



LEADERSHIP SPEECH CONTEST

December 16, 2020



The Savannah River Site Leadership Association (SRSLA) sponsors its annual Leadership Speech Contest. This local event is part of a national contest sponsored by the National Management Association (NMA)...*THE Leadership Development Organization*. Overall, there are over 18,000 members and 75 chapters across the United States, including the SRSLA Chapter at Savannah River Site.

The primary purpose of the nationwide speech contest is to promote an understanding of Leadership among our nation's high school students. Other purposes are to increase awareness among students of the important role Leadership plays in our society and to develop vital communication skills needed for succeeding in the world today.

The requirements for student eligibility, speech preparation rules, topics to consider when preparing the speech, and contest rules are included in this packet. The contest is open to any student from the various CSRA schools and home-schooled students in grades 9-12. It requires the student to personally prepare a speech, relating to Leadership, of between four- and six-minutes in duration.

The local 2021 contest is scheduled for February 27, 2021 and may be held virtually. Please note, there is potential for an in-person contest. The contest will be limited to seven (7) contestants. The top three contestants will be guaranteed a spot in the second stage of competition, NMA Peach Council - date and location to be announced. Contestants chosen to compete will be contacted via email by the Contest Director per the schedule below. If additional information is needed, please contact Lydia Boynton, Contest Director on (803)761-2203, lydia.boynton@srs.gov or Cheryl Hartfield, (803)952-7121, cheryl.hartfield@srs.gov.

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| January 15, 2021 | Deadline for submitting Speech Contest Student Entry and Authorization from parents and school officials. Email completed forms to lydia.boynton@srs.gov and cheryl.hartfield@srs.gov . |
| January 29, 2021 | Deadline to submit four to six-minute speech with completed forms. Email PDF to lydia.boynton@srs.gov and cheryl.hartfield@srs.gov . |
| February 5, 2021 | SRSLA notifies selected contestants to participate in the Chapter competition. |
| February 27, 2021 | SRSLA Speech Contest – Virtual (potential physical location TBD). |

Please encourage your students to consider participating in this worthwhile contest. They will find it to be both challenging and enjoyable.

Sincerely,

Lydia Crawford Boynton

Lydia Crawford Boynton
SRSLA Speech Contest Director

CONTEST INFORMATION PACKET

ABOUT THE NMA LEADERSHIP SPEECH CONTEST

NMA proudly presents its Leadership Speech Contest as one of the nation’s leading competitions among high school age students. Its primary purpose is to promote better understanding of Leadership and the unique role it plays in today’s world. The top prize is \$4,000 cash! The Contest is sponsored and funded by our NMA Educational Foundation, Inc., a 501 (c)(3) organization.



The contest involves young men and women in grades nine through twelve. They research, write, and then deliver a speech based upon their interpretation of a variety of Leadership topics. Topics such as Leadership in the world, its application to the free enterprise system and what Leadership means to them personally are some examples of speech themes. In short, the students are limited only by their imagination and creativity.

Students report to us that participation in this contest increases their awareness and understanding of Leadership. The contest provides an incentive for the development of communication skills – vital to those preparing to enter the workforce. In communities across the country, the NMA Contest has become recognized as an innovative program supporting our young people.

The financial rewards, at all levels of the competition, contribute to students’ furthering their education. NMA members take enormous pride in their program and herald the contest as one of the NMA’s greatest contributions to understanding the various aspects of Leadership. We sincerely invite you to look at our program closely and join us in participating in this important program.

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LEVELS OF COMPETITION

In high school meeting rooms, community theatres, libraries, and even plant auditoriums, students across the country start giving their speeches in early fall. Their goal remains the same, write a first class speech and then begin to present it to various audiences, eventually working one’s way to the top, with a chance at that \$4,000 top prize. Along the way, they receive the advice, counsel, and encouragement from parents, teachers, friends, and business leaders.

THE THREE LEVELS OF COMPETITION

1. Chapter Level	2. Council Level
3. National Finals Level	

AT THE CHAPTER LEVEL, contests run by local NMA chapters, students in grades 9-12 from area high schools along with home schooled students in the area compete against each other for prizes to be determined by chapters, if monetary, not to exceed \$300.

AT THE COUNCIL LEVEL, students compete against one another from a wider geographical area... where several NMA chapters band together to sponsor the second level of competition. The top monetary prize at this level should not exceed \$500.

AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL, the Chapter/Council finalists compete at the NMA Annual Conference held in the fall. These contestants compete for cash prizes of \$4,000, \$1,000, and two \$500 third place prizes.

