



Florida General Baptist Convention, Inc.

Congress of Christian Education

Oratorical Competition

Convention President Dr. C.P. Preston, Jr.
Congress President Dr. Isaac L. Williams
Congress Dean Dr. Brett Snowden
State Oratorical Coordinator Sis. Karla Alston

Please note that each oration should be based on the national theme and Scripture:

Living Faithfully, Serving Graciously, Turning the World Towards God's Love.

Scripture: Romans 8:31-32

Directions:

Read the key Scripture and theme. Write a response to the theme based on the key Scripture and this theme impacts your living, serving, and turning. Use the prompt to research the Scripture, focus your thoughts, guide your writing, and analyze your identity as a disciple who lives and leads others to Christ.

Remember....

- The FGBCI Oratorical Competition is **virtual**.
- This is an oration, not a testimonial, sermon, or campaign message.
- The spotlight is on how **you** will live and lead others to Christ.
- Use the key Scripture and at least two other Scriptures to support your oration.
- Use statistical data to support your position.

FAQ

Who can participate? Young people who are currently in 12th grade and will graduate high school by June 2021 and with a college acceptance letter.

How many young people can compete? Each district can submit a **total of two students** to participate. Each district will determine the two young people to represent its district at the FGBCI Oratorical Contest.

When and where is the oratorical competition being held? The competition will take place Saturday, May 1, 2021 at 10am **virtually**.

If I win the FGBCI Oratorical Contest, will I have to meet any additional requirements to participate in The National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. Congress of Christian Education Oratorical Contest?

Yes. Please read the complete guidelines listed on The National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc., website or use this link: <https://tinyurl.com/yzhxw2f8>

GUIDELINES

PURPOSE

To provide an opportunity for high school seniors to earn a college scholarship through presentation of an **original** written oration that reflects spiritual knowledge, development, and appreciation of God's Word as well as evidence of intellectual thinking and positive expression.

- Fosters Faith
- Encourages Christ-centered Communication
- Promotes Writing, Public Speaking, and Reading
- Builds Self-confidence

COMPETITION LOCATION

The FGBCI Oratorical Competition will be held **virtually** Saturday, May 1, 2021 at 10am.

REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION

- The Participant's Church **must be** current in financial obligations to the state.
- **Contestant for the oratorical program must be** registered as a 2021 delegate to the Florida General Baptist Convention Congress of Christian Education from July 26-30, 2021.
- Contestant must be **registered** by the first day Monday, July 26th, **attend** a Congress course during the week, and **encouraged to participate** in the youth rally.
- Additionally, the FGBCI Oratorical Contest **winner must register as a delegate** for The National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. (June 21-25, 2021).
- Finally, the FGBCI Oratorical Contest **winner** will **compete** in the **virtual** National Oratorical Competition, which will be held Wednesday, June 23, 2021 at 1 o'clock PM.

PRESENTATION

- Oration/Speech must be **memorized or nearly memorized. The speaker should be familiar enough with the speech to make eye contact with and engage the audience. You can refer to your written speech.** No sign-song tone, notes, props, or any other aids are allowed.
- The speech must be **prepared by the contestant and must be original.**
- Orations are **not** to exceed five minutes and must be typed and double-spaced (Times New Roman Font Size 12). **A minimum requirement of 300 words maximum of 800 words.**
- Include the total number of words at the bottom of your document.
- The speech must be logical, correct in form, relevant to the theme, and a response to the theme based on the key Scripture. **The speech will analyze your identity as a disciple who lives, serves and steers others to Christ.**
- Use the key Scripture and at least two other Scriptures to support your position.
- Use statistical data to support your position
- Any quotations or copyright material used in the speech must be properly identified.

The presentation attire is as follows:

Males: Suit Coats with Ties

Females: Dress or Suit with Hosiery

DELIVERY

- As previously stated, the oration/speech must be memorized or **nearly memorized**. **The speaker should be familiar enough with the speech to make eye contact with and engage the audience. You can refer to your written speech.** No sign-song tone, notes, props, or any other aids are allowed.
- Contestants are to stand, state the topic and begin their oration.
- Contestants are **not** allowed to use introductions or reference protocols.
- Contestants shall **not** state their names or any other identifying data during the oration.
- Contestants shall avoid using a sing-song tone, sermonette format and avoid excessive gestures in their presentation. Likewise, no dancing, rapping, etc.
- Special props, costumes, clothing or prompts are **not** permitted.
- Any violations of the guidelines can disqualify the contestant.

The **contestant's oratorical coordinator/young people director must submit** on behalf of the contestant the following: a copy of **speech, contestant data sheet, and contestant personal goals**. **All items must be received by Saturday, April 24, 2021.**

State Oratorical Coordinator Email Address is listed below.

Karla Alston

super1ka@yahoo.com

Must be received by: Saturday, April 24, 2021

- 1. Headshot photo**
- 2. Written speech**
- 3. Video recorded oration**
- 4. Contestant data sheet**
- 5. Contestant personal goals**
- 6. Copy of College Acceptance Letter**

At the end of the competition winners will be announced.

2021 FGBCI CONGRESS ORATORICAL CONTEST CONTESTANT DATA SHEET

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Parents/Guardian: _____

Parent/Guardian Telephone (_____) _____ E-mail: _____

Church: _____

Pastor: _____

Association Moderator: _____ Telephone (_____) _____

Association Dean: _____ Telephone (_____) _____

Oratorical Director: _____ Telephone (_____) _____

2021 FGBCI CONGRESS ORATORICAL CONTEST CONTESTANT PERSONAL GOALS

In 75 words or less, state the following

1. Post-secondary goals (college, military, trade school, workforce, etc.)
2. Scripture verse that motivates you to achieve your goal(s).

All responses must be typed.