**TOM NARAK MEMORIAL**

**FOUR-WAY TEST SPEECH SHOWCASE**

Rotary District 6000

Saturday, April 20, 2024

10:00AM

Pella Opera House

**OF THE THINGS WE THINK, SAY OR DO…**

**IS IT THE TRUTH?**

**IS IT FAIR TO ALL CONCERNED?**

**WILL IT BUILD GOOD WILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?**

**WILL IT BE BENEFICIAL TO ALL CONCERNED?**

Please direct all questions to the district 6000 Speech Contest Team:

Carol Narak tom.carol@msn.com

Theron Schutte tschutte@marshalltown.k12ia.us

# SPEECH CONTEST TIMELINE

Fall 2023 Organize your local contest and contact area schools.

2/15/2024 Deadline for Club Speech Chairs to inform the District Contest Team of their club’s contest date and location.

3/23/2024 Deadline to complete all club contests. Submit the District 6000 Contest Registration Form for the club winner to the District Contest Team.

4/06/2024 District 6000 Regional Speech Contests – Locations TBD

4/20/2024 District 6000 Celebration featuring regional winners – Pella Opera House

# ROTARY FOUR-WAY TEST SPEECH CONTEST RULES

* Contestants must be high school students in grades 9, 10, 11, or 12.

* Students being schooled at home in a program recognized by their school district, or the State of Iowa may enter.

* A student may compete in only one Rotary District 6000 club contest.

* Any prior year's winner at any level may compete again at the club level, if they are otherwise eligible, so long as they enter with a new speech.

* Material must be an original oratory that is written by the speaker. The speech must be inspirational or persuasive, as opposed to solely informative. The content should center around applying the Rotary Four-Way Test to Create Hope in the World. The Four Way Test is as follows:

OF THE THINGS WE THINK, SAY OR DO…

IS IT THE TRUTH?

IS IT FAIR TO ALL CONCERNED?

WILL IT BUILD GOOD WILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

WILL IT BE BENEFICIAL TO ALL CONCERNED?

* The speech must be at least 5 minutes, but not more than 8 minutes in length with a 15 second leeway. Points will be deducted for going over or under. Contestants should prepare a speech with facts, statistics, stories, examples, and quotations. The speech should be memorized. Notes may be used but reading directly from them is discouraged. No displays, props or prompting are allowed. A podium will be available but not using one generally results in higher scores.

* If a club winner becomes unable to compete at the next level, the runner-up can be offered a chance to compete in the District Regional Contest.

* The District 6000 Regional Competition prizes will be announced at a later date.

# HELPFUL SUGGESTIONS FOR CLUB SPEECH CHAIRS

* Set the date for the contest and the prize(s) to be awarded.
* Contact schools early and stay in touch periodically before the contest. Send copies of the school materials to the appropriate teacher(s).

* Encourage juniors and below to enter the club contest. They are less likely to lose enthusiasm in the spring semester as the contest approaches.

* If applicable, participation of Interact club members is suggested and encouraged.
* Microphones are not required at the club contest, as they will not be used at the district regional contest. Microphones will be available for the presentation at the Pella Opera House.

* Contestants may use a podium, if available. One will be available at the district regional contest.

* If multiple clubs solicit contestants from the same high school, any given student may enter only one club contest.

* Contests held as part of a club meeting will result in better attendance by club members. Make sure to schedule a date for your contest with your Program Chair.

* Arrange in advance for three judges, two tellers and a timekeeper. Deliver a copy of the Score sheet to judges before the day of the contest for their familiarization. Representatives from the participating schools ***should not*** be used as judges.

* Arrange for newspaper/media coverage, if possible.
* Confirm the number of participants and parents attending. Make food arrangements (at your club meeting, if applicable) for the contestants and parents.

* If the club plans to award prizes, arrange to have them ready at the competition. District 6000 will provide a “CREATE HOPE in the WORLD” coin with the Four Way Test on it for all club level winners.

* Complete and return the Registration Form no later than March 23, 2024 deadline, to the District Speech Contest Chair. Each club's winner is eligible and encouraged to compete at the district regional competition.

# CONDUCTING THE CLUB LEVEL CONTEST

* Greet the contestants and their teachers and parents if they are attending the event.

* When all speech contestants have arrived, have each contestant pick a number from 1 to the total number of contestants to determine the order in which the contestants will deliver their speeches. Instruct contestants that they should not reveal their name or school until after the competition.

* Seat the contestants in the same row of chairs or at the same table. Contestants may observe the other contestants deliver their speeches. Introduce contestants to each other but not to other Rotarians or guests.

* Do not publicly introduce students, parents, teachers, or coaches before the contest begins. Explain to the audience that you are doing this to maintain fair judging and that introductions will be made after the competition.

* The seats of the teachers and parents are separated from the contestants.

* Welcome the contestants, but not by name.

