



High School Speech Contest Topic: **'Leadership'** **With Scholarship Award**

Sponsored by the National Management Association, Chapter 141

Purpose: Nationwide speech contest to promote an understanding of Leadership and develop vital communication skills among our nation's high school students

Award: \$1000, \$500, \$250 for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners of local area contest. Winner goes on to compete at Regional and National levels for top award of \$2,000.

Location: BCBSM Headquarters
Tower Auditorium
600 E Lafayette Street
Detroit, MI 48226

Eligibility: 9 - 12th grade students of Michigan

Application Date: Must be received by 11:59 pm on Sunday, January 12, 2025
Submission to include Speech Draft, "Student Entry" and "Consent" forms
Incomplete applications are not accepted

Mentoring Session Date/Time: (In-Person)
Wednesday, January 29, 2025, 5:00 -7:00 pm

Contest Date/Time: (In-Person)
Wednesday, February 12, 2025
4:30 pm Contestant check in
5:30 pm meeting start time.

For More Information, Contact Contest Director:
Lydia Officer
Email: NmaSpeechContest@bcbsm.com
Ph: (313) 518-4133
Website: <https://LDA-NMA141.ORG>

Students and Guardian sign and submit both forms: 'STUDENT ENTRY FORM' And 'CONSENT AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RISK FORM' and submit Speech Draft by 11:59 pm January 12, 2025



NMA LEADERSHIP SPEECH CONTEST STUDENT ENTRY FORM

Must be submit by 11:59 pm January 12, 2025, along with speech draft

Please Type or Print Clearly			
Name:		NMA Chapter:	141 Detroit BCBS MI
Email:		Gender M /F:	
Address:		Grade:	
City, State Zip:		Phone(s):	
School/City:			
Speech Title:			

I hereby verify that the above information is true. I will adhere to the rules of the NMA Leadership Speech Contest. I understand that the decision of the judges in placing the contestants is final.

Speech Draft is submitted with Student Entry Form (check box to confirm)

Student
Signature: _____ Date: _____

I hereby verify that I am the parent/legal guardian of this student and grant permission for participation in this contest. I understand that the decision of the judges in placing the contestants is final.

Parent
Signature: _____ Relationship: _____ Date: _____

Parent
Email
Address: _____

Parent
Phone
Number: _____

How to submit:
By Email NmaSpeechContest@bcbsm.com
Website: <https://LDA-NMA141.ORG>

Students and Guardian sign and submit both forms: 'STUDENT ENTRY FORM' and 'CONSENT AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RISK FORM' and submit Speech Draft by 11:59 pm January 12, 2025



**NMA LEADERSHIP SPEECH CONTEST
CONSENT AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RISK FORM
Must be submitted prior to contest**

Participant: _____

Activities: NMA Leadership Speech Contest - ALL LEVELS

IN CONSIDERATION of the right to attend and participate in the Activities described above, the Participant (and, if the Participant is a minor, his or her legal guardian) hereby:

1. Agree to abide by all rules and regulations established by NMA and the NMA Leadership Speech Contest.
2. Authorizes NMA or any of its agents to provide, obtain, or authorize any reasonable incidental and/or emergency medical treatment for the Participant, in the event of the Participant's illness, injury, or incapacity, and hereby, accepts the responsibility to pay for such treatment.
3. Grants to NMA for any purpose connected with promoting the purposes and goals of a Leadership Speech Contest, not for commercial exploitation, the right to use the Participant's name, voice, and likeness in any writings, photographs, films, and recordings, of the Participant while he or she is participating in the Activities, and any biographical information submitted by the Participant to NMA, and to use, reproduce, publish, and distribute the same.
4. Acknowledgment that there is an element of risk involving travel outside of one's own home or community; certifies that the participant is physically, mentally, and emotionally capable of attending and participating in the activities; assumes all risk of financial responsibility for any loss or injury to the Participant or others that may occur as a result of Participants negligence or misconduct; releases the NMA, its officers, Trustees, employees and/or agents from any loss of injury to the Participant that may occur as a result of negligence or misconduct of any persons or entities other than NMA, its officers, Trustees, employees and/or agents; from and against any and all costs, claims, demands, charges, liabilities, obligations, judgment, execution, costs of suit and actual attorney's fees incurred or suffered by NMA, its officers, Trustees, employees and/or agents as a result of, or arising out of, the Participant's negligence or misconduct.

This Consent and Acknowledgment of Risk form shall not be amended, supplemented, or abrogated without the written consent of the NMA Headquarters Office in Dayton, Ohio.

