

First South Florida M. B. District Association
Reverend Dr. Rayford Harper, Moderator

State Theme for 2019 Oratorical Contest

“iLive, iPraise, iWorship”
John 4:24 (all (i’s) are lowercase

Any high school senior as of March 1st of the year of the contest may participate if they meet the local church and congress requirements. Each congress is eligible to send one contestant. If a church sends a contestant to participate in the District Congress of Christian Education runoff in June, that church must be enrolled prior to the Contest. The committee will verify the contestant’s church enrollment.

Students are to stand in front of the microphone and ORATE distinctly and clearly. Contestants will be “PENALIZED” with a deduction of points for hand “gestures” and moving around in front of the microphone and/or podium. Contestants are to “Speak ONLY” with confidence, assurance of the Word, and/or raised voice tones as needed.

Speech must be memorized, no notes are allowed. The speech must be a minimum of five (5) minutes and not more than ten (10) minutes. Contestants are penalized one point for every fifteen seconds under the minimum or over the maximum. These points will be deducted from the contestant’s final score; if a contestant has 89 points and is penalized 3 points for 45 seconds under the minimum required, his/her final score will be 86.

Each contestant must speak on the selected Theme and scripture provided by the Progressive M&E State Convention. The contestant may use other related scriptures as desired. The contestant should write their own speech but may get assistance in finalizing the speech and preparing for the contest.

Scholarship amounts are \$1,200, \$800, \$600, \$450, and \$350 respectively for the first through fifth place winners. Each winner will be given a special supplement of \$250 if he/she elects to attend Florida Memorial University in Miami, FL.

The scholarships will be made payable to the winners of the E. Armster Memorial Oratorical Contest. Winners must provide proof of enrollment at the college of his/her choice - a schedule of college classes on the college official letterhead, or other legal document that shows proof of enrollment. The Executive Secretary of the Scholarship Committee will verify your enrollment. The students receiving the scholarship should utilize it for educational expenses ONLY (books, tuition, meals, or other school related expenses).

The SALUTATION for all orations in the contest shall be as follows for church, local and district congress:

Madam Director, Honorable Judges, Ladies and Gentlemen: I shall speak from the selected subject:

Contact Mary Priestler @ 813-681-4696 or 813-310-9929 and Linda West Stephens at 863-648-1369 or 863-2054204 if you need additional information.