

2011-2012

75th ANNUAL

STUDENT SPEAKERS

CONTEST



Contest Subject

**What Could the America
of Yesterday Teach
the America of Tomorrow?**

Sponsored by



*Multiple District Four
California Lions*

This Student Speakers contest year
is dedicated to honor
Past District Governor Al Ohrmund,
President of the Lions Fourth District
Student Speakers Foundation, Inc.



*S*hortly after PDG Al Ohrmund joined Lions in 1979, he attended a Student Speakers Contest and was "hooked" on this program and supporting the youth who participate. Being Club Student Speakers Chair for over ten years made him realize how important this program is to help our youth improve their public speaking skills. He also served District 4-L2 as Student Speaker Chair for fifteen years and at the same time served as the SS Foundation Trustee for the District.

After serving as DG in 1988-89, he was the Governor member on the Foundation Board for one year. This experience increased his dedication to the work of the Foundation and the Scholarship Program.

During 2001-2004, he served as a member of the MD-4 Student Speakers Committee.

His service to the Foundation continued as Treasurer for fifteen years and in 2005 PDG Al became President. President Al is proud that during his years of service, the Supporter Patch/Year Chevron Program was started and the Foundation Board increased the scholarships amounts awarded, by over 50%.

PDG Al firmly believes that the experience the students receive in competitive public speaking, along with the scholarships they are awarded help them continue their education and prepare them for the adult world. These students certainly are "Our Leaders of Tomorrow".



CELEBRATING THE 75TH

STUDENT SPEAKERS CONTEST

SPONSORED BY THE



Multiple District Four
LIONS CLUBS OF CALIFORNIA

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California Lions

MULTIPLE DISTRICT FOUR 2011 - 2012 COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

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Council Chairperson

ELIZABETH "LIZ" CROOKE, 4-C6
Council Secretary

DENNIS DRAG PH D, 4-L2
Council Treasurer

District Governor	District
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JEAN C. ROYBAL	4-C2
CATHY HUDSON	4-C3
ESTHER LEE	4-C4
JAMES FONG	4-C5
DAVID MCCULLOUGH	4-A1
GEORGE FINLEY	4-A2
DICK KANE	4-A3
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KEN SHERWOOD	4-L4
KENNETH L. REED	4-L5
BRAD WEEKS	4-L6
CASS CARA	MD-4 Headquarters Office Manager

TO THE STUDENTS

Welcome to the Student Speakers Contest 2011-2012 This year the Lions of California Multiple District Four are proud to sponsor the 75th Student Speakers Contest.

Our challenging topic for this year's contest is

“WHAT COULD THE AMERICA OF YESTERDAY TEACH THE AMERICA OF TOMORROW?”

This year we celebrate the 75th anniversary of our program. Over the past 74 years, well over Two Million Dollars in scholarship money has been awarded to deserving students involved in all levels of the contest. The awarded scholarship funds have enabled students to attend prestigious schools and prepare themselves for an outstanding future.

Lions, Leos and Lioness of California are justifiably proud of the Student Speakers Program. In addition to the scholarships granted, the contest experience helps build confidence, self-esteem, and pride by the participants. Indeed, many of the participating students have gone on to very distinguished careers.

I would like to take a moment to thank the Lions Clubs who support this program each year with countless hours of service to make this program possible. I would also like to thank the high school teachers and debate coaches throughout the State for their assistance in preparing the students for this challenging Contest. This contest exemplifies the outstanding partnership between Lions Clubs of California and their communities by supporting positive opportunities for the future leaders of our country.

My best wishes to all participants for a positive, enriching experience during this prestigious event.

Richard Wilmot, Council Chairperson
2011-2012 Council of Governors
Multiple District Four

LIONS CLUB SPONSORSHIP

Lions Clubs agree to extend to the participating schools and students their fullest cooperation. Individual clubs also agree to provide for the requirements and welfare of any student whom they may be sponsoring when that student appears in a zone, region, district, area or final contest. They are further to lend every assistance in connection with the Student Speakers Contest. Payment of expenses of parents, coaches or other guests are at the sponsoring club's discretion.

PURPOSE OF THE CONTEST

- To provide an opportunity for competitive public speaking among students on a subject of vital interest to the contestants and to the American people as a whole.
- To stimulate self-expression and independent thinking.
- To present to the public through the student speakers contests the problems surrounding the maintenance of this commonwealth as a free nation.
- To consider the means at our disposal of meeting the present and future world problems.

TIME LIMITATIONS

Students entering the contest shall prepare a talk to be as close as possible to, but not over, ten minutes, nor less than five minutes delivery time.

STUDENT SPEAKERS TOPIC SUGGESTIONS

Anyone may submit topics for the succeeding year. The committee will gladly accept all suggestions. The local chairperson will forward these suggestions to their district chairperson.

All proposed suggestions are considered by the committee and the district chairperson. Topics recommended by them are then submitted to the Council of Governors who make the final selection.

CONTEST POLICY: The MD-4 Student Speakers Committee is solely in charge of the rules and operation of the MD-4 Student Speakers Contest. The fifteen (15) District Contest Chairs abide by the rules and operate the district contests for the Committee. NO OTHER LION SHOULD PROVIDE INFORMATION OR RULE ON ANY STUDENT SPEAKER CONTEST MATTERS.

TOPIC

This year's topic has been carefully selected. Entrants should be certain to speak on the topic since points are awarded for adhering to the subject title.

ENTRANTS

1. The contest is open to students who reside in MD-4, including foreign exchange students, grades 9-12, of any high school or junior high school, charter school, private school, home school or independent study.
2. The presentation shall be given in the English language only. Phrases in a non-English language must be immediately followed by a direct English translation.
3. Winners of the previous MD-4 final contests are not eligible. Eligible students shall be those of the above grades and under the age of twenty-one as of February 21, 2012.
4. Contestants must have not completed grade 12 prior to the termination of the spring semester of the year and must be attending school when the competition is held.
5. Only one winner shall be certified to the next succeeding contest.