* A brief introduction of the judges and their qualifications before the first speaker will reassure the spectators that qualified judges have been selected.

* Read pertinent rules to refresh the contestants' memory and to inform the audience.
* Request the audience to remain seated during each contestant's speech and to hold all applause until after the last contestant finishes his/her speech.

* Ask the judges, timekeeper, and tellers if they are ready. When they are all ready, call the first contestant to the podium.

* When the judges, timekeeper, and tellers are ready for the next speaker, continue the contest by calling the next contestant in numeric order.

* If your club contest occurs as part of your regular meeting, be prepared for several minutes of open time following each speaker as the judges complete their forms, and a longer period after the final speaker for the tellers to verify all the calculations and determine the winners. These periods can be used for announcements, fines, Rotary minutes, and the like.

* The judges should retain their score sheets until all speeches have been completed.

* After the last contestant has finished speaking, ask for applause.

* At this time, the judges and timekeepers should complete their respective sheets and turn them in to the tellers.

* Ask the contestants to introduce themselves in numeric order and to tell the audience their year and high school. Ask each student to introduce their teachers, parents, and guests.

* When the tellers have calculated the totals, obtain the results from them.

* Announce the fourth-place winners first. All contestants who do not place first, second, or third are deemed to have placed fourth.

* If your club gives participation certificates, give each one a fourth-place certificate.

* Announce the third, second and first place winner in that order and present the applicable award.

* Thank the judges, timekeeper, and tellers.

# DISTRICT 6000 SPEECH CONTEST REGISTRATION FORM

**PLEASE WRITE LEGIBLY** - (Return no later than March 23, 2024)

Student’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student’s High School: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student’s address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student’s Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student’s E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Teacher/Coach: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Sponsoring Rotary Club: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Rotary Club Contact: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

By signing below, I indicate my willingness to have my speech reproduced in any form and to have my picture used in media releases.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Contestant’s Signature Date

Return to District 6000 Speech Contest Team via email (scan or clear photograph) or mail:

Mail: Carol Narak Email: tom.carol@msn.com

5700 Aspen Drive

West Des Moines, IA 50266

The Rotary District 6000 Four-Way Test Speech Regional Contests will be held around April 6, 2024, at times and locations TBD. The winners of the regional contests will be invited to present their winning speech at the District Celebration in Pella on April 20, 2024.

# INFORMATION FOR JUDGES

Rotary District 6000 is pleased that you have accepted the responsibility of serving as a judge in its Four-Way Test Speech Contest. To ensure continuity in the judging process of the contests at the club and district levels of competition, please carefully read the judging procedure outlined below. Please note the weighted point value assigned to the three sets of judging criteria and become familiar with the score sheet prior to the contest.

## JUDGING CRITERIA

**Delivery**

Enunciation and pronunciation are basic to any good speech and must be fully considered. Overall expressiveness and sincerity of tone add to the delivery. Animation, humor, holding interest, and power of persuasion are attributes of a winning speaker.

**Originality**

The way the content is developed will in large measure be determined through its originality. Of major concern will be an approach that is individualistic, imaginative, and has human interest.

**Content**

The content should relate specifically to the Four Way Test and this year's Rotary theme of Create Hope in the World. Students should be positive in their approach, and ideas used to develop the theme or topic should be presented logically, clearly, and concisely from opening to conclusion.

## JUDGING PROCEDURE

Identical score sheets will be used at all levels of competition. Each judge weighs each speech in the range of 1 to 100 points within the three sets of criteria listed below.

Delivery 1 to 30 points

Originality 1 to 30 points

Content 1 to 40 points

In the case of a Tie Score, the contestant with the highest scores for Expressiveness & Poise, Imaginative, and Clarity of Ideas will be declared the winner.

The decision of the judges is final.

Please Note: Judges must not confer during or after a speech. After all score sheets have been given to the tellers, then the judges may confer. Under no circumstances should anyone but the three winners be announced. All contestants not in the first three places are in a tie for fourth place.

# JUDGES’ SCORE SHEET

Contestant Number \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Judge’s Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Delivery (Maximum Score 30)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| • Enunciation and Pronunciation | | (1-10) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| • Body Language, Posture, & Eye Contact | | (1-10) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| • Expressiveness and Poise\*      **Originality (Maximum Score 30)** |  | (1-10) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| • Uniqueness |  | (1-10) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| • Engagement of Interest |  | (1-10) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| • Imaginative\*    **Content (Maximum Score 40)** |  | (1-10) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| • Incorporation of the Four Way Test |  | (1-20) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| • Logical Development |  | (1-10) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| • Clarity of Ideas\*  \*Criteria to be used as tiebreakers |  | (1-10) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
|  | **TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | |

# Advice Letter from an Experienced Judge

One of the more difficult issues is managing to score all the speakers on the same scale. The person who speaks first tends to be at a disadvantage, in part because the judges have no reference quality or score to judge him or her against, and there is a natural tendency to be more impressed by a good speaker who goes near the end.

