



Ohio Right to Life's *2021 Oratory Contest Guide*

2021 OHIO RIGHT TO LIFE ORATORY CONTEST GUIDE

Dear Affiliated Leaders,

It is time to begin planning for the **2021 Youth Oratory Contest!** Please consider hosting a contest this year for the youth in your community. Due to the uncertainty of whether the 2021 National Right to Life Convention will be held in person or virtually, the winner of the state contest will receive Ohio Right to Life's *Pro-Life Ohio Scholarship* which will either consist of an all-expense paid trip to the national contest in Charleston, SC during the National Right to Life Convention on June 25-26, 2021 or a monetary amount.

Reasons to host a contest:

- Engage your local youth in the pro-life movement
- Create an opportunity for them to express their beliefs
- Train tomorrow's leaders with the truth of abortion, infanticide, euthanasia
- Represent your county by sending a young pro-lifer to the state contest!

Hosting a contest is simple:

- Find a location to hold the contest (school classroom, church, hall or virtually)
- Decide on a date and time (between February and April)
- Promote! Get the word out to youth groups, local high schools and the members of your affiliate. Add your contest info to the flyer on the next page and encourage youth to participate.
- Find three community members to judge your contest!
- Host the contest and send winner information to Ohio Right to Life!

Some dates to remember: **Monday, February 22:** Let us know of your interest in participating. **Friday, March 5th:** Send Affiliate Coordinator form to ORTL. **Friday, April 16:** Send affiliate winner form to ORTL. **Friday, May 14th:** State Contest entry deadline. Please note that, like last year, ORTL's State Oratory Contest will be held virtually, and FAQs about the process can be found on page 3 of this guide. Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions!

Additionally, if you have any questions about what hosting a local contest entails, please send me an email or give me a call. I'd be happy to talk through ideas with you or connect you with another leader who has orchestrated a contest in the past.

Included are contest rules and an affiliate coordinator form. Again, if you have any questions regarding the 2021 Oratory Contest, please don't hesitate to contact me at afrazier@ohiolife.org.

Thank you for your tireless advocacy for LIFE!
Allie Frazier
Director of Communications at Ohio Right to Life
(614)547-0099 ext. 304

Ohio Right to Life • 88 East Broad Street • Suite 620
Columbus, Ohio 43215
Telephone: (614) 547-0099 • www.ohiolife.org

For Local Contest Winners: Virtual State Contest FAQs!

How should I record and submit my video entry?

1. Record your video using your smart phone, digital camera, or other video recording device.
2. Upload your video to YouTube using your google account.
3. Email the link to your video to Allie Frazier at afrazier@ohiolife.org. Allie will forward your video on to our panel of judges!

Can I edit my video or should it be one take?

Ideally, your video should be one continuous take, like it would be if you were competing in-person in front of our judges at a physical location. Obviously, you can re-record your video several times and pick the take that you like best to upload. Do feel free to cut off the beginning and end of your video if you have a few moments of you setting up the camera, hitting the “stop recording” button, etc.

What settings should I upload my video under?

You should post your video as “unlisted” on YouTube- only people with the link will be available to watch it- ie.the Oratory Contest Judges.

What should I do if I’m having trouble uploading my video?

If you are experiencing technical difficulties or having trouble uploading your video, please reach out to ORTL’s Director of Communications, Allie Frazier. Allie can be reached by email at afrazier@ohiolife.org or by phone at (614)547-0099 ext.304. She will be able to help make sure your video is uploaded and available for the judges.

What is the hard deadline for contest entries to be submitted?

The hard deadline for contest entries to be emailed to Allie is 11:59 PM EST on Friday, May 14th. Please reach out to Allie with any additional questions or if you need help!



HEY!

Juniors & Seniors,

Will YOU be their voice?

Speak up for the most vulnerable at

Ohio Right to Life's

2021 Oratory Contest!

LOCAL CONTEST:

HOSTED BY:

LOCATION:

DATE:

CONTACT:

State winner will receive ORTL's "Pro-Life Ohio" Scholarship!

Dates to Remember:

Monday, February 22, 2021:

Notify Ohio Right to Life of your interest in holding a youth pro-life oratory contest in 2021.

Friday, March 5, 2021:

Notify Ohio Right to Life that you are holding a contest by completing and sending in the Affiliate Coordinator Form by this date.

February-April 2021:

Host your affiliate's Oratory Contest!

Friday, April 16, 2021:

Contact Ohio Right to Life (submit Contest Winner's form) with the contact information for the winner of the local contest by this date for planning purposes.

Friday, May 14, 2021:

The Ohio Right to Life Oratory Contest local winner video submissions due.

