



DENVER ALUMNAE CHAPTER  
DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.  
**EMBODI - Empowering Males to Build Opportunities  
for Developing Independence**  
2017 ORATORICAL CONTEST  
**Guidelines**

**Theme: “Shaping our Community Through Service”**

**Purpose:**

To provide training and communication skills with public speaking experience, within the context of a theme. To provide middle and high school students the opportunity to express themselves, enhance their public speaking skills, promote self-confidence, educational enrichment and facilitate character building. Contestants must speak from one of the following topics based on their age group.

MIDDLE SCHOOL (Grades 6 – 8<sup>th</sup>): “A DREAM FOR MY COMMUNITY”

HIGH SCHOOL (Grades 9 – 12<sup>th</sup>): “BEING A VOICE FOR THE VOICELESS”

**Competition:**

The Oratorical Contest will be held Monday, May 15, 2017, 6:00pm at Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) Early College High School located at 19535 E 46th Ave, Denver, CO 80249.

**Eligibility:**

Contestants are African American male students currently in grades 6 – 12th.

**How to Enter:**

**Applications must be received by Friday, May 1, 2017.**

The participant application form is attached. The participant application is also available on the following website: [www.denverdeltas.org](http://www.denverdeltas.org)

**The application can also be emailed or mailed to:**

Denver Alumnae Chapter  
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.  
Attn: EMBODI  
PO Box 7432  
Denver, CO 80207  
[DJHarvell@yahoo.com](mailto:DJHarvell@yahoo.com)  
Questions call: 720-732-1699

**Length of Oration:**

Each contestant shall deliver a prepared oration, which must be an original effort. The oration must be at least four minutes but not over five minutes. **All entries must be of good taste, free from profane language and must reflect a positive image.**

**Presentation of Oration:**

Each contestant shall deliver his oration from memory. Note cards can be used to nudge the memory. However, reading any or all, of the oration directly from note cards will result in a deduction from the final score. The contestants are allowed to use costumes as clothing and props but may not use prompts.

**Judging and awarding points will be based on the following criteria:**

**Speech – 50 Points**

- Clarity of message & relevance to subject ..... 10 Points
- Originality..... 10 Points
- Organization..... 10 Points
- Grammar/word choice..... 10 Points

**Delivery – 40 Points**

- Posture (composure and gestures) ..... 10 Points
- Voice (tone, effectiveness/pronunciation) ..... 10 Points
- Eye contact..... 10 Points
- Attention of audience..... 10 Points
- Overall..... 10 Points

**Monetary Prizes will be awarded:**

Grades 6 – 8th	1 <sup>st</sup> place - \$100	2 <sup>nd</sup> place - \$75	3 <sup>rd</sup> place - \$25
Grades 9 – 12th	1 <sup>st</sup> place - \$100	2 <sup>nd</sup> place - \$75	3 <sup>rd</sup> place - \$25

**Note:** Decisions of the judges are final and no changes, alterations, or recalculations will take place after the results have been certified by the contest committee members, the chairman of the contest committee.

**Key Dates:**

- A **Recommended** Public Speaking Workshop will be held on **Monday, April 17, 2017, 6:00 pm** at the MLK Early College High School. *Please come prepared to discuss your speech.*
- Completed applications and a copy of your typed essay must be received by **Saturday, May 1, 2017.**
- The Oratorical Contest will be held **Monday, May 15, 2017, 6:00pm** at MLK Early College High School located at 19535 E. 46<sup>th</sup> Ave., Denver, 80249.



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2017 ORATORICAL CONTEST  
**Participant Application**

(Please type or print legibly with black or blue ink)

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Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial
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Street Address

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City	State	Zip Code
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Home Phone Number	Date of Birth
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Current School Attending	Grade
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**Parent/Guardian Information: (MUST BE COMPLETED AND SIGNED)**

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Last Name	First Name	Middle
Initial		

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Home Phone Number	Cell Phone Number	E-Mail Address
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- I agree that my child will attend the **Recommended Workshop on Monday, April 17, 2017.**

I hereby consent and allow for my child to participate in the Denver Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. (DAC) Oratorical Contest. I grant permission to use my child's photographs, recordings, or any other record of this event for any related purpose by DAC. I understand that DAC reserves the right to cancel this event at any time or reject any entry that does not reflect a positive image. I also agree to abide by the judges' decisions.

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Parent/Guardian Signature

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Date