



**Lions MD-2 Opportunities for Youth
"DRUG AWARENESS SPEECH"
Contest Rules**

"Illegal and Illicit Drugs – Legalized – Really?."

1. Speech Subject

- a. The Subject of the speech shall be, ***"Illegal and Illicit Drugs – Legalized – Really?."*** If you have been following the headlines lately, the idea has been presented that the legalization of illegal and illicit drugs could be a possible solution to federal and state budget issues. Fees, income taxes and sales/use taxes would be additional income streams and the reduction of associated law enforcement costs would be a reduction of expenditures. Also, in the past, the argument has been used that legalization would allow for better regulation of the substances, thereby making them "safer" for users.

2. Contest Rules

- a. The Title of the Contestant's speech is not required to be the same as the Subject for the speech. Contestants should be creative in the selection of a speech title and set the tone for their presentation with the title they choose.
- b. The presentation should analyze the problem given in the subject and present a solution or solutions to the problem.
- c. Research for this topic can be conducted by interviewing school officials, teachers, judges, law enforcement personnel, probation personnel, counselors, juvenile court officials, legislators, medical personnel and by using the internet and library.
- d. The topic is broad and allows the contestant considerable leeway in the selection of their solution or solutions.
- e. Sources of data and quotes should be identified by title, author and date published (year if known).
- f. Creative, innovative, practical, and reasonable ideas are welcomed.
- g. The speech will be from five (5) to seven (7) minutes in length.
 - i. A monitor will signal contestants at five (5) minutes and at six and one half (6 1/2) minutes.
 - ii. At seven (7) minutes, the monitor will signal and five (5) points will be deducted from contestants' score.
 - iii. A speech of less than five (5) or more than seven and a half (7 1/2) minutes will be disqualified.
 - iv. Should a disturbance occur during a speech, the contest monitor will adjust the time accordingly.
- h. Notes, cue cards and video equipment may not be used at District or MD-2 State contests.
 - i. All Lions District 2-S2 contests shall be conducted in the English language and Contestants, during contest presentations, shall speak English.
- j. The contest area must have good acoustics, be free from outside noises and disturbances, and have controlled access.
- k. Immediately prior to the commencement of the contest, Contestants will draw for the order of appearance before the judging panel.
 - l. Contestants shall remain outside the contest area until invited to enter by the Contest Official.
- m. The audience will be informed before the first contestant to not applaud at the end of the speech and reminded before each contestant delivers his/her speech of the same requirement.

- n. The audience will be asked to turn off any cell phones and/or electronic devices during the contest time.
 - i. Failure to comply with this rule could result in disqualification of a Contestant at the discretion of the Contest Official.
- o. Contestants will not give any self-introduction but shall state the title of their speech and then deliver the speech.
- p. Following the Contestant's speech he/she will take a seat in the area assigned for the Contestants and remain in the contest area until the final speech is presented, judges have completed scoring the contest and introductions have been completed.
 - i. The Contest Official may allow an exemption of this requirement for medical reasons/emergencies, restroom breaks or for other reasons deemed acceptable by the Contest Official.
 - ii. Request may be made between Contestant presentations only.
- q. No one will be allowed to either enter the contest area during an essay, or leave once they have entered, until all of the Contestants have presented their speeches and the Judges have finished scoring the Contestant.
- r. When all speeches have been presented, Contestants, in the order of their presentation, will stand and state their names, hometowns, ages, schools, grade levels, and their District and Lions Club sponsors.
- s. At the end of this process, the audience may then collectively applaud all Contestants.
- t. Persons involved in conducting of the contest; parents, chaperones, and guests of the Contestants, may then be introduced at the discretion of the Contest Official, as time allows.

3. Awards

- a. The 1st place winner will receive a \$1,000.00 scholarship.
- b. The 2nd place winner will receive a \$500.00 scholarship.
- c. Any contest winner who wishes to participate in the State Contest, travel to and lodging in El Paso will be the responsibility of the contestant or the sponsoring club.
- d. To collect the scholarship award, the Contestant must complete the following process:
 - i. Contestant must send a request for payment from the registrar of a university, college, junior college or vocational school.
 - ii. Send request for payment to:

Lions District 2-S2 Treasurer
6210 Wynwood Lane
Houston TX, 77008-3242
H: 713-861-8733

4. If a request for payment from an institute of higher education is received from the school, the scholarship money will be made payable directly to the school.
5. The scholarship awards must be collected no later than two years following the recipient's graduation from High School.
6. Rules of Eligibility for Contestants
 - a. A Club may sponsor no more than one Contestant in each contest by submitting a completed entry application (containing all requested signatures), associated documents, and the entry fee to the Lions District 2-S2 Contest Chairperson prior to the entry deadline.
 - b. A false statement on the entry application, or associated documents, causes disqualification of the Contestant, with the entry fee being forfeited.
 - c. There shall be no refund of any entry fee,
 - d. Each contestant must be or have been a regularly enrolled student in a public high school or comparable educational program, located in Texas,
 - e. Each contestant must be a junior, senior of the time of the Lions District 2-S2 contest.
 - f. Contestants shall not have been married, had a marriage annulled, cohabited with a person of the opposite sex who is unrelated to the Contestant or who has participated in the conception of a child before participation in the Lions District 2-S2 contest.
7. Responsibilities of Contestants
 - a. Each Contestant shall be required to submit the following to the Contest Coordinator, contact information in paragraph 9.
 - i. **An entry fee of \$100.00** (which is paid by the Club who is sponsoring the contestant)
 - ii. **Lions District 2-S2 Contest Application,**
 - iii. **Two wallet-sized color Photographs** (head and shoulders close-up),
 - iv. **Personal Biographical Information.**
 - v. **Signed Copy of Code of Conduct.**
 - vi. **Medical Power of Attorney** designating his/her Chaperone as the Primary Responsible Party and the Lions District 2-S2 Contest Chair as the Secondary Responsible party.
 - vii. **A Printed Copy of the Speech** to be received within two weeks of the Lions District 2-S2 Contest Failure to supply the printed copy of the speech will result in a forfeiture of any awards earned in the contest.
 1. The printed copy of the speech will not be used for judging purposes, but shall be used for publication and contest promotion purposes.
 - b. The sponsoring Club must make sure all documents, outlined above, are completed, have all the required signatures and are sent to the Lions District 2-S2 Contest Coordinator, post-marked no later than the January 22, 2010 deadline.
 - c. Contestants will visit the presentation area, test the microphone, and ask any questions they may still have about the contest.

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