

SOUTHWESTERN DIOCESE

Elder W.E. Drake Jr. Oratorical Contest Rules

1. The Elder W. E. Drake Jr. Oratorical Contest shall consist of three levels of competition: Level one, Local Church; Level two, District Congress and Level three, Diocese Spring Fellowship or Congress.
2. Each level shall have a supervisory committee. The supervisory committee for level one shall be the Pastor, Sunday School Superintendent and the Holiness Youth Ministry (HYM) President or a committee agreed on by these persons. The supervisory committee for levels two and three shall be the elected officers of the Sunday School and HYM Department of the respective levels.
3. Contestants shall enter the contest at level one unless the supervisory committee of a higher level makes special allowances for entering the contest after level one.
4. Each level shall send not more than one contestant to the next level.
5. The Elder W. E. Drake Jr. Oratorical Contest shall be self-supporting at each level. Levels one and two are encouraged to assist with expenses involved in sending their contest winners to level three.
6. The judges for the contest shall number three at each level. When there is only one contestant at any level, there will be at least one judge. The judges may be members of the Church of Christ Holiness (C.O.C.H.). The judges shall be selected by the supervisory committee at each level or their designee.
7. At the time of entering the Elder W. E. Drake Jr. Oratorical Contest, each contestant must:
 - A. Have written his own oration.
 - B. Be under 18 years of age.
 - C. Not be a first place winner in a previous Southwestern Diocese Junior Oratorical Contest.
 - D. Be in the 9th or 10th grade.
8. The subject of each contestant's oration will be the current theme of the National Sunday School and HYM Congress.
9. The contestants will deliver their orations from memory at each level. The time limit for each oration will be 3 to 5 minutes.

10. Each contestant shall submit a copy of his oration to the supervisory committee at the time of the contest at each level.

11. Each contestant shall be judged in the following categories:

Originality of thought	20 Points
Orientation	20 Points
Coherence	15 Points
Deliberation	15 Points
Articulation	15 Points
Gesticulation	10 Points
Time	5 Points
**Total number of points possible	100 Points

12. At level three, the first place winner shall receive an award in the amount of \$100. The second place winner shall receive an award in the amount of \$75. The third place winner shall receive an award in the amount of \$50. All other contestants at level three shall receive a certificate of honorable mention.

Revised
Name change too Elder W.E. Drake Jr. Oratorical Contest
SW Diocese Convention 6/2007 – Baton Rouge, LA

Oratorical Judging Criteria

The following list contains the areas in which each Oratorical contestant will be judged:

Originality of Thought

Orientation

Coherence

Deliberation

Articulation

Gesticulation

Time

Originality of thought refers to the content of the contestant's speech. The content of each contestant's speech must be on the current National Sunday School and H.Y.M. Congress theme. Orations should present ideas that are original, creative and unique.

Orientation refers to how well the speaker is acquainted with his or her speech. Each contestant should take time and thoroughly prepare themselves so that they can present their speeches from memory.

Coherence refers to the clarity of the oral presentation. All parts of the speech should flow in a clear and concise manner. The major points of a contestant's speech should be precise and not vague or ambiguous. The listener should not have difficulty following the content of the speech.

Deliberation refers to how well the oral presentation is perceived by the listening audience. This area covers the total speaking presentation of the contest. The speeches should be presented slowly, unhurried and steady.

Articulation refers to how speech sounds are produced. A good articulator speaks distinctly. The judges will be interested in how well the contestant produces his or her connected speech sounds. The judges will use Standard English pronunciation as a guide.

Gesticulation refers to the movement of any part of the body to express or emphasize an idea, emotion or function. Gestures should appear natural and not overemphasized or forced.

Time refers to the 3-5 minute allotment of time for the Junior Oratorical level as specified in the rules. Any speech that is longer or shorter than this designated time frame will be penalized with a deduction of points.