Affiliate Coordinator Form

*Yes, our affiliate will be participating in the 2021 Ohio Right to Life Oratory Contest:**

Affiliate Name: _____

Oratory Coordinator's Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

***Please complete entire form. Incomplete forms will not be accepted.**

Please return this form no later than Friday, March 5, 2021 to:

**Ohio Right to Life
RE: Oratory Contest
88 East Broad Street, Suite 620
Columbus, OH 43215**

Or return by email to: afrazier@ohiolife.org

Thank you!

2021 Ohio Right to Life Oratory Contest Contestant Application Form

Right to Life County Affiliate: _____

Please Print

Contestant Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____, Ohio Zip _____

Telephone: _____

Email address: _____

School Name: _____

Grade Level: _____

Age: _____

SIGNATURES:

Contestant Signature: _____

Parent Name (please print): _____

Parent Signature: _____

Submit this application by **Friday, April 16** to: **Allie Frazier** at afrazier@ohiolife.org **or**
88 E. Broad St.
Suite 620
Columbus, Ohio 43215

2021 Contest Rules

National Right to Life Jane B. Thompson Oratory Contest

Statement of Purpose

The National Right to Life Oratory Contest strives to promote the ability of high school juniors and seniors to share their pro-life views with others. Although speaking ability is important, this contest also seeks to help teens organize and express their pro-life views. We also strive to give the contestants an opportunity to meet other pro-life teens.

2020 Contest Rules

1. High school juniors and seniors in that grade February 1 of the year of the national contest are eligible to compete. In case of advanced students, non-traditional students, or home schooled students, the school must recognize the student as a junior or senior or the year the student will enter college will be used to determine eligibility.
2. Students who have competed in their junior year may compete the following year as seniors (with an entirely new speech) except if the student has won first place in the national contest. Second place winners may compete again.
3. Contestants are to research, write, and present an original pro-life speech on abortion, infanticide, euthanasia or stem cell research. The speech should address one of these topics directly.
4. The speech is to be 5 – 7 minutes in length. A contestant will be disqualified if the speech is timed to be under 4 minutes or over 8 minutes in length. Judges are instructed to use their judgment regarding under or over time limit speeches. It is at the judges' discretion how the 4-5 minute and the 7-8 minute speech will reflect in the score.
5. Appropriate gestures are allowed. Props are not allowed.
6. Speech content may not be significantly changed as a contestant advances. Fine-tuning for minor corrections or to adjust time is allowed and encouraged. A written copy of the contestant's speech must be forwarded to the national contest.

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7. The contestant should use up-to-date factual information.
8. The style should be appropriate to the message of the speech. A dramatic presentation is not acceptable. A dramatic presentation is considered anything that is read or preformed that has been previously written by another author; a short story, a poem, etc. Although quotes to support a position or statement are appropriate, they may not dominate the speech, and should be appropriately cited. Dramatic presentations are also defined, for the purposes of this contest, to include acting as a thing or another person, such as acting out the life of an unborn baby. This rule is not to be interpreted to rule out the use of emotion.
9. The judges' background and qualifications differ, although all are pro-life, the speech should appeal to a broad audience.
10. No copyrighted speeches shall be used in the contest.
11. The contest may be videotaped or recorded, if so, tape will remain the property of National Right to Life.
12. Contestants may use notes.
13. The use of a podium is optional but it is possible that a podium will not be available. If there are not enough podiums for all of the contest rooms, podiums will not be available to any of the contestants.
14. The use of microphones will not be allowed. The Contest Director may make an exception if the contest room creates a necessity for the use of microphones.
15. The Contest will consist of several rounds. There will be at least one preliminary round depending on the number of contestants. For the preliminary round contestants will be assigned to rooms with 4-7 contestants to compete. The 2 contestants from each room with the highest scores will proceed to the next level until there are 4 contestants in the final round.
16. Each room will have 3 judges and a timekeeper.
17. Speaking order for the preliminary round will be determined before the contest by drawing. In following rounds speaking order will be determined by scores in the previous round.

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18. The judges score the contestants in 4 areas; introduction, content, presentation, and conclusion. Contestants are given a score of 1-10 (10 being the best) in each area. The scores are added together (40 being perfect). The judges' scores are added together for the grand total. The grand total will determine which contestants move to the next level.

19. The judges' decision will be final.

20. All efforts are made for accuracy. In the event of a mistake, every effort will be made to correct it.

21. Ties will be handled by the Contest Director.

22. These rules apply only to the National Right to Life – Jane B. Thompson Oratory Contest. No other rules from any national, state or local speech contest or groups apply.

23. Any concerns or issues shall be dealt with by the Contest Director.

24. The decision of the Contest Director concerning the application of these rules or the contest will be final.