Students should be reminded of their obligation to complete the contest and arrive to contests on time. Scheduling conflicts are the student's responsibility to resolve.

AWARDS

Awards must conform to the policy set by the Council of Governors of MD-4. This provides for an orderly relationship in the amount of the award at the various contest levels.

Paid by Lions checks:

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| Club Contests - | The club shall present \$75.00 to the winner and \$25.00 to each finalist. (who completes minimum time) |
| Zone Contests - | The district shall present \$100.00 to the winner only. |
| Region Contests - | The district shall present \$150.00 to the winner only. |

Paid by the Lions 4th District Student Speakers Foundation Inc:

District Contests - The fifteen winners shall each receive a \$4,500.00 scholarship.

Area Contests - The four winners shall each receive a \$6,500.00 scholarship.

Final Contest - The winner of the MD-4 contest shall receive a \$10,000.00 scholarship.

The scholarship awards are to any accredited two or four year college or university or to any other school approved by the Lions 4th District Student Speakers Foundation, Inc.

The winners shall be allowed seven years from the date of high school graduation to utilize their scholarships. The winner shall receive 33 1/3% upon enrollment and 33 1/3% at the beginning of each succeeding enrolled quarter. For the semester system, the winner shall receive 50% on enrollment and 50% at the beginning of the succeeding enrolled semester. Scholarship payments may be extended over a longer period of time if it meets the recipient's needs.

If any winners do not utilize any portion of the scholarship within the seven year period, the money shall revert to the Lions 4th District Student Speakers Foundation, Inc.

A certificate of scholarship provided by the Lions 4th District Student Speakers Foundation, Inc., shall be presented to the winning speakers of the district, area and MD-4 final contest.

The high school of the student winning the MD-4 final contest shall receive an appropriate plaque provided by the Foundation.

Awards furnished at the club, zone, region, district, area and final contest shall be restricted to those approved by the Council of Governors of MD-4.

**There shall be no exceptions.
Any violation of additional awards will
result in disqualification of a contestant.**

MD-4 provides certificates of appreciation for judges and contestants at all levels and for coaches at the club level only.

CLUB CONTESTS

1. The president of each participating Lions Club shall appoint an experienced Lion of the club as the club contest chairperson.
2. Clubs on status-quo or not in good standing shall NOT sponsor or participate in the speakers contest.
3. It shall be the duty of the chairperson to contact all eligible schools and Leo Clubs, other organizations and individuals in the community early enough to allow ample time for student preparation prior to the club contest.
4. An appointment should be made with school representatives to discuss the details of the contest.
5. The poster should be displayed in a prominent location in the school.
6. Handbooks should be given to the coaches and teachers. They are also available online: <http://studentspeaker.md4lions.org/>
7. The chairperson should stay in contact with the school representatives to check on the progress of the contest.
8. **No student shall participate in more than one club contest during the contest year. If only one student is a contestant at any contest level, the contest still needs to be conducted.**
9. Where MORE THAN ONE such school exists in a community, speakers from such schools shall compete for first place in a contest sponsored by a Lions club in the community.
10. No Lions club may hold more than one club contest in any given year. The winning speaker will represent the club in the zone contest.
11. If a question arises as to the sponsorship of various schools by neighboring Lions clubs, the District Student Speaker Chairpersons, with consent of the District Governors, shall allocate the sponsorship.
12. Well in advance, a date for the actual club contest should be set and a site for the contest should be chosen.
13. The size of the room should be adequate for the anticipated audience. The room must be capable of being closed during the contest. The room should be reasonably quiet when closed.
14. If a meal will be served at the contest, arrangements should be made to pay for contestants, coaches, judges and other guests at the clubs discretion. If no meal is served, water must be provided for the Student Speakers.

CONTEST DATES

1. Each contest must be held separately and completed by the following dates regardless of the number of contestants competing.

If only one (1) student is a contestant at any contest level, the contest still needs to be conducted.

CLUB LEVEL..... on or before February 21, 2012

ZONE LEVEL..... on or before March 12, 2012

REGION LEVEL on or before March 30, 2012

DISTRICT LEVEL..... on or before April 27, 2012

(Note: 4th weekend in April - high school speech and debate competitions are held in CA)

AREA CONTEST on or before May 21, 2012

MD-4 FINAL June 2, 2012 in Sacramento, CA

2. Zone, region, district, area and MD-4 contest dates must be set and announced no later than the club level contest.
3. Failure to complete the contest by the required dates shall disqualify the winners from further competition that year.
4. The zone chairpersons, region chairpersons, district student speaker chairpersons, area chairpersons, and final chairperson shall be responsible for their respective contests and for the selection of qualified judges. Where a governor chooses not to appoint region chairpersons for his/her year, the region level contests will be conducted by Lions appointed by the governor for that specific purpose. Zone contests cannot be combined with other zone contests.
5. Each of the zone, region, district and area chairpersons, by entering representatives in further competition, will be affirming that these candidates completed their preliminary contests no later than the dates set forth.
6. No contest dates and time once announced shall be changed unless all contestants are given a minimum of one week notice.

NOTIFICATION OF WINNERS

Club, zone, region and district level chairpersons should fill out the required information about their contest winner on the postcard provided and mail to the next level chairperson upon completion of the contest.

Zone, region, district and area chairpersons give information about their own contest to their prior level chairperson two weeks before the prior level contests take place. This can be done by filling out and mailing

a form letter which will be given to the winner of the prior level contest by that chairperson. In addition, once the tellers' worksheet is received listing the winner, a photocopy of the form letter must be mailed to the contest winner.

