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Hours: M-F, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

The American Legion Department of Missouri, Inc.

Ninety - Third Annual High School Oratorical Scholarship Program – "A Constitutional Speech Contest" 2026-2027

2026 Scholarship Winners

First Place – Tess Lehman, Taylor \$5,000
Second Place – Eric Travis, Republic \$2,500
Third Place – Alexandria Penland, St. Joseph \$2,250

Thanks for your support of the oratorical program!

MISSOURI NATIONAL WINNERS

1949 Paul T. Heyne	Concordia
2011 Anisha N. Gururaj	Chesterfield
2013 Agnes G. Rieger	Kansas City
2014 Ashwath S. Kumar	Columbia

MISSOURI STATE WINNERS

1935	Everett Grese	Concordia
1936	Thomas Tierney	St. Louis
1937	Charles Brown	Springfield
1938	Carl Kenagy, Jr.	Raytown
1939	Kenneth Hackman	Brentwood
1940	Olin W. Venable	Booneville

1941	James J. Jenkins	Maplewood
1942	Maurice Kraxberger	Salisbury
1943	Ed Keath	Clayton
1944	Richard B. Dempsey	St. Louis
1945	Patrick O'Mera	Independence
1946	Howard Downs	Independence
1947	Robert A. Southern	Independence
1948	Robert Wallace	Springfield
1949	Paul T. Heyne	Concordia
1950	Kenneth Lee Frerking	Concordia
1951	Martin E. Palmer	St. Louis County
1952	Monty Harlow	Springfield
1953	David Morton	Kansas City
1954	Thomas Hungerford	St. Louis
1955	Leonard Goodall	Warrensburg
1956	Kenneth R. Jennison	Carthage
1957	Jeana Sue Herl	Hannibal
1958	Robert Dickeson	Independence
1959	June Lynne Skaggs	Monett
1960	David J. Wynne	St. Louis
1961	John H. Garabedian	Kansas City
1962	Sandra Lee Appleby	St. Charles
1963	Bond R. Faulwell	Kansas City
1964	John Willibrand	St. Charles
1965	David Hilgendorf	St. Louis
1966	Robert Thedinger	Kansas City
1967	Robert Thedinger	Kansas City
1968	Gary Klingsporn	Monett
1969	John W. Head	Palmyra
1970	Susan J. Dye	Hannibal
1971	John W. Head	Palmyra
1972	Joyce Meier	Farrar
1973	Robert Banks, Jr.	Monett
1974	Debbie O. Downs	Manchester
1975	Joy Anita Haven	Manchester
1976	Donald A. Calvert	Cape Girardeau
1977	John F. Gillespie, Jr.	Manchester

1978	Charles J. Rupp	Diamond
1979	Allan H. Harvey	Rolla
1980	Brenda Tompkins	Bolckow
1981	Glen Dasmalchi	Mansfield
1982	Kevin W. Smith	North Kansas City
1983	Rodney Sexton	Ava
1984	Patrick Walker	Grandview
1985	Sam M. Coring	Springfield
1986	Catherine M. Kintner	Jackson
1987	Marty Tade	Columbia
1988	Rachel L. Bringer	Palmyra
1989	Bryan D. Watson	Milan
1990	Ted W. Beasley	St. Louis
1991	Lisa S. Williams	Manchester
1992	Brian W. Prewitt	Ballwin
1993	Amy E. Smith	Warrenton
1994	Tina Suneja	Town and Country
1995	Tina Suneja	Town and Country
1996	Karen M. Barmann	Maryville
1997	Bradley W. Cordes	Raytown
1998	Erin K. Guyer	Ballwin
1999	Arif H. Kamal	Warrensburg
2000	Edward C. Shelton	Kansas City
2001	Ashley Oppenheim	Ballwin
2002	Ashley Oppenheim	Ballwin
2003	Jared R. Wortman	Warrensburg
2004	Afrin N. Kamal	Warrensburg
2005	Alexandra K. Hunstein	Ballwin
2006	Michael E. Gertz	Sedalia
2007	Cody L. Clemons	Malta Bend
2008	Brittany M. Sanders	Gladstone
2009	Brittany M. Sanders	Gladstone
2010	Derek W. Schulze	Warrenton
2011	Anisha N. Gururaj	Chesterfield
2012	David A. Rogers	Warrensburg
2013	Agnes G. Rieger	Kansas City
2014	Ashwath S. Kumar	Columbia

2015	Meghana C. Bharadwaj	Wildwood
2016	Meghana C. Bharadwaj	Wildwood
2017	Lorinda A. Ruz	Independence
2018	Makaylah L. Jones	Maryville
2019	Marissa M. Gertz	Smithton
2020	Andrew R. Moore	Kahoka
2021	Vignesh Kumar	Columbia
2022	Evan Becker	St. Charles
2023	Jana Rawasdeh	St. Peters
2024	Jana Rawasdeh	St Peters
2025	Gretchen House	Oldfield
2026	Tess Lehman	Taylor

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