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

Participants must be enrolled in a school or be home schooled (grades 9 – 12) within the area that the sponsoring Chapter serves. An exception would be a student without a local chapter could still participate. Contact NMA Headquarters for possible sponsoring chapters.

SPEECH PREPARATION RULES

1. The speech is to relate to Leadership. Speeches at all levels shall have Leadership as its main theme to be considered eligible for competition.
2. Non-leadership issues such as social, medical, environmental, political etc. shall not be primary subjects unless integrated into how leadership plays a role.
3. Each contestant shall research, develop and deliver his/her own original speech. Advice and coaching is allowed and changes may be made to the speech at any time prior to the contest regardless of level.
4. Contestants shall submit a draft of their speech to the Contest Director prior to participating in the contest to assure the content meets the criteria of Leadership as the main theme. The Contest Director shall establish the deadline for submitting the speech.
5. Contestants shall not identify themselves, their city, state or school in the context of their speech.
6. Notes are allowed, but the speech shall not be read verbatim.
7. Audio/visual aids shall not be used with the presentation.
8. Contestants' speeches shall be limited to no more than six minutes or less than four minutes.
9. Contestants MUST give proper credit to any source from which they derive information. Contestants may use quotations and/or copyrighted materials, but must identify the original author. Acknowledging the source of the material shall be the responsibility of the contestant. Contestants may not use in whole a speech from any other source. The use of plagiarized material will result in disqualification.
10. Speeches prepared for this contest shall not be presented to any other group without acknowledging that the speech was prepared for and was or will be delivered in this contest.
11. The listed Speech Preparation Rules are also part of the Contest Rules.

TOPICS FOR CONSIDERATION

1. Leadership in the world today
2. Community Leadership or how I can be a leader in my community
3. What makes a good leader?
4. Leadership and the Free Enterprise System
5. Leadership for the 21st Century
6. Attributes of a leader or the importance of inclusiveness in leadership
7. Great Leadership Examples
8. Leadership: Past, Present and for the 21st
9. What Leadership means to me

CONTEST RULES

A. COMPETING

1. Contestants shall compete in a Chapter Level Contest in order to be eligible to participate in a Council or higher Level Contest. At the Chapter Level, contestants shall compete against students in grades 9-12 within a school, between schools, between home schooled students or between chapters. Contestants shall only compete at one Chapter Level Contest per year.
2. If a contestant has not competed in a Chapter Level Contest, he/she shall not be eligible to compete in any higher level of contest competition. If any doubt exists concerning a contestant's eligibility, contact NMA Headquarters to resolve the issue promptly.
3. Chapters geographically isolated from other chapters or those chapters not in a Council may have their contestant compete at the National Finals Level Contest, but shall have conducted a Chapter Level

Contest. In order to compete at the higher level contest, a written waiver shall be submitted and approved by NMA Headquarters in advance. The waiver letter (see Sample Letters Section) is usually initiated by the Contest Director or Chapter President.

4. At all contest levels, competing contestants shall not be able to hear nor be in attendance of another contestant's speech being delivered.
5. At the Finals Level contest, there shall be no photography, video or audio recording allowed during the contest except if arranged by NMA.
6. If determined by the contest director and the NMA Meeting Coordinator, all contestants shall be required to use a microphone when delivering their speech at the Finals Level contests.
7. Contestants shall be respectful of other contestants at all times and shall conduct themselves in a professional manner.
8. Contestants winning the National Level Contest are ineligible to compete in future NMA Leadership Speech Contests.

B. DOCUMENTATION

1. As soon as it is determined the chapter/council plans to conduct a speech contest, the Chapter/Council Speech Contest Confirmation Form shall be completed and sent to NMA Headquarters. This informs NMA Headquarters of the intent to conduct a contest but does not obligate the chapter/council to conduct a contest. The form needs to be on file prior to the date of the chapter/council contest or no later and January 31st for the chapter/council to be eligible to conduct the contest.
2. For an individual to compete in the Chapter Level Contest, each contestant shall complete both the Student Entry Form and the Consent and Acknowledgement of Risk Form. Both forms require the student's and parent or guardian signatures. The originals are kept by the chapter and a copy of both forms shall be sent promptly to NMA Headquarters along with a printed or typed copy of the speech (it may be a draft).
3. The Chapter/Council Confirmation, Student Entry Form and Risk Forms shall be on file at NMA Headquarters prior to the contest.
4. At all levels, written copies (may be a draft) of contestant's speeches arriving after the due date established by the appropriate Contest Director, may be ruled ineligible for competition.
5. For those contestants winning at the Chapter Contest but not competing at the Council Level, a waiver letter needs to be prepared and submitted to NMA Headquarters for approval. Once approved, plans to compete at the National Finals Level can be initiated. (see Sample Letters Section).
6. For those chapters and councils sending their winning contestant to the Finals Level Contest, a package of documentation needs to be submitted to NMA Headquarters. It consists of the National Finals Contest Registration Form, Risk Form, a copy of the winning contestant's speech and a copy of the Student Entry Form.