AREA LEVEL CONTEST

All area contestants must hand deliver a signed printed hard copy with the referenced cited, including name, address, telephone, e-mail address, and sponsoring club and high school, to the Area Chairperson at the time the speaking order is selected at the area contest. The Area Contest Chairperson submits the winner's manuscript and all other info to the next level. The presiding Chairperson will be the MD-4 Student Speakers Committee Members of the respective areas. The Chairperson shall be responsible for the selection of qualified judges.

These contests must be completed by the required dates. At the conclusion of the area contests there will be four speakers eligible to enter the MD-4 contest.

The following districts will constitute areas:

Area 1	Area 3
District 4-C1	District 4-A2
District 4-C5	District 4-A3
District 4-A1	District 4-L1
	District 4-L3
Area 2	Area 4
District 4-C2	District 4-L2
District 4-C3	District 4-L4
District 4-C4	District 4-L5
District 4-C6	District 4-L6

MULTIPLE DISTRICT FOUR FINAL CONTEST

The 2011-2012 MD-4 final contest will be held in Sacramento, California, on Saturday, June 2, 2012. Each year the location rotates between areas with the June Council of Governors meeting. The winning speakers at each of the area contests of California shall be entitled to appear at the final contest if all rules have been complied with.

Area winners will receive travel, hotel and meal expenses for the MD-4 final contest. Travel will be based upon mileage by the most direct route and

reimbursed at thirty cents (.30) per mile round trip. The maximum allowed will be fifty dollars (\$50.00) for one night's lodging at a hotel, and sixteen dollars (\$16.00) per day for meals. It will be the responsibility of the MD-4 area chairperson to advise the student of the date and place of the final contest. All bills shall be submitted to the MD-4 office within thirty (30) days following the contest. MD-4 positively will not pay any of the expenses of relatives, chaperones, or coaches of the contestants.

JUDGING

SCHOOL CONTESTS

1. One or more members of the school faculty may determine the winners of all school elimination contests.

ALL LIONS CONTESTS

1. At the club, zone and region level, it is required that at least three qualified individuals who are not Lions, and have had speech training or experience in public speaking, should be selected as judges by the chairperson of the respective contests.
2. It is recommended that judges for a given contest, if possible, be from different professions or fields of endeavor and represent each geographical location involved.
3. At the district, area and final contest, five judges should be used.
4. The chairperson or his/her designee of each contest, will meet with all judges to explain rules and scoring procedures prior to the contest.
5. At least one alternate judge should be selected and available in all contests.
6. When there are five or more speakers (three speakers are recommended for club contests, but shall be limited to no more than six), and in the district, area and final contest, it is recommended that a committee of five judges should be selected.
7. **NO** LION, LIONESS, LEO, SPOUSE, PARTNER OR IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER of any living Lion within MD-4 shall be permitted to judge at any level.
8. **NO** member of any competing high school faculty shall be selected as a judge.
9. **NO** person shall judge the same contestant in any Lions student speakers contest more than once during the same contest year.

10. Only one winner shall be certified to the next succeeding contest. *Students should be reminded of their obligation to complete the contests.* If a student who wins a District Contest forfeits attending any contests above that level, for any unexcused reason (except family emergencies, illness, etc.) they CANNOT participate in future years student speakers contests. Extreme care should be exercised in judge selection to avoid a judge and contestant knowing each other. In the case of area contests, every effort should be made to select judges from each participating district.
11. The judges must not sit together or with contestants, or confer with anyone during or after the speeches before submitting their worksheets to the tellers.
12. All scoring by the judges should be whole numbers - not fractions.
13. **NO** two students shall receive the same score on any judges' sheet.
14. No Judge can discuss scores with the speakers.

SPEECH EVALUATION STANDARDS

The judges will have in mind the following factors as they listen to each of the speeches. Points indicated are maximum scores.

1. **THE TEXT ALONE** (Thought content)

Did the speaker present important ideas?

 - a. Originality. 10 points
 - b. The speech adhered to the subject title. 10 points
 - c. Main points were supported by evidence. 10 points
 - d. Conclusion was clearly presented. 10 points
2. **DELIVERY ALONE**

Did the speaker give a formal public speech?

 - a. Emphasis, voice control. 10 points
 - b. Enunciation, pronunciation. 10 points
 - c. Sincerity, enthusiasm, poise. 10 points
3. **OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS OF THE EFFORT.**
 - a. Was the speech a well-rounded, cohesive effort? 10 points
 - b. Was it logical and organized? 10 points
 - c. Was the speaker persuasive? 10 points

MEETING AGENDA

Call to Order - start on time.

Pledge of Allegiance - song and invocation or other desired opening ceremonies, by chairperson.

Draw of Speaker Order

Introductory Remarks - Brief outline of the objects and history of the contest. Announce the subject title of the current contest. State the purpose of the contest:

- To provide an opportunity for competitive public speaking among students on a subject of vital interest to the contestants and to the American people as a whole.
- To stimulate self-expression and independent thinking;
- To present to the public through the student speakers contest the problems surrounding the maintenance of this country as a free nation;
- To consider the means at our disposal of meeting the present and future world problems.

CONTEST RULES - MUST BE READ AS PRINTED

1. A late contestant shall not compete if arrival time is after the draw of the speaker order for that contest.
2. No one may enter or leave the room while a contestant is speaking. (Call upon guards to man the doors.) Entry or departure to the room can be made during the intermissions.
3. No smoking, food, or beverages are aloud during the contest, except during intermissions, with the exception, the speaker may drink water during their speech.
4. Do not applaud the speakers until after the judges' worksheets have been collected.
5. Each speaker is allowed ten minutes, but no warning signals shall be given.
6. There will be a quiet three-minute intermission between and after speakers and as much time after final speaker to allow Judges to complete scoring. There shall be no conferring with judges during the contest.
7. No photography, video or audio taping will be allowed during the contest.
8. All noise-emitting electronic devices such as phones, beepers, etc. must be turned off until the contest is completed.
9. Any protest relative to the contest must be made to the chairperson before the winner is announced.

