

## ESCORT INSTRUCTIONS

As contestants arrive, they will be directed to the holding room where they will remain during the contest. An escort will be assigned to each contestant and must stay with the contestant for the duration of the contest.

In the holding room prior to the presentation of the Prepared Oration, contestants may consult their notes but are not allowed to take any written materials from the room for any reason. These materials will be returned to the contestants after completion of the contest. Cell phones or other electronic devices are not allowed in the holding room for use by the contestants.

### Prepared Oration

Contestant No. 1 will be escorted to the Magnolia Room when the contest begins (approximately 10:10 a.m.). At completion of No. 1's Prepared Oration, he/she will be escorted back to the Contest Holding Room and Contestant No. 2 will be escorted to the auditorium. The same procedure will be followed for the remaining contestants. There will be a short pause between Contestant No. 3 and Contestant No. 4 for the drawing of the assigned topic. An usher will hand the topic card to the Contest Assistant

When Contestant No. 4 completes his/her oration, a Contest Assistant will escort Contestant No. 1 to a private room and give him/her the assigned topic card. The contestant will be allowed 5 minutes in privacy with a pen and blank piece of paper. The contestant is not permitted to consult any text matter or notes. After 5 minutes have passed, the Contest Assistant will take the card and paper from the contestant and return him/her to an escort. The same procedure will be followed for each contestant.

After each contestant completes the assigned topic discourse, he/she will be escorted to a holding room away from the contestants who have not seen the assigned topic. The contestants will remain in the holding room until the Judges have retired to complete their score cards.

**The contestants will not be allowed contact with the Judges at any time during the contest.**