



Massachusetts Lions Youth Speech Competition Committee

2012-2013

STUDENT

HANDBOOK

LIONS MULTIPLE DISTRICT 33

YOUTH SPEECH COMPETITION

2012-2013

Speech Topic

***WHAT IS THE POWER OF
'JUST ONE'?***



2012 – 2013 STUDENT HANDBOOK

MASSACHUSETTS LIONS YOUTH SPEECH COMPETITION

To all participating students,

The Lions of Massachusetts welcome your participation in our statewide youth speech competition. The topic has been selected to provide you a tremendous avenue to express your thoughts on the subject and demonstrate your skills of persuasion and research.

As a student today, you represent the leadership of the future. This is an excellent forum through which to display your talents and accomplishments. This competition will test your ability to develop the subject matter and express your opinions to your community.

In addition to the experience gained in an endeavor such as this, there are, at certain levels of the contest, monetary awards worth pursuing. We look forward to **learning from you**.

On behalf of all the Massachusetts Lions, Lioness and Leos, **thank you for participating**.

Your Lions Club, District & State Youth Speech Committees

THE COMPETITION

The purpose of the competition is to provide an opportunity for students to speak publicly on a designated topic of general interest. The competition starts at the local club or school level and proceeds through levels of competition ending several months later with the statewide contest. After the club level, the student, if successful each time, moves through the zone, region, and district levels. The competition culminates with the five statewide district winners vying for the title of BEST IN THE STATE.

ELIGIBILITY

The competition is open to ALL students, including Leos, foreign exchange and home-schooled students in grades 10, 11 and 12 (or equivalent), provided they are sponsored by a Massachusetts Lions or Leo Club. A student can participate in only one club level competition in a school year. A club may decide to sponsor students outside its geographical boundary.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Each contestant must submit an unsigned manuscript at each level of competition. All quoted material within a manuscript must be referenced by source. The manuscript should be reviewed by either a member of the sponsoring club or a member of the student's school faculty. The manuscript may be amended between each competition up to, and including, the District final competition. At that time, the manuscript will be 'frozen' for the State competition.

Speakers are allowed the use of the following aides:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| ▪ School & Club competition | full manuscript |
| ▪ Zone competition | full manuscript |
| ▪ Region competition | three 3" x 5" index cards, both sides |
| ▪ District & State competition | one 3" x 5" index card, both sides |
- Prior to the competition, the person-in-charge will review the rules with both the students and the judges.
 - All contestants must assemble prior to the competition, enter and sit together and remain for all speeches.
 - Once a contestant returns to his or her seat, the speech is finished.
 - Contestants will not be introduced by name before a competition is complete. Each competitor will be introduced by number only to indicate their speaking order, until all speakers have finished.
 - A podium and a public address system will be made available at the district and state levels for use by the contestants.

TIME LIMITATIONS

Each speech should last no less than five (5) minutes and no longer than ten (10) minutes. There are time penalties for not adhering to these requirements.

JUDGING

Each Contestant will be judged as follows:

CATEGORY	CRITERIA	POINTS
DELIVERY	Emphasis, voice control, enunciation, pronunciation, sincerity, enthusiasm	Maximum 30 Points
EFFECTIVENESS	Well rounded, cohesive, logical, organized, emotional impact	Maximum 30 Points
TEXT	Originality, quality of material, adherence to the subject	Maximum 40 Points

RECOGNITION

There will be recognition of each contestant starting with the Zone level competition.

DISQUALIFICATION

Failure to comply with the *General Instructions* or any of the following are grounds for disqualification:

- The use or display of props of any kind.
- Uniforms or any other forms of identification, including apparel, lapel pins, buckles or jewelry with logos, patches, etc.
- Use of identifying location(s) such as school, town or sponsoring club, family members, or name.
- Identification of family by surname, personal affiliations, or accomplishments during the competition.

COMPETITION DATES

It is suggested that competitions should be conducted within the following time frame:

COMPETITION	TIME FRAME
Club or School	Four (4) weeks prior to the Zone Competition
Zone	Two (2) weeks prior to the Region Competition
Region	Two (2) weeks prior to the District Competition
District	District Mid-Winter Conference (usually Jan or Feb)
State	State Convention (usually Apr or May)

The actual dates will be made available by your Region or District Youth Speech Chairperson.

PUBLICATION OF RESULTS

The Massachusetts Lions (Multiple District 33) Youth Speech Competition Committee recognizes the pride and excitement surrounding the Youth Speech Competition, as well as the value of effective and timely publicity. We encourage APPROPRIATE news releases of each Youth Speech event. However, it is critical to maintain the integrity of the competition by upholding the anonymity of individual competitors. This will ensure fairness at further levels of competition by avoiding any possible influence of prospective judges.

To this end, the following guidelines **MUST** be adhered to at **ALL** levels of competition.

Please **REFRAIN FROM THE PUBLICATION OF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:**

- pictures, video, audio, or any social media posting or release of ANY contestant names or speeches
- excerpts of ANY speeches
- identification of ANY speakers by name, school, or family members

UNTIL COMPLETION OF THE COMPETITION at the State Convention. Failure to adhere to these rules may **RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION** of the speaker.

TOPIC SUGGESTIONS

The topic for the following year is selected by the Massachusetts Lions Multiple District 33 Youth Speech Committee prior to the Mid-Winter Conferences so that it may be announced at the District Competitions. Topics are selected that are meaningful to our society and that will stimulate the student.

Any interested persons, especially speech coaches, are encouraged and invited to submit topics to the Massachusetts Lions Youth Speech Committee.

Thank You

Your Lions Club, District and State Youth Speech Committees



We Serve