10. The contest chairperson shall review and verify the tellers' worksheets before announcing the results.

Call speakers only by number in order. If only one speaker is present, he/she must still speak and be judged.

Introduce speakers and judges only after the tellers have collected all worksheets and have retired from the room.

Announce the winner first and present the award.

Announce the date, time and place of the next contest.

Publicize the Lions 4th District Student Speakers Foundation, Inc.

THE FOLLOWING ARE CAUSES FOR DISQUALIFICATION:

1. Use or display of props of any nature.
2. Uniforms or any method of personal identification, including saying name and school.
3. Failure to give reference source of quoted material in manuscript submitted at area level.
4. Use of notes above club level in excess of one 3x5 card both sides, or the Braille equivalent. **Note: Use of any and all notes at the club level is acceptable.**
5. Use of prompters.
6. Publication of speech, except for very brief quotations, in any media prior to completion of the final contest.
7. Acceptance of awards other than those approved by the council of governors of MD-4.
8. Participation in more than one Lions club contest during the contest year.
9. Watches or electronic devices shall not be worn or used by the contestants during the contest.

Violation of these rules must result in disqualification of the speaker by the chairperson, whose decision shall be final. Any protest relative to the contest must be made to the chairperson before the winner is announced.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

The student speakers must draw numbers to determine the order of speaking. Also, the chairperson should obtain the names, schools, sponsoring Lions clubs, coaches, etc. for each speaker to use in his/her introductions to be made after the contest.

Contestants and judges must not be introduced by name until after the contest is complete and the judge's worksheets collected. Contestants should be designated by numbers indicating the order of speaking only.

1. Microphone and speaker's stand must be available for use at option of the speaker.
2. Clocks in the contest rooms must be removed or covered.
3. Watches may not be worn or used by the contestants during the contest.
4. Judges and contestants should not engage in conversation prior to the contest.
5. Worksheets from the contest must be kept confidential.
6. No penalty shall be assessed in the event the competitor does not address the chair, or give the topic title.
7. Students must present speeches in person at all levels.

INSTRUCTIONS TO TIMERS

1. In all contests, three people serving as timekeepers shall submit to the tellers, in writing on OFFICIAL TIMER'S WORKSHEET, the time used by each contestant recorded in minutes and seconds. Stopwatches are recommended for use by the timers at all contest levels. The official time shall be the average of three timers worksheets.
2. Timing shall start when the speaker first speaks - not at the conclusion of their salutation to the chair and the audience.
3. There shall be no warning signal given to contestants by the timekeepers or others.

INSTRUCTIONS TO TELLERS

1. There shall be at least two tellers at all contests. The duties of the tellers are to collect the Timers' worksheets, and average time scores, Judges' worksheets and to check the judges' scores for accuracy. Tellers MUST be secluded while tallying the student speakers' scores.
2. In all competitions a penalty of 2% for each judge's score shall be imposed for each minute or fraction thereof by which the speaker's talk is less than 5 minutes or more than 10 minutes. After deducting any percentage penalties on timing, the tellers shall designate the places earned by the various speakers on each judge's worksheet, such as 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc., using an OFFICIAL TELLER'S WORKSHEET.

3. When this has been done, the tellers will add the total number of first places for each speaker, and the one who had earned the majority of first places shall be declared the winner. If no speaker has a majority (over one-half) of the first places, the tellers will then total the places earned and the contestant with the lowest total of places earned will be declared as the winner.
4. In the event they are also tied with the same total of places earned, the tie shall be settled by adding the scores of the tied speakers, and the one with the highest total of such scores, after deducting time penalties, shall be declared the winner of the contest.
5. In the event they also tied with the same percentage scores, the tie shall be settled by using the timers worksheet and awarding the contest to the speaker who comes closest to, without going over, the maximum ten-minute limit. That person shall therefore be declared the winner of the contest.
6. The contest chairperson shall review and verify the teller's worksheets before announcing the results.
7. Under no circumstances should anyone but the winner be announced. All students not winning should always be considered finalists.

CERTIFICATES

1. One type of certificate will be used for presentation to judges and contestants at all levels and to coaches at the club level only.
2. It is recommended that certificates be typed or professionally printed and placed in presentation folders in advance of the contest. After judging has been completed indicate the level of the contest and "winner" or "finalist" on the line in the lower right hand corner of the contestant's certificate.
3. Ten certificates are included in all packets. If additional certificates are required, please call the MD-4 office.

AFTER THE CONTEST (CHECK WHEN COMPLETED.)

- ___ 1. Make sure the Teller's Worksheet is completed in its entirety including the name of your club, zone, region or district, whichever is appropriate.
- ___ 2. Send the Teller's Worksheet, Judge's Worksheets and contest winner postcard to the chairperson of the next level contest.

___ 3. Zone, Region, District and Area Chairs upon receipt of the above material send a photocopy of the form letter of congratulations to the contest winner.

___ 4. At least two weeks before the prior level contest send the original form letter of congratulations to your prior level chair. In the letter give the date, time, place and reservation requirements. Example: A club contest is scheduled for February 22. The Zone Chair sends the form letter to that Club Chair by February 9 to be given to the winner of that contest.

___ 5. The scores given by the judges for an INDIVIDUAL STUDENT may be given to that student or the student's speech coach. Do not identify the judges or disclose the scores of the other students.

