



African American Women's Resource Center

Septima Clark Oratory Contest

2018 Contest Guidelines

Statement of Purpose: The purpose of the African American Women's Resource Center's Septima Clark Oratory Contest is to promote and encourage teenage girls to empower themselves through effective and convincing speeches on issues that affect them and their communities.

Contest Guidelines

1. Contestants are to research, write, and present an original speech.

TOPIC: HOW WOULD YOU SOLVE THE BIGGEST PROBLEM IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

2. The speech is to be 3-5 minutes in length. A contestant may be disqualified if the speech is timed to be under 3 minutes or over 5 minutes in length.
3. Contestants will be judged in the following areas: content, organization and analysis, vocal delivery, physical delivery, and overall effective communication.
4. The speech is an oration. Appropriate gestures are allowed. Props are not allowed.
5. The style or speech type should be appropriate to the message of the speech. Any type the student deems appropriate is acceptable (except a dramatic presentation.)
6. The order in which the contestants speak will be determined by a lottery before the contest.
7. Complete the application form and return to the African American Women's Resource Center. Applications must be received or postmarked by May 4, 2018. There are no exceptions to this deadline.
8. Only completed applications will be considered.
9. Applicants will receive notification of acceptance. This will be made through email or telephone call. If applicant has not received notification by May 9, she must call the AAWRC and speak with a staff person to determine the status of her application. 202-215-6147
10. The contest will be photographed and videotaped. The videotape and photos will remain the property of African American Women's Resource Center.