The Participant (and, if the Participant is a minor, his or her parent or legal guardian) has read this Consent and Acknowledgment of Risk and understands its content.

Signature of Participant

Date

Telephone Number

Email

IF PARTICIPANT IS A MINOR, THE SIGNATURE OF HIS/HER PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN IS REQUIRED.

Name of Parent or Legal Guardian

Signature

How to submit:

By Email NmaSpeechContest@bcbsm.com

Website: <https://LDA-NMA141.ORG>



ABOUT THE NMA LEADERSHIP SPEECH CONTEST

NMA - *THE Leadership Development Organization* proudly presents its Leadership Speech Contest as one of the nation's leading competitions among high school age students. Its primary purpose is to promote better understanding of Leadership and the unique role it plays in today's world. The top prize is \$2,000 cash!

The contest involves young men and women in grades nine through twelve. They research, write, and then deliver a speech based upon their interpretation of a variety of Leadership topics. Topics such as Leadership in the world, its application to the free enterprise system and what Leadership means to them personally are some examples of speech themes. In short, the students are limited only by their imagination and creativity. Students report to us that participation in this contest increases their awareness and understanding of Leadership. The contest provides an incentive for the development of communication skills - vital to those preparing to enter the workforce. In communities across the country, the NMA Contest has become recognized as an innovative program supporting our young people.

The financial rewards, at all levels of the competition, contribute to students' furthering their education. NMA members take enormous pride in their program and herald the contest as one of the NMA's greatest contributions to understanding the various aspects of Leadership. We sincerely invite you to look at our program closely and join us in participating in this important program.

TWO LEVELS OF COMPETITION

1. Chapter Level
2. National Level

AT THE CHAPTER LEVEL, contests run by local NMA chapters, students in grades 9-12 from area high schools along with home schooled students in the area compete against each other for prizes to be determined by chapters.

AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL, the four LDA finalists compete at the NMA Annual Conference held in the fall. These contestants compete for cash prizes of \$2,000, \$1,000, and \$500 third place prizes.

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

Participants must be enrolled in a school or be home schooled (grades 9 - 12) within the area that the sponsoring Chapter serves.

NMA Leadership Speech Contestant Information Package
Website: <https://LDA-NMA141.ORG>

SPEECH PREPARATION RULES

1. The speech is to relate to Leadership. Speeches at all levels shall have Leadership as its main theme to be considered eligible for competition.
2. Non-leadership issues such as social, medical, environmental, political etc. shall not be primary subjects unless integrated into how leadership plays a role.
3. Each contestant shall research, write and deliver his/her own speech. Advice and coaching are allowed, and changes may be made to the speech at any time prior to the contest regardless of level.
4. Contestants shall submit a draft of their speech to the Contest Director prior to participating in the contest to assure the content meets the criteria of Leadership as the main theme. The Contest Director shall establish the deadline for submitting the speech.
5. **Contestants shall not identify themselves, their city, state or school in the context of their speech.**
6. Notes are allowed, but the speech shall not be read verbatim.
7. Audio/visual aids shall not be used with the presentation.
8. Contestants' speeches shall be limited to no more than six minutes or less than four minutes.
9. Contestants shall give proper credit to any source from which they derive information. Contestants may use quotations and/or copyrighted materials but must identify the original author. Acknowledging the source of the material shall be the responsibility of the contestant.
10. Speeches prepared for this contest shall not be presented to any other group without acknowledging that the speech was prepared for and was or will be delivered in this contest.
11. The listed Speech Preparation Rules are also part of the Contest Rules.

TOPICS FOR CONSIDERATION

Contestants may speak on any aspect of Leadership. Here are examples of leadership speech topics:

1. Leadership in the world today
2. Community Leadership or how I can be a leader in my community
3. What makes a good leader?
4. Leadership and the Free Enterprise System
5. Leadership for the new millennium
6. Attributes of a leader or the importance of inclusiveness in leadership
7. Great Leadership Examples
8. Leadership: Past, Present and for the next millennium
9. What Leadership means to me

CONTEST RULES

A. COMPETING AT CHAPTER LEVEL

1. Contestants shall compete in a Chapter Level Contest to be eligible to participate in higher Level Contests. At the Chapter Level, contestants shall compete against students in grades 9-12. Contestants shall only compete at one Chapter Level Contest per year.
2. If a contestant has not competed in a Chapter Level Contest, he/she shall not be eligible to compete in any higher level of contest competition. If any doubt exists concerning a contestant's eligibility, contact NMA Headquarters to resolve the issue promptly.
3. At all contest levels, competing contestants shall not be able to hear nor be in attendance of another contestant's speech being delivered.