___ 6. All winners of club contests shall receive a Student Speakers Handbook prior to the Zone contest.

THE HISTORY OF THE STUDENT SPEAKERS FOUNDATION

BY PAST INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR DWIGHT STANFORD

When District 4 was split up into five sub-districts in 1937, Fred Smith (later international president) became the first district governor of District 4-C. His district ran from Stockton down to the southern end of the San Joaquin Valley and included the coast area from Paso Robles through Oxnard. He realized that the clubs in his new district had nothing more in common than they did with the club in San Francisco or San Diego. He expressed his thought to the other officers in his district and asked for suggestions. One of his deputy district governors, Frank Colston, superintendant of schools in Oxnard, suggested a student speaker contest for high school students in the district. The idea was approved as something that would give all the clubs in the district something in common and hopefully, would bring them closer together as a unit. From that we are told, the contest was a great success.

The following year, James Hodges, district governor from Covina, proposed to the Council of Governors that Fred's speech contest become a project for all of District Four. The proposal was adopted and the contest has been one of our district's principal projects ever since. During the past sixty years, many groups and clubs have followed our lead by engaging in joint service activities. It is one of the stars in our MD-4 crown.

The Student Speakers Foundation was organized in 1960. Its father is Don Snyder, district governor of 4-A3, 1958-59. He asked PIP Fred Smith and then International Director Dwight Stanford to join him as the organizers and first directors of the Foundation. Don did all the work getting IRS and California taxing authorities approval. He is now a lifetime, honorary director of the Foundation, as is Dwight Stanford.

The Foundation's first cash came from the profits of the Lions Goods Store at the MD-4 convention. District Governor Al Mendel of Apple Valley, 1961-62, ran the store and suggested the gift. The first few years of the Foundation were a bit thorny. It was hard for the organization to collect money when it had very little prestige. Gradually the situation changed and the Foundation began to supplement the prizes which heretofore had been paid for entirely out of the MD-4 budget. Foundation funds come entirely from voluntary donations and income from the accumulated assets.

Past International President Fred Smith was the first president of the Foundation, followed by Past International Directors Dwight Stanford and Robert E. Anderson. Past District Governors Seeley J. Kondris, George "Jake" Jacobssen served between 1994 and 2002, Gordon Wellman served between 2002 and 2005. The current President is PDG Al Ohrmund.

For the 2011-2012 contest, the Foundation will provide all of the prizes above the region level, as it has done now for many years. Each of the 15 district winners will receive a \$4,500 scholarship. The four area winners will each receive an additional \$6,500 and the final MD-4 winner another \$10,000. For the latter, the total accumulated scholarships will be \$21,000 and the other three area winners will have \$11,000 each. Total scholarships awarded in the contest amount to \$103,500 all from the Foundation.

STATEMENTS FROM THE 2010-2011 STUDENT SPEAKER MD-4 FINAL CONTEST

Gabriel Gonzalez Final Winner, Area Two Winner

"I won the 2011 Lions Club Student Speaker Contest." No matter how many times I tell myself that, there is a part of me that still has a hard time believing that this great, big, wondrous event actually happened in my life. Adding to my disbelief is that, were it not for the urging of my teacher, Lauren Matusich, I would not have even thought to submit an entry to the contest. She is one among many who has my humble thanks for helping me along the way on this improbable journey.

When I was four years old, I took a car ride with my parents and grandparents. They said that I never stopped talking once during that two--hour car ride. That was perhaps the first sign that I would develop a lifelong fascination with words: reading them, writing them, editing them, memorizing them, and speaking them in public. In hindsight, it would appear that I have been preparing to compete in the student speaker contest my entire life.

The entire process was nothing short of a complete joy and honor. Even though it was a head--to--head bout between speakers, all the participants were exceedingly kind and incredibly supportive of one other. Moreover, I couldn't help but feel incredible accomplishment and gratitude as such respected representatives as Toastmasters, teachers, professors, and California state heads judged and commented on my work. The Student Speaker contest allowed me to act upon my passions, and to participate in the unparalleled excitement and rush of competition against the brightest young orators in the state of California.

Winning this contest has allowed me to go to a university that I probably would not have been able to attend otherwise. There is simply not space enough to accommodate the thanks I want to express. From parents, to teachers, to Lions Club associates, I have seldom before been in a place so inundated with shining faces and open arms. I can only hope that everyone who has had a hand in my success understand how fully I appreciate their efforts, and I truly hope to see the Lions Club Student Speaker Foundation continue their noble mission as they sound the clarion for young speakers everywhere."



Kevin Livingston - Area One Winner

"Two years ago, if someone had told me I would be speaking before an audience of about one hundred people competing for a scholarship for ten thousand dollars, I would have laughed at their poor attempt at a practical joke. Well, I guess they would have had the last laugh, because that is exactly what happened. I first learned of the Student Speaker Contest after joining my high school's Speech and Debate team. My coach, Travis Summers, told me he thought I would have a good chance at making some much needed money in scholarships for college. I had gained the reputation of being the most politically fueled member of the team, so when I learned the topic was about enforcing our nation's borders, I signed up.

As the research went on, I discovered the topic was not as black and white as I originally thought. The Lions had lived up to their goal of giving students like myself a challenge in expanding our minds and knowledge about issues that affect us now or in the future. I had a blast learning more information, and continually updated my speech as new facts and numbers were released related to the topic.

I owe my gratitude to all of the Lions Club for putting on this contest. I would not have gotten to the state level if it had not been for my home Lions, the Cameron Park/Shingle Springs Lions Club. As I went through the competition, I met more and more Lions and they continued to follow me up the ladder to support me and cheer me on (especially Lorene Euerle, Laurel Vermeltfoort, Ed Smith, and Mr. and Mrs. Don Ring). The kindness, generosity, and support I experienced from the competition will not be forgotten, and it was because of this contest that I am now able to attend The Ohio State University this fall. I hope that in some small way, I can repay the Lions Club for a college dream come true. To future competitors: Do not stress, do not worry. Everyone is there to support you, just have fun with it. You never know how far you will go."



