

Introduction

On **Saturday, September 10, 2011**, the Louisville Urban League and Kentucky State University will host the **“Achievement Matters” Oratorical Contest** at the **2011 “Doing the Right Thing” Youth Expo**. The purpose of this contest is to inspire and motivate youth to become actively involved in public speaking. The contest allows local youth the opportunity to compete for cash awards while demonstrating their public speaking skills and expressing their views.

Contestants may choose from the following topics for this year’s oratorical contest:

1. **What are the positives & negatives of social media and technology?**
2. **What is unique about my generation?**
3. **How can we eliminate bullying from society?**
4. **“Going Green”...What will it mean to my community and the world?**

To be eligible for the contest, you must complete the Contestant Entry Form and submit a paper on your response to one of the above topics. **Your entry form and paper must be completed and returned by Friday, July 29, 2011, to the Louisville Urban League.** There will be high school and middle school divisions, and the top 3 papers from each division will be selected for presentation during the 2011 Doing the Right Thing Youth Expo oratorical contest. You will be notified if your paper was selected for oral presentation.

Criteria

The purpose of the Oratorical Contest is to enhance young people’s development of leadership qualities and public speaking skills. The contest entry and selection criteria follow:

1. Contestants must be enrolled in middle school, high school (public, parochial or private).
2. A **two-page double-space typed paper** responding to the selected topic must be submitted **by 5:00pm on July 29, 2011**. Papers will be judged on the overall response to the subject matter, grammar, punctuation, and other areas noted below.
3. If selected for the oratorical contest, students will make a **three (3) minute** presentation during the 2011 Doing the Right Thing Youth Expo on September 10 at Fourth Street Live and be scored by an independent panel of judges on:
 - ◆ Poise (Self-confidence, appearance, personality)
 - ◆ Content of Speech (Subject adherence, theme, logic, and content)
 - ◆ Delivery/Presentation (Voice, volume, bearing, pronunciation, gestures, eye contact, sincerity, emphasis)
 - ◆ *Overall Effectiveness (Appeal, impression, attitude, effect)*

Awards

The awards for each division (high school and middle school) include:

First Place \$250 Second Place \$150 Third Place \$ 50

If you have any additional questions, contact
Imani A. Muhammad at 502-566-3383 or imuhammad@lul.org.

ORATORICAL CONTESTANT ENTRY FORM

Contestant Name (please print full name) _____ Male Female
Parent’s Name _____ Telephone number _____

ADDRESS/CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

Telephone number: _____ E-mail address: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____ School’s telephone number: _____

Affiliated Organization: _____

Contestant Signature _____ Date _____

Your typed paper and a copy of this completed entry form must be submitted no later than 5:00 pm on Friday, July 29, 2011 to the Louisville Urban League at 1535 West Broadway, 40203...Fax 502-561-6825