4. Contestants shall always be respectful of other contestants and shall conduct themselves in a professional manner.

B. COMPETING AT LDC AND NATIONAL LEVEL

1. The Leadership Development Conference (LDC) Level contest is conducted at two regional meetings held in April or May. Contestants from chapters/councils located in the Northeast, Central and Southeast areas shall compete at the East LDC. Contestants from chapters/councils located in the Pacific North, Pacific South and Southwest areas shall compete at the West LDC.
2. Contestant winning the National Level Contest are ineligible to compete in future NMA Leadership Speech Contests.

C. DOCUMENTATION

1. For an individual to compete in the Chapter Level Contest, each contestant shall submit a printed or typed copy of the speech (it may be a draft), the "Student Entry Form" and the "Consent and Acknowledgement of Risk" Form. Both forms require the student's and parent or guardian signatures.

The originals are kept by the chapter and a copy of both forms shall be sent promptly to NMA Headquarters along with a printed or typed copy of the speech (it maybe a draft).

2. At all levels, written copies (may be a draft) of contestant's speeches arriving after the due date established by the appropriate Contest Director, may be ruled ineligible for competition.

D. JUDGING

1. At all contest levels, a minimum of two judges shall be used with an additional tie breaking judge whose ballot will be counted only if a tie occurs.
2. Each judge shall be provided with a clipboard along with a copy of the Judging Criteria, a Judge's Ballot and a Judge's Ranking Form (see Judging Criteria and Evaluation Forms Section).
3. All judges shall evaluate all contestants competing in the contest.
4. At all contest levels, one winner shall be designated and the decision of the judges in placing the contestants is final. Scores and ranking shall not be revealed.
5. individual ballot tabulations by judges shall not be revealed to anyone after the competition has been completed.

E. TIME KEEPER

1. There shall be one Timekeeper (a backup may also be used) who shall record each contestant's presentation time on a Time Record Sheet (see Judging Criteria and Evaluation Forms Section). The Contest Director shall pick up the forms after the last contestant has competed.
2. The length of the contest speech shall be between four and six minutes. The Timekeeper shall indicate intermediate times to the contestant using color cards/lights which shall be clearly visible to each speaker but not obvious to the audience. The green card/light shall be displayed at four (4:00) minutes.
3. The yellow card/light shall be displayed at five and a half (5 ½) minutes and the red card/light shall be displayed at six (6:00) minutes and remain visible until the speech ends.
4. The Timekeeper shall start the watch with the contestant's first word uttered to the audience and the watch shall be stopped with the contestant's last word to the audience.
5. There are no disqualifications for the length of the speech, but penalty points may be applied for violating the four to six minutes length of speech rule.

F. SPEECH TIME LIMITS AND GRACE PERIOD

1. The minimum time for the speech shall be four (4) minutes with a ten second grace period. The speech could be as short as three minutes, fifty seconds (3:50). If the measured time is shorter, a penalty of two points would be applied to the contestant's score.
2. The maximum time for the speech shall be six (6) minutes with a 20 second grace period (6:20). If the speech is longer; penalty points would be applied to the contestant's score. A penalty of two points would be applied if the measured time is between six minutes, twenty-one seconds (6:21) and six minutes, thirty seconds (6:30). For measured time longer than six minutes, thirty-seconds (6:30), a penalty of five points would be applied.

G. GENERAL

1. At all contest levels, NMA shall have the right to edit, publish and/or record any speech used.
2. The listed Speech Preparation Rules are also part of the Contest Rules.
3. If any of the Contest Rules are broken, the contestant shall be disqualified from competing by the appropriate Contest Director.
4. Protest at the Chapter Level shall be in writing and given to the Contest Director who will evaluate and concur with the highest Chapter officer or contest judges to assure a fair evaluation.
5. Protest at the LDA/National Level shall be in writing and given to the Contest Director who will evaluate and concur with the NMA President/Chairman of the Board or contest judges to assure a fair evaluation.
6. On the date established for the National Level Speech Contest, all four contestants shall compete at the time and place scheduled for the contest.

H. Judge's Criteria

1. At all contest levels, the judge's criteria will be based upon

50% Content - structure, organization, support materials, purpose, interest, ideas, logic, original thoughts

30% Delivery - appearance, body language, voice, directness, assurance, and enthusiasm

20% Language - appropriateness to speech topic and audience, grammar, pronunciation, word selection

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