Alexis Aguirre – Area Three Winner

My Journey in the Lions Student Speaker Contest

Participating in the Lions Student Speakers Contest has been an incredible journey! Through this experience, I have become a better informed citizen and a more persuasive public speaker. I already had a keen interest in the topic of border enforcement because of its importance, urgency, and relevance to me as an American. Involvement in this

contest provided the opportunity for me to delve deep into this year's given topic "Enforcing our Borders: State versus Federal Rights". As I researched this issue further, my interest grew into passion which I endeavored to transfer to my audience. Consequentially, I not only educated myself through my participation in this speech contest, but I was able to inform others about this pertinent issue that affects each of us as American citizens. This contest is wonderful because it offers a great occasion to do this while becoming a more capable public speaker. As I passed each level, I was able to refine my skills of delivery and persuasion. Frankly speaking, the most enjoyable aspect of my experience was the chance of delivering my speech multiple times.

As the significance of the topic and the opportunity to speak on it appealed to me, so did the fact that every other student was also to speak on this same subject. To me, it elevated the level of competition and made an interesting collage of approaches to issue of border enforcement rights. At the different levels, I was impressed by the air of friendliness, kindness, sincerity, and professionalism in my fellow student competitors. Even though we were in tough competition to advance to the next level, I felt there was amiability and cheerfulness between us as we chatted beforehand and spoke encouraging words throughout the contest's duration. This was one aspect of the journey that made it so enjoyable.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Santa Margarita Lions club for introducing me to this contest, and for their incessant, unfailing support and enthusiasm along each step of this forensic journey. As a homeschool student, I thank my teachers, Mom and Dad and my whole family for their encouragement all along the way. The generosity of California Lions Clubs as a whole and the Lions Student Speaker Foundation in awards and scholarships is outstanding and I heartily thank them for their commitment in making this remarkable event an annual possibility for high school students. Although this was my first and only year I was able to participate, I will never forget the skills I expanded, honors I received, friendships I made in students and Lions, and the blessings I have gained in this unique experience."



Pranay Yeturu – Area Four Winner

"It has been quite the journey, but after months of preparation, endless practice speeches, and the many opportunities to meet amazing lions, I found it to be well worth the effort. Joining the speech and debate of

my high school exposed me to the Lions Club Student Speaking Competition. This competition allowed me to combine my passion for public speaking with the opportunity to win scholarship money for college. Truly the Student Speaker's Foundation has done a marvelous job in emphasizing the importance of public speaking and encouraging students to broaden their horizons. The critical thinking and public speaking skills imparted by the Lions Club Contest are skills that will be crucial for the rest of my life regardless of the profession I enter. I have to thank the Upland Host Lions Club for their continual support and encouragement over the past two years. Special thanks to Mr and Mrs Casteel and Carol Linehan for all of their help, advice, and support throughout the process. Finally thanks to Mr. Ken Sherwood, I will proudly wear the purple blazer for years to come!."

PREVIOUS CONTEST WINNERS

1937-38 Benjamin Hoover, Modesto High School, Modesto, California. "AMERICANISM" sponsored by Modesto Lions Club.

1938-39 George Grover, Glendale High School, Glendale, California. "DEMOCRACY" sponsored by Glendale Lions Club.

1939-40 Joseph Hadzima, Chaffey Union High School, Ontario, California. "THE WILL TO BE FREE" sponsored by Ontario Lions Club.

1940-41 Mary Sowden, Anaheim High School, Anaheim, California "DEMOCRACY IN A CHANGING WORLD" sponsored by Ontario Lions Club.

1941-42 Franklin Brown, Tulare High School, Tulare, California. "OUR NATIONS SECURITY" sponsored by Tulare Lions Club.

1942-43 Emerson Arends, Fremont High School, Sunnyvale, California "AFTER THE WAR - WHAT" sponsored by Sunnyvale Lions Club

1943-44 John Irwin Trotter, Huntington Park High School, Huntington Park, California. "WINNING THE PEACE FOR AMERICAN MAN POWER" sponsored by Vernon Lions Club.

1944-45 Mac Ward, Notre Dame High School, San Francisco, California. "WHAT MY PARENTS MEAN TO ME" sponsored by Mission (SF) Lions Club.

1945-46 Mary J. Doudna, Boulder City, Nevada. "MY RESPONSIBILITY AS A YOUNG AMERICAN TO LASTING WORLD PEACE" sponsored by Boulder City Lions Club.

1946-47 Dave Ford, San Rafael High School, San Rafael, California. "CAN YOUTH, BY LOCAL LEADERSHIP, STRENGTHEN THE RESPONSIBILITY OF GOVERNMENT?" sponsored by San Rafael Lions Club.

1947-48 Ed Marshall, Las Vegas High School, Las Vegas, Nevada. "DO FRONTIERS OF OPPORTUNITY STILL EXIST FOR

AMERICAN YOUTH?" sponsored by Las Vegas Lions Club.

1948-49 Bo Jansen, Glendale High School, Glendale, California. "THE UNITED NATIONS - SAFEGUARD OF HUMAN LIBERTY" sponsored by Glendale Lions Club.

1949-50 Bill Van Alstyne, Dorsey High School, Los Angeles, California. "EDUCATION IN AMERICAN IDEALS - BASIS FOR INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING" sponsored by University Crenshaw District Lions Club.

1950-51 Gabe Solomon, Bakersfield High School, Bakersfield, California. "AMERICAN VOTERS' RESPONSIBILITIES" sponsored by Oildale Lions Club.

1951-52 William Bethel, San Jose High School, San Jose California. "LEARNING TO LIVE TOGETHER" sponsored by San Jose Lions Club.

1952-53 Harkjoon Paik, Monterey Union High School, Monterey, California. "MAN'S SEARCH FOR SECURITY" sponsored by Monterey Peninsula Lions Club.

