

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
Theta Iota Lambda Chapter
and
Lee B. Revels Scholarship and Mentoring Foundation, Inc.
present the
3rd Annual Senator Edward W. Brooke III Oratorical Scholarship Contest

Contest Topic: "Violence, A Major Public Health Problem: How Is It Affecting the Lives of African American and Latino Youth and What Can We Do About It?"

December 12, 2009
St. John's Congregational Church – Springfield, MA
4:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Registration Form:

Name _____

Address _____ Zip Code _____

Home Telephone _____

E-Mail Address _____

School _____ Grade _____

Parent/Guardian _____

Parent/Guardian Signature (permission) _____

Sponsor/Guidance Counselor _____

Contestant's Pledge:

I will participate in all required sessions leading to the Oratorical Scholarship Contest on December 12. My written speech will have original thought and if I include the words or expressions of others each reference will be cited in my speech and delivery. If I am selected to be among the finalists I will work diligently to invite family and friends to attend the contest to support me.

Registrant's signature: _____

Date: _____

Important Dates:

- 2 Mandatory Public Speaking Workshops on Sundays, Nov. 8 & 15, 2009 at 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.
- Entry Deadline for Registration Forms is Friday, November 13, 2009 (*postmarked*).
- Preliminary Competition on Sunday, November 22, 2009 at 3:30 – 7:00 p.m.
- Final Competition on Saturday, December 12, 2009 at 4:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.
AΦA
Theta Iota Lambda Chapter
P.O Box 4233
Springfield, MA 01101

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4:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Contest Eligibility, Rules and Requirements:

Eligibility:

All college-bound African American and Hispanic males who are attending an accredited high school in the Western Massachusetts area are eligible.

Prospective contestants must complete and submit the registration form by November 13, 2009. A parent and school or organization sponsor (guidance counselor or youth director) must sign the registration form.

Registrants must attend two required Public Speaking Workshops on Sundays, November 8 & 15, 2009 at 3:00 – 6:00 pm at the Basilica of the Holy Apostles (339 State Street, Springfield, MA). The workshops are designed to assist participants on public speaking skills and proper speech decorum and match participants with their mentors. Your assigned mentor will provide guidance and support leading up to the contest. The participant and the assigned mentor will determine convenient dates/times for individual practice sessions.

Contestants must write an original essay/speech having no more than 1000 words – typed and double-spaced and between 5-7 minutes in length. The essay/speech should adequately address the above-mentioned topic and a draft must be presented to preliminary judges on Sunday, November 22, 2009 at 3:30 pm at St. John's Congregational Church. Selection of the eight finalists will be made after the preliminary competition.

Participants (eight finalists) will be expected to arrive at the contest site (St. John's Congregational Church, 643 Union Street, Springfield, MA) at 3:30pm on December 12 for the final competition. A typed (double-spaced) copy of the final version of the essay/speech must be submitted prior to the start of the program. A parent or guardian must accompany each contestant.

Scholarship awards will be given to the top three contestants and made payable upon college enrollment.

2009 Scholarship Awards:

First Place \$2,500.00
Second Place \$1,500.00
Third Place \$1,000.00

The Lee B. Revels Mentoring and Scholarship Foundation is a 501 (c) 3 organization that receives grants from local corporations, civic groups, faith based institutions as well as individual sponsorship by fraternity brothers and friends of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Contributions are 100% tax deductible. A few initiatives of the foundation include Project Alpha programs targeted for males ages 12-18, an Oratorical Scholarship contest, a Leadership Development Institute for rising juniors and senior high school students and scholarships for graduating high school seniors and college students. More information about the chapter and its programs can be found at our website: www.springfieldalphas.net.

**3rd Annual Senator Edward W. Brooke III Oratorical Scholarship Contest
Judging Criteria:**

Characteristic	Points	Criteria
SPEECH DEVELOPMENT	20	Speech is structured around a purpose, and this structure must include an opening, body and conclusion. Development of speech structure is supported by relevant examples or illustrations, facts and figures, delivered with such smoothness to blend into the framework of the speech to present the audience with a unified whole.
EFFECTIVENESS	15	Effectiveness is measured in part by the audience's reception of the speech, but a large portion is the contestant's answer to these questions: Was speech's purpose established? Did the speech relate to that purpose? and Was the subject of this speech understood?
SPEECH VALUE	15	Speaker must say something meaningful and original. Speaker must make a contribution to the audience's thinking. The ideas must be important ones, although this does not preclude a humorous presentation.
VOICE	10	Voice should be flexible, moving from one pitch level to another for emphasis, and should have a variety of rate and volume. A good voice can be clearly heard and the words easily understood.
MANNER	10	Speaker should speak with enthusiasm and assurance, showing interest in the audience and confidence in its reactions.
APPROPRIATENESS	10	Choice of words relate to the speech's purpose and to the audience. Language should promote clear understanding of thoughts and fit the occasion precisely.
CORRECTNESS	10	Correctness of language ensures that attention will be directed toward what the speaker says, not how it is said. Proper use of grammar and correct pronunciation will show that the speaker is the master of the words being used.
PHYSICAL PRESENTATION	10	Speaker's appearance should reinforce the speech, whether profound, sad, humorous, or instructional. Body language should compliment speech through gestures, expressions, and positioning.