



Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Sigma Omega Omega

Think HBCU Oratorical Contest Rules

1. Contestants are to write their full name, contact information (student& parent), name of school and grade level at the end of the speech/document submitted.
2. The contestants must write original speeches, not copied from another source.
3. Contestants cannot rap or sing the speech. Two lines of a rap or 2 lines from a song may be included in the speech.
4. Sources are to be documented and is credited in the speech if content is not original.
5. The speech must be between 5 and 7 minutes long. Solely at the discretion of the judges, points may be deducted from contestants who speak over or under the time limit.
6. Contestants may use notes, but should not read the speech.
7. Contestants cannot have music, audiovisual slides, props, costumes, or use sound effects.
8. Contestants cannot make a dramatic presentation or dance. Gestures are allowed. The appropriateness of gestures will be decided solely at the discretion of the judges.
9. In case scores are tied, the judges will decide the winner.
10. Judges' individual score sheets will not be shown to the contestants or their parents. Only the Oratorical Contest Committee, the chapter president, and chapter vice president will have access to the judges' score sheets.
11. The judges' decisions will be final.