The judges are not allowed to confer once the speaking contest begins, but it is helpful before things start to agree on a starting score you would give a speaker who is mediocre. Is it 4 or 5 or 6 or 7, for instance? You each decide on your own what is "mediocre," but it puts your scoring all on the same level. That matters because the winner is chosen by point total, and if someone thinks particularly good merits an 8, and someone else thinks it is a 9, the person giving the 9's will have more influence.

On the same point, it is often fairer if you all agree to start on the medium-lower end. That way if someone is exceptionally good, there's room to go up, and if the first person turns out to be the best, there's room to go down. Often, it is suggested that judges think about giving a solid first speaker a 7, but we have found that should not be the rule. If the first speaker turns out to be the worst, there is not a lot of room after that, and distinctions between the other speakers get muted because they are all playing in the 8's and 9's and 10's. Having said all that, you do need to go by feel, too. It is just that someone who opens with 9's or 2's does not leave a lot of room for the others, and that is also why it helps if you all are working in the same range.

Another issue that often comes up is the one of substance vs style. The scoring sheet is weighted a bit toward style. A speaker with an exceptionally good presence and style has an advantage over someone with a very substantive speech who may not present quite as well. This is completely a judgment call for each judge, but you do have the option to make the substance matter just as much by downplaying the presentation scores, as long as you are fair about it. However, if you think the value of presentation outweighs the substance, that is your call, too.

And on that point, we have noticed over the years the speakers tend to start strong and finish strong, but the whole speech is what matters. So, it is helpful to ask yourself how complete and consistent the speech was.

Finally, there is a lot of pressure on the judges, so do not forget to take the time to appreciate the experience and these kids. At this level, they are all something special, and it makes judging them a privilege. Have fun and good luck.

Rick Kushman

Columnist, The Sacramento Bee

# TIMEKEEPER'S INSTRUCTIONS AND RECORD SHEET

On the sheet below, record the minutes and seconds of each speech. Begin the timing of the speech after the contestant has addressed the audience or stated the title of his or her speech. If the contestant begins without addressing the audience or stating the title, begin timing immediately.

Check "YES" below if the contestant's speech is less than 5 minutes or over 8 minutes. There is a 2-point penalty for each minute or fraction thereof when the speech length is less than 5 minutes or more than 8 minutes. Calculate and write in the "Amount of Penalty".

Give this sheet to the Teller after the final contestant has completed his or her speech.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Contestant | | Time of Speech | Penalty? Amount of Penalty |
| 1 |  | Minutes:\_\_\_\_\_\_Seconds: \_\_\_\_\_\_ | ❑ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| 2 |  | Minutes:\_\_\_\_\_\_Seconds: \_\_\_\_\_\_ | ❑ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| 3 |  | Minutes:\_\_\_\_\_\_Seconds: \_\_\_\_\_\_ | ❑ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| 4 |  | Minutes:\_\_\_\_\_\_Seconds: \_\_\_\_\_\_ | ❑ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| 5 |  | Minutes:\_\_\_\_\_\_Seconds: \_\_\_\_\_\_ | ❑ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| 6 |  | Minutes:\_\_\_\_\_\_Seconds: \_\_\_\_\_\_ | ❑ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| 7 |  | Minutes:\_\_\_\_\_\_Seconds: \_\_\_\_\_\_ | ❑ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| 8 |  | Minutes:\_\_\_\_\_\_Seconds: \_\_\_\_\_\_ | ❑ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| 9 |  | Minutes:\_\_\_\_\_\_Seconds: \_\_\_\_\_\_ | ❑ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| 10 |  | Minutes:\_\_\_\_\_\_Seconds: \_\_\_\_\_\_ | ❑ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| 11 |  | Minutes:\_\_\_\_\_\_Seconds: \_\_\_\_\_\_ | ❑ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| 12 |  | Minutes:\_\_\_\_\_\_Seconds: \_\_\_\_\_\_ | ❑ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

Timekeeper’s Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

# TELLERS' INSTRUCTIONS

1. There shall be at least two tellers.

1. After all contestants have spoken, the tellers receive the Judges' Score Sheets, and recheck the math.

1. After the final contestant has spoken, collect the Timekeeper's Records and recheck the math.

1. Tellers are to deduct any time penalties and designate the First, Second and Third place scores.

1. The contestant who has the most points will be declared the winner. The contestant with the next highest total of points will have earned second place, and the contestant with the next highest point score will be the third-place finisher.

1. In case of a tie for first place, the contestant having the highest score for Expressiveness & Poise, Imaginative, and Clarity of Ideas will be declared the winner. The same rules will apply in the event of a tie for second or third place.

1. All contestants that did not place First, Second or Third are considered Fourth Place Winners.