



**AMERICAN LEGION**  
**7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE SPEECH CONTEST**  
**Sponsored by American Legion Post 43**  
**PO Box 4, Naperville IL 60566**  
**Contest Date January 30, 2021**

**Purpose**

Participation in this competition gives students a deeper knowledge and appreciation of the United States Constitution and furthers their research, essay writing, and public speaking skills. Entering this contest gives students valuable insight into the rights and privileges of American citizenship and the associated duties and responsibilities.

**Eligibility**

Contestants must be 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup>-grade students in the general Naperville area attending any public, parochial or private school or homeschooled. They must be under the age of 15 on the date of the county contest (February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021)

**Contest Rules**

Each contestant will present a four to six-minute speech on some phase of the Constitution of the United States. The students will be judged on content (70 points) and speaking skills (30 points). Contestants will speak from a podium and should not read their speech but may refer to notes during the speech. They will be shown a time card at the 3, 4, and 5 minutes marks. If there is a violation of the time requirement, a penalty of one point per minute or fraction thereof will be assessed. Friends, family members, faculty and other interested parties may observe the speeches (no cheering or applauding permitted), but participants may not listen to the speech of a competitor.

**Post Level Competition**

The competition is limited to twelve participants. If more than twelve registrations are received, the first twelve based on date of postmark or emailing will participate. The final deadline for registrations is January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Mail to American Legion Post 43, PO Box 4, Naperville, IL 60566 Attention: John Nelson, or email to [johnmnelson99@gmail.com](mailto:johnmnelson99@gmail.com). The competition will be held at the Post 43 meeting hall at 10 W. Chicago Ave, Naperville, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, at 10:00 am (students check-in at 9:30 am) on Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

**Awards**

Post 43 awards are \$125 for 1<sup>st</sup> place, \$75 for 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and \$50 for 3<sup>rd</sup> place. All participants will receive at least \$25. Additional awards will be presented at the county level for students advancing from individual post competition.

**County-Level Competition**

Each post in the DuPage County may advance two students for judging in the County 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Speech Contest. The county competition will take place on Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at the Visitor Center Theater at Cantigny Park, Roosevelt & Winfield Roads, Winfield, IL. Participants should check-in by 9:30 am and the competition will start at 10:00 am.

**Contact Information**

Direct questions to the American Legion Post 43 Contest Chairman, John Nelson, at 312-401-4127 or [johnmnelson99@gmail.com](mailto:johnmnelson99@gmail.com)

*Distribution of information and materials through the school district does not imply District 204 endorsement.*

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**ENTRY FORM**

School \_\_\_\_\_

School Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

School contact email \_\_\_\_\_

Students entered in the 2021 American Legion 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Speech Contest sponsored by Naperville Post 43:

| Name  | Grade | Home Phone/email address |
|-------|-------|--------------------------|
| _____ | _____ | _____                    |
| _____ | _____ | _____                    |

EMAIL TO [Johnmnelson99@gmail.com](mailto:Johnmnelson99@gmail.com) or to mail to the post office box shown above

Registration forms must be received by American Legion Post 43 by **January 23, 2021**

**John Nelson: C 312-401-4127**

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