right to Life of Southwest Indiana Contest. No other rules from any national or state speech group apply.

23. The decision of the Contest Director concerning application of these rules is **FINAL**.

24. Employees of Right to Life of Southwest Indiana and their immediate family members are not eligible to compete.

Those who enter the contest will be expected to attend the contest on Thursday, February 25, 2021 beginning at 3:30 p.m. You will receive specific information after we receive your application.

The oratory contest will be held at the Right to Life of Southwest Indiana office (downtown) located in the Fifth Third Bank Building at 20 NW Third St. on the corner of Sycamore and Third Streets.

*For more information please visit the Right to Life website or call:
<http://www.rtlswin.org>
(812) 474-3195*



2021 Speech Pointers

The following tips are provided as advice and are meant to complement, not replace, Oratory Contest Rules.

CONTENT: The rules state that your speech should address one of these topics directly: 'abortion, euthanasia, infanticide, embryonic or adult stem cell research.'

Organization is fundamental to writing a winning speech. Decide what type of speech you are presenting. Is it an informative or persuasive speech, or one that is a mixture of both? For each type of speech, you need to have a thesis. If you are presenting an informative speech, your thesis can be the objective conclusion of what scientific data has supported or proven, but tell the audience how this information is relevant to your main topic to help them understand why it is important. If you are presenting a persuasive speech, or one that is both persuasive and informative, what argument (thesis) does your speech prove?

An organized speech uses the **introduction** to state your thesis and then lay out the main points that you intend to cover, to show your listeners the information that you intend to give them or the main points of the argument that you will use to prove your thesis. The fewer main points there are, the easier it is for your listeners to remember what they are when you cover them in the body and then again in the conclusion of your speech.

You need to make your speech unique to catch the judges' attention. You can do this by beginning it with a 'hook'; for instance, an anecdote that will grab your audience's attention and make them interested in hearing more of what you have to say.

The **body of your speech** should expand on the main points which were laid out in your introduction. Provide evidence using up-to-date, factual information. Make it clear to the listeners where the information came from, including very general or subjective information, for example social attitudes or your personal feeling about a problem or solution. Providing objective information to support or prove things like attitudes or a solution to a problem strengthens your argument. Your speech should also use evidence that is convincing to a broad audience, i.e. including listeners who are pro-abortion and/or non-Christian.

Your **conclusion** should summarize the main points in order to show that they support your thesis. It should end on a memorable note. Finding a way to refer to the 'hook' again in your conclusion, helps make your speech memorable and underscores your thesis or general message.

It is very important to keep the length of your speech within the ideal time limit of 5-7 minutes.

PRESENTATION:

It is recommended that you memorize your entire speech in order to concentrate on your delivery, (i.e. body movement, eye contact, audibility, rate of delivery) while you are speaking. You may use notes or a copy of the speech while you are speaking, however, if you rely on them too much, it may detract from your delivery and cause you to lose points. Memorizing your speech will also give you the appearance of being more prepared and confident than someone who has not. Your rate of delivery should be slow, loud, and you should enunciate your words. The use of *some* emotion and body movement (such as: hand gestures, head movement, eye contact, changing your stance or even moving to a different place in the front of the room) are necessary in order to keep you from appearing stiff, but moderation is best; too little or too much or any of the above can be distracting.

Audibility – Remember to make your voice loud enough so that the judges do not have to strain to hear you. It's easy for a speaker to hear their own voice, but it may not be easy for their listeners to hear them. Ladies, this is particularly important advice for you, as most gentlemen have a natural advantage in this area.

GOOD LUCK!