C. CONTACT PERSON FOR THE NATIONAL FINALS LEVEL

1. A contact person who shall attend the National Level Contest needs to be designated for each winning contestant competing at the National Level Contest. The contact person's name needs to be submitted to NMA Headquarters or their contestant shall not be permitted to compete.

D. JUDGING

1. At all contest levels, a minimum of two judges shall be used with an additional tie breaking judge whose ballot will be counted only if a tie occurs.
2. Each judge shall be provided with a clipboard along with a copy of the Judging Criteria, a Judge's Ballot and a Judge's Ranking Form (see Judging Criteria and Evaluation Forms Section).
3. All judges shall evaluate all contestants competing in the contest.
4. At all contest levels, one winner shall be designated and the decision of the judges in placing the contestants is final. Scores and ranking shall not be revealed.

5. Individual ballot tabulations by judges shall not be revealed to anyone after the competition has been completed.

E. TIME KEEPER

1. There shall be one Time Keeper (a backup may also be used) who shall record each contestant's presentation time on a Time Record Sheet (see Judging Criteria and Evaluation Forms Section). The Contest Director shall pick up the forms after the last contestant has competed.
2. The length of the contest speech shall be between four and six minutes. The Time Keeper shall indicate intermediate times to the contestant using color cards/lights which shall be clearly visible to each speaker but not obvious to the audience. The green card/light shall be displayed at four (4:00) minutes, the yellow card/light shall be displayed at five and a half (5 ½) minutes and the red card/light shall be displayed at six (6:00) minutes and remain visible until the speech ends.
3. The Time Keeper shall start the watch with the contestant's first word uttered to the audience and the watch shall be stopped with the contestant's last word to the audience.
4. There are no disqualifications for the length of the speech but penalty points may be applied for violating the four to six minute length of speech rule.

F. SPEECH TIME LIMITS AND GRACE PERIOD

1. The minimum time for the speech shall be four (4) minutes with a ten second grace period. The speech could be as short as three minutes, fifty seconds (3:50). If the measured time is shorter, a penalty of two points would be applied to the contestant's score.
2. The maximum time for the speech shall be six (6) minutes with a 20 second grace period (6:20). If the speech is longer, penalty points would be applied to the contestant's score. A penalty of two points would be applied if the measured time is between six minutes, twenty-one seconds (6:21) and six minutes, thirty seconds (6:30). For measured time longer than six minutes, thirty seconds (6:30), a penalty of five points would be applied.

G. GENERAL

1. At all contest levels, NMA shall have the right to edit, publish and/or record any speech used.
2. The listed Speech Preparation Rules are also part of these Contest Rules.
3. If any of the Contest Rules are broken, the contestant shall be disqualified from competing by the appropriate Contest Director.
4. Protest at the Chapter/Council Level shall be in writing and given to the Contest Director who will evaluate and concur with the highest Chapter/Council officer or contest judges to assure a fair evaluation.
5. Protest at the National Level shall be in writing and given to the Contest Director who will evaluate and concur with the NMA Executive Director/Chairman of the Board or contest judges to assure a fair evaluation.
6. On the date established for the National Level Speech Contest, all contestants shall compete at the time and place scheduled for the contest.

CONTEST SCHEDULING

1. Chapter Level Contests should generally be conducted between January and mid-March but could be scheduled earlier in the school year. It is suggested the Chapter Level Contest be completed at least 14 days prior to the Council Level Contest.
2. Council Level Contests should generally be conducted between February and April.
3. The National Level Contest shall be conducted at the NMA Annual Conference which is held in September or October.

CONTEST FORMS

EXPLANATION OF CONTEST FORMS

CONDUCT CONTEST

The Chapter/Council Speech Contest Confirmation Form is the first form submitted to NMA Headquarters as soon as it is determined the chapter/council plans to conduct a speech contest. The form informs NMA Headquarters of the intent of the chapter/council has to conduct a speech contest but does not obligate them to conduct a contest. The deadline for submitting this form is January 31st of the contest year.