1953-54 Arveal Felts, San Bernadino High School, San Bernadino, California. "WHAT THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES MEANS TO ME" sponsored by San Bernadino Uptown Lions Club.

1954-55 Barry N. Watson, Santa Ana High School, Santa Ana, California. "SAFETY THROUGH SANE LIVING" sponsored by Santa Ana Lions Club.

1955-56 Dan E. McCall, Modesto High School, Modesto, California. "YOUTH'S PROBLEMS OF TOMORROW" sponsored by Modesto Lions Club.

1956-57 Martin McNair, Polytechnic High School, Long Beach, California. "MY PLACE IN THE WORLD OF 1976" sponsored by Downtown Long Beach Lions Club.

1957-58 David Bartlett, Los Angeles High School, Los Angeles, California. "COMMUNITY SERVICE - A WAY OF LIFE" sponsored by City Terminal (Los Angeles) Lions Club.

1958-59 Heidi Pavelka, El Cerrito High School, El Cerrito, California. "COMPLACENCY - A DANGER TO AMERICA" sponsored by El Cerrito Lions Club.

1959-60 Joan Moran, Marin Catholic High School, San Rafael, California. "PEOPLE TO PEOPLE - KEY TO WORLD UNDERSTANDING" sponsored by San Rafael Lions Club.

1960-61 Lew Sargentich, Alhambra High School, Alhambra, California. "OUR NATIONAL HERITAGE - PATTERN FOR TODAY" sponsored by Alhambra Lions Club.

1961-62 Tim Eagen, Montgomery High School, Santa Rosa, California. "MY RESPONSIBILITY IN A CHANGING WORLD" sponsored by Montgomery Village Lions Club.

1962-63 Eric J. Van Young, John Marshall High School, Los Angeles, California. "CONFORMITY - A REAL CHALLENGE TO ME" sponsored by Griffith Park Lions Club.

1963-64 Suzanne Couture, Grace M. Davis High School, Modesto, California. "MORAL INTEGRITY - IMPERATIVE FOR SURVIVAL" sponsored by Modesto 500 Lions.

1964-65 Elizabeth Zepada, Alhambra High School, Alhambra, California. "MATURITY - ITS PRIVILEGES AND RESPONSIBILITIES." sponsored by Alhambra Lions Club.

1965-66 Warren R. Chambers, Sweetwater High School, National City, California. "LAW AND LIBERTY" sponsored by National City Lions Club.

1966-67 Cliff Howard Finlayson, Richmond Union High School, Richmond, California. "PEACE IS ATTAINABLE" sponsored by Richmond Breakfast Lions Club.

1967-68 Robert P. Manley, Mount Shasta High School, Mount Shasta, California. "FREE ENTERPRISE - THE CORNERSTONE OF OUR REPUBLIC" sponsored by Mount Shasta Lions Club.

1968-69 Mark McConville, Villanova Prep School, Ojai, California. "THE HOPES AND FEARS OF TODAY'S YOUTH" sponsored by Meiners Oaks Lions Club.

1969-70 Glen E. Aubrey, Grossmont High School, La Mesa, California. "GENERATION GAP - FACT OR FANTASY?" sponsored by Fletcher Hills Lions Club.

1970-71 Christine Baron, Grossmont High School, La Mesa, California. "SHOULD YOUTH BECOME INVOLVED?" sponsored by Fletcher Hills Lions Club.

1971-72 Robert M. Shatswell, Branham High School, San Jose, California. "EDUCATION TODAY - AS I SEE IT" sponsored by Cambrian Park Lions Club.

1972-73 Alexander Zubak, Del Valle High School, Walnut Creek, California. "ADULTHOOD AT 18 - ITS RESPONSIBILITIES" sponsored by Walnut Creek (Diablo Valley) Lions Club.

1973-74 Daniel J. McLoon, Valencia High School, Placentia, California. "ECOLOGY - ITS PRICE" sponsored by Brea Lions Club.

1974-75 Loren R. Hooker, Hughson High School, Waterford, California. "AMERICA'S FUTURE - WHERE NOW" sponsored by Waterford Lions Club.

1975-76 David Huscher, San Luis Obispo High School, San Luis Obispo, California. "CITIZEN RIGHTS VS. CRIMINAL RIGHTS" sponsored by San Luis Obispo Lions Club.

1976-77 Brian Austin Baker, Corona High School, Corona, California. "GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE - FACT OR FICTION?" Sponsored by Corona Lions Club.

1977-78 Louis Hawthorne, Ventura High School, Ventura, California. "TOMORROW'S ENERGY - TODAY'S DILEMMA" sponsored by Ventura Avenue Lions Club.

1978-79 Debra Dunn, Wheatland High School, Wheatland, California. "WHO AM I?" sponsored by Wheatland Lions.

1979-80 Susan Essex, Mr. Whitney High School, Visalia, California. "TAXPAYERS' REVOLT - WHERE WILL IT LEAD?" sponsored by Visalia Sequoia Lions Club.

1980-81 Bertine Groepe, Foreign Exchange Student from South Africa attending Acalaces High School, Lafayette, California. "MY WORLD - MY ANSWER" sponsored by Lafayette Lions Club.

1981-82 June E. Tierney, Hoover High School, Fresno, California. "FREEDOM AND ITS RESPONSIBILITIES" sponsored by Fresno Breakfast Lions Club.

1982-83 Timothy S. Galbraith, Birmingham High School, Woodland Hills, California. "NUCLEAR USE OR MISUSE" sponsored by Woodland Hills Lions Club.

1983-84 David R. Hall, Carson High School, Carson City, Nevada. "EDUCATION - WHOSE RESPONSIBILITY" sponsored by Carson City Host Lions Club.

1984-85 Robin Marie Kim, St. Mary's High School, Stockton, California. "TELEVISION - MASTER OR SERVANT" sponsored by Waterloo Italian Lions Club.

