



Caloosa Chapter SAR
Americanism Youth Contests
Academic Year 2026 – 2027

General Information – Joseph R. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest
(Open to 9th through 12th Grade Students)

The Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest invites students attending 9th through 12th grades to write and then present an original oration of not less than five minutes, or more than six minutes. The oration must be delivered from memory and without the use of notes or any kind of props. The subject of the oration shall deal with an event, a personality, or a document pertaining to the Revolutionary War with a mention of our nation's 250th anniversary celebration. It is essential that each oration show the relationship it bears to America today in public, parochial or private schools; or home-school students studying at the same grade levels.

General Rules:

The preliminary rounds of the contest begin at the local chapter level; students have the opportunity to advance to the state or national levels where scholarships and cash prizes are awarded. Evidence of historical research and creative presentation are also important. The oration will be judged based upon its composition, delivery, significance, historical accuracy and relevance to our 250th anniversary.

This Contest is open to all US Citizen and Legal Resident students attending home schools, public, parochial, or private elementary schools, and also includes Cub Scouts, Brownies, Children of the American Revolution and other youth organizations recognized by the NSSAR Council of Youth Programs Committee. Participants from organizations other than schools must be of equivalent age for 9th through 12th grades.

Judging of ALL entries will be on an equal basis regardless of point of origin, and will be based on evidence of historical research and creative presentation. The oration will be judged based upon its composition, delivery, significance, historical accuracy and relevance to our 250th anniversary.

The contest is conducted in three phases: local chapter, state-level society and national society. Only one entry per student is permitted per contest year. All entries are to be submitted to a local, Florida, Chapter near the residence of the student entering the contest.

Entry Deadline: Firm deadline for submittal of application to Caloosa Chapter Contest Chair: February 28, 2027.

Questions: John L. Maier, Jr., Americanism Youth Contest Chair
10502 Sevilla Drive Apt. 202 Fort Myers, FL 33913
jmaier@wisclaw.com

Cash Awards: At the Caloosa Chapter level: 1st Place: \$500; 2nd Place: \$250; 3rd Place: \$100 [Additional awards are made at the State and National levels of competition.

FLSSAR Contest: 1st Place Winner of Chapter Contest will be entered into the Florida Society SAR Oration Contest.

See Prior Contest

Examples: <https://www.sar.org/joseph-s-rumbaugh-historical-oration-contest/>

More Information: A complete set of information on each of the Youth Contests sponsored by the Chapter may be found:

1. on the Caloosa Chapter SAR website: <https://caloosasar.org/> and at
2. the FLSSAR website: <https://flssar.org/awards-medals/> and
3. specifically for the Rumbaugh Oration contest at the National SAR website: <https://www.sar.org/joseph-s-rumbaugh-historical-oration-contest/>