

SAINT PHILIP AME CHURCH
Black History Art & Oratorical Contest

The Risen Generation Youth Church will be presenting the Oratorical Competition for the Black History Celebration for 2021. We invite youth from the ages of eight (8) to eighteen (18) to participate. The competition will be held on February 14, 2021 at 1:00pm on Zoom. (Zoom links will be provided closer to the date via email.)

The topic is taken from this quote **“I want to be remembered as someone who used him/herself and anything I could touch to work for justice and freedom... I want to be remembered as one who tried” – Dorothy Height. Students shall write a letter to Vice President Kamala Harris or Senator Rev. Raphael Warnock encouraging and charging them in their new roles from the hearts of young people that look like them.** The scriptural reference is: *“Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.”- Isaiah 1:17*

All youth will be recognized for their participation in their age categories: 8-11 years of age; 12-15 years of age; and 16-18 years of age. Time limits for the age categories above are: 2-4 minutes; 3-5 minutes; and 5-7 minutes respectively.

This year, we will also include an art competition using the same theme. All youth will be recognized for their participation in their categories: 6-8 years of age; 9-11 years of age; 12-14 years of age; and 15-18 years of age.

Registration and Competition Guidelines will be located online via the church website and/or at the receptionist desk in the FLAC. Registration forms may be submitted at the receptionist desk each Sunday.

For additional information, please contact Rev. LaMone Gibson or Rev. Kristina Johnson. They can be reached by calling the receptionist at Saint Philip or email: lgibson@saintphilip.org respectively.

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ART/ORATORICAL COMPETITION REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____ Age _____

Parent's/Guardian's name: _____

Competition Choice (please circle one or both): **Art or Speech**

Telephone #'s: _____ Email address: _____

ORATORICAL CONTEST GUIDELINES

Step 1: Preparing Your Speech

1.1 Public Speaking 101: Preparing and delivering your first public speech can be a daunting affair. You may find it difficult deciding what you want to say, how to say it, or perhaps the thought of speaking before an audience scares you. It is true that some people are naturally talented at public speaking, but the good news is that with some helpful guidance, anyone can write and deliver a successful speech.

1.2 Solid Foundations: Your first instinct may be to sit down with a pen and paper and charge full steam ahead into the first line of your speech. Do not. You will save yourself a lot of time and effort, not to mention much frustrating re-writing, if you begin instead by devoting some time to careful planning of your speech. Through effective preparation, you will answer all the questions and doubts about your speech before they arise. The contents of your speech, and how you deliver it, are based on three important factors:

- The Occasion

: - The Audience

: - The Purpose of Your Speech

Step 2: Writing Your Speech

2.1 Structure: Most good writing must have structure. A good speech is no exception. By providing your speech with a beginning, middle, and an end, you will have laid the foundations for a successful speech that fulfils all of your aspirations.

We will now cover each of these areas:

- The Opening/Beginning

: - The Body/Middle

: - The Closing/Summary

2.2 The Opening/Beginning: The first thirty seconds of your speech are probably the most important. In that period of time you must grab the attention of the audience, and engage their interest in what you have to say in your speech. Capture the audience's attention by raising a thought-provoking question, making an interesting or controversial statement, reciting a relevant quotation or even recounting a joke. Once you have won the attention of the audience, your speech should move seamlessly to the middle of your speech.

2.3 The Body/Middle: The body of your speech will always be the largest part of your speech. At the point your audience will have been introduced to you and the subject of your speech (as set out in your opening) and will hopefully be ready to hear your arguments, your musings or on the subject of your speech. The best way to set out the body of your speech is by formulating a series of points that you would like to raise. In the context of your speech, a "point" could be a statement about a product, a joke about the bridegroom or a fond memory of the subject of a eulogy. Take time to organize your points so that they follow one another, building upon the previous one. This will also give your speech a more logical progression, and make the job of the listener a far easier one. Do not try to overwhelm your audience with countless points. It is better to have two or three that you make well than to have too many points.

2.4 The Closing/Summary: Like your Opening, the Closing of your speech must contain some of your strongest material. You should view the closing of your speech as an opportunity to summarize the main points mentioned in your Body/middle. Provide additional 'food for thought'. Finally, leave your audience with fond memories or an emotional take on what you presented for example well wishes to a Bride and Groom or admiration for winners or losers of an award ceremony.

Step 3: Delivering Your Speech

3.1 Use of Scripts, Notes or Memory: It is now time to prepare to deliver your speech. If you are nervous or inexperienced, you will probably want to choose to read your speech from a script or from notes.

a. Reading from a Script

Reading your entire speech from a script may give you confidence and ensure that you state all your major points. However, it is the least desirable delivery option. You will find it more difficult to see your audience, and make it harder for them to get involved to you. When reading from a script it is extremely difficult to deliver your speech to your audience, rather than just read it aloud.

b. Using Notes

If you are not confident enough to recite your speech from memory, then the use of notes is a much more desirable option. Your notes should consist of the keywords or points of your speech - a skeleton of thoughts or words around which you can build your speech. You may refer to your notes occasionally to maintain the thread of your speech, while for the most part of you will be able to speak directly to the audience.

c. Reciting from Memory

You may prefer to recite from memory. However, you should only do this if you are comfortable speaking publicly, and not prone to loss of concentration (or memory!). As with reading from a script, you should be careful not to lapse into a monotonous recitation of your speech.

3.2 Speech Delivery Tips

- Make sure that you are well groomed. Dress for the occasion.
- Speak clearly, and adjust your voice so that everyone can hear you. Do not shout for the sake of being loud
- It is common to speak rapidly when nervous, try to take your time speaking
- A pause used effectively will emphasize a point, or to allow the audience to react to a fact, anecdote or joke
- Make eye contact with your audience, thus building a trust and relationship between you and them.
- Do not fidget nor make other nervous gestures with your hands. - Do keep your hands by your side or on the podium. Do use hand gestures effectively
- Be yourself; allow your own personality to come across in your speech

***Be conscious that we will be on a virtual platform and your audience will be on Zoom. Webcam, good audio speakers, wifi or strong internet connections will be needed and will effect your presentation. ***

Overall Rating:

Evaluator: _____ Date: _____

ART CONTEST GUIDELINES

Artwork: Student must submit original, two-dimensional artwork.

- Student artwork must be original, created by only the student. Artwork may not be drawn/copied from any existing artwork (photograph, advertisement, etc.).
- Student artwork must measure 8½" by 11" and be created using any two-dimensional medium including:
 - drawing (pencil, crayon, graphite, etc.)
 - painting (pastel, watercolor, spray paint, oils, etc.)

Each student may enter only one submission to this contest with the following requirements:

Labeling Requirements: Each entry must have your name and age attached to the back of the artwork.

Transfer of Rights: Each applicant and his/her parent or guardian must agree to give all rights to the submitted artwork, including copyright, to Saint Philip A.M.E Church. This permission form will allow the church, at a minimum, to reproduce, distribute, and display your artwork. The winner's submission will be duplicated in various mediums and used to promote Black History Month.

Awards: One winner from each age category will be selected. All participants will be recognized.