PARTICIPATE IN CONTEST

1. In order to compete in the speech contest, the contestant shall complete both the Student Entry Form and the Consent and Acknowledgement of Risk Form. Both forms require the student's signature as well as a parent or legal guardian signature
2. The chapter retains the originals of both forms and sends a copy of the forms to NMA Headquarters along with a printed or typed copy of the contest's speech (may be a draft).

ADVANCING TO NATIONAL FINALS LEVEL

1. After a first place contestant is determined at the Council Level a package of documents needs to be sent promptly to NMA Headquarters. The package consists of: the Speech Contestant Registration Form and copies of the winning student's Risk Form, Student Entry Form and the student's speech.
2. If there is no Council Level Contest, a waiver letter (see Sample Letters Section) needs to be submitted and approved by NMA Headquarters before the student is eligible to advance to the Finals Level Contest. After approval, the same package of documents mentioned above is sent to NMA Headquarters.
3. In either circumstance, the package of documents mentioned above need to be sent to NMA Headquarters as soon as your contest is complete.
4. It is required that a chapter contact person be identified on the National Finals Registration Form. The identified person is to be involved with their contestant to provide any needed support.

STUDENT ENTRY FORM

This form shall be returned to the Contest Director

Please type or print clearly

Name: _____ **(M / F)** _____ **Grade:** _____

Email: _____ **Phone:** _____

Address _____

City/State _____ **Sponsoring** _____

/Zip Code: _____ **Chapter** _____

School/ _____

Home _____

I hereby verify that the above information is true. I will adhere to the rules of the NMA Leadership Speech Contest. I understand that the decision of the judges in placing the contestants is final.

Student's Signature: _____ **Date** _____

(If contestant is a minor) I hereby verify that I am the parent/legal guardian of this student and grant permission for participation in this contest. I understand that the decision of the judges in placing the contestants is final.

Print & Sign: _____ **Relationship:** _____

Date: _____

NOTE: Chapter retains original, mail copy to:
NMA Leadership Speech Contest
3055 Kettering Blvd., Suite 210, Dayton, OH 45439

CONSENT AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RISK FORM

REV 1-19

MUST BE SUBMITTED TO NMA HEADQUARTERS PRIOR TO CONTEST

Submit to NMA Headquarters prior to Contest

NMA

3055 Kettering Blvd., Suite 210

Dayton, OH 45439

Participant : _____

Activities: NMA Leadership Speech Contest – ALL LEVELS

IN CONSIDERATION of the right to attend and participate in the Activities described above, the Participant (and, if the Participant is a minor, his or her legal guardian) hereby:

1. Agree to abide by all rules and regulations established by NMA and the NMA Leadership Speech Contest; Speeches must be original. The use of plagiarized material will result in disqualification;
2. Authorizes NMA or any of its agents to provide, obtain, or authorize any reasonable incidental and/or emergency medical treatment for the Participant, in the event of the Participant's illness, injury, or incapacity, and hereby, accepts the responsibility to pay for such treatment;
3. Grants to NMA for any purpose connected with promoting the purposes and goals of a Leadership Speech Contest, not for commercial exploitation, the right to use the Participant's name, voice, and likeness in any writings, photographs, films, and recordings, of the Participant while he or she is participating in the Activities, and any biographical information submitted by the Participant to NMA, and to use, reproduce, publish, and distribute the same;
4. Acknowledgment that there is an element of risk involving travel outside of one's own home or community; certifies that the participant is physically, mentally, and emotionally capable of attending and participating in the activities; assumes all risk of financial responsibility for any loss or injury to the Participant or others that may occur as a result of Participants negligence or misconduct; releases the NMA, its officers, Trustees, employees and/or agents from any loss of injury to the Participant that may occur as a result of negligence or misconduct of any persons or entities other than NMA, its officers, Trustees, employees and/or agents; from and against any and all costs, claims, demands, charges, liabilities, obligations, judgment, execution, costs of suit and actual attorney's fees incurred or suffered by NMA, its officers, Trustees, employees and/or agents as a result of, or arising out of, the Participant's negligence or misconduct.

This Consent and Acknowledgment of Risk form shall not be amended, supplemented, or abrogated without the written consent of the NMA Headquarters Office in Dayton, Ohio.

The Participant (and, if the Participant is a minor, his or her parent or legal guardian) has read this Consent and Acknowledgment of Risk, and understands its content.

_____ Signature of Participant	_____ Date
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_____ Telephone Number	_____ Email
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IF PARTICIPANT IS A MINOR, THE SIGNATURE OF HIS/HER PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN IS REQUIRED.

_____ Name of Parent or Legal Guardian	_____ Signature
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