1985-86 Beverly Rodriguez, Cypress High School, Cypress, California. "SPACE EXPLORATION, WHAT PURPOSE?" sponsored by Buena Park Noon Lions Club.

1986-87 Evette J. Castillo, Pittsburg High School, Pittsburg, California. "DRUG ABUSE - WHAT IS THE SOLUTION?" sponsored by Pittsburg Lions Club.

1987-88 Jason Matthews. Covina High School, Covina, California. "THE OCEAN - BREAD BASKET OR WASTE BASKET?" sponsored by Covina Breakfast Lions Club.

1988-89 Carol Caronna, San Dieguito High School, Carlsbad, California. "TRANSPORTATION 2001 - HOW WILL WE GET THERE?" sponsored by Carlsbad Lions Club.

1989-90 Inie Park, Marlborough School, Los Angeles, California. "WHAT THE AMERICAN FLAG MEANS TO ME" sponsored by Los Angeles Evergreen Lions Club.

1990-91 Dawn Steeves, Alhambra High School, Martinez, California. "PEER PRESSURE - CAN YOU SAY NO?" sponsored by Martinez Lions Club.

1991-92 Gordon Thomas Wittman, Anderson High School, Anderson, California. "VOTING: A RIGHT OR A RESPONSIBILITY?" sponsored by Anderson Lions Club.

1992-93 Shantel Pleasants, Reed High School, Sparks, Nevada. "DOES TODAY'S EDUCATION MEET TOMORROW'S NEEDS?" sponsored by Sparks Greenbrae Lions Club.

1993-94 Keith A. Barry, Reed High School, Sparks, Nevada. "TODAY'S YOUTH - WHY THE VIOLENCE?" sponsored by Sparks Greenbrae Lions Club.

1994-95 Lorna Perez, St. Mary's High School, Stockton, California. "THE MEDIA - DO THEY GO TOO FAR?" sponsored by Stockton Fil-Am Lions Club.

1995-96 Kristina Williams, Fairfield High School, Fairfield, California. "AFFIRMATIVE ACTION - PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE" sponsored by Suisun Valley Lions Club.

1996-97 Heather Jordan, Newport Beach High School, Newport Beach, California. "TODAY'S LEGAL SYSTEM - IS IT JUSTICE?" sponsored by Harbor Mesa Lions Club.

1997-98 Heather Torvend, Beyer High School, Modesto, California. "CYBERSPACE - RIGHTS VS. CONTROL" sponsored by Modesto Breakfast Lions Club.

1998-99 Lourdes Libre, Mercy High School, San Francisco, California. "CLONING - HOW FAR SHOULD SCIENCE GO?" sponsored by San Francisco Nikkei Lions Club.

1999-00 Jonna Lee Henderson, Arbuckle, California. "COMMUNITY SERVICE - WHOSE RESPONSIBILITY IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM?" sponsored by Arbuckle Lions Club.

2000-01 Michael Sheehan, St. Augustine High School, San Diego, California. "POLITICS - ISSUES OR MONEY?" sponsored by Hillcrest Mission Valley Lions Club.

2001-02 Victoria Wang, San Marino High School, San Marino, California. "ENERGY - WHAT'S THE FUTURE?" sponsored by the San Marino Lions Club.

2002-2003 Alan Haimowitz, Analy High School, Sebastopol, California. "TERRORISM AND WORLD SECURITY" sponsored by the Rohnert Park El Rancho Lions Club.

2003-2004 Ryan Villanueva, Mission Viejo High School, Mission Viejo, California. "DEMOCRACY - IS IT FOR EVERYONE?" sponsored by Mission Viejo Lions Club.

2004-2005 Losmeiya Huang, Gabriellino High School, San Gabriel, California. "IS ATTITUDE THE KEY TO SUCCESS?" sponsored by LA Downtown Lions Club.

2005-2006 Thomas Murphy, Bishop Amat High School, Covina, California. "THE INTERNET - HERO OR VILLAIN" sponsored by West Covina Lions Club.

2006-2007 Harveen Gill, Yuba City, California. "GLOBAL WARMING - FACT OR FICTION" sponsored by Yuba City Peach Bowl Lions Club.

2007-2008 Hannah Drain, Hayfork High School, Hayfork, California. "IMMIGRATION-MY SOLUTION" sponsored by the Hayfork Lions Club.

2008-2009 Eric Brewster, Long Beach Polytechnic High School, Long Beach, California. "WATER-WILL CALIFORNIA BE LEFT HIGH AND DRY?" sponsored by the Downtown Long Beach Lions Club.

2009-2010 Miles Witthaus, Area Two, Campbell, California. "UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE - HOW WILL IT AFFECT US?" sponsored by the San Jose West/Campbell Lions Club.

2010-2011 Gabriel Gonzalvez Area Two Cupertino, CA ENFORCING OUR BORDERS; STATE VS. FEDERAL RIGHTS sponsored by the West San Jose Campbell Lions Club

**LIONS 4TH DISTRICT
STUDENT SPEAKERS FOUNDATION, INC.
OFFICERS**

Al Ohrmund, President
Virgil Tolentino, Vice President
Ken Serwood, Secretary
William "Bill" Redding, Treasurer

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AN INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LIONS 4TH DISTRICT STUDENT SPEAKERS FOUNDATION, INC.

The Lions Fourth District Student Speakers Foundation Inc., is a California non-profit corporation governed by a board of directors and fifteen trustees. Its purpose is to provide the scholarships given to winners of the California Student Speakers Contest.

The Foundation will provide \$103,500.00 total awards for the 2011-2012 contest. Assets of the Foundation are invested in a diversified portfolio to provide the highest rate of guaranteed return obtainable with maximum security for the principal. Under this investment policy and with continually increasing assets the Foundation will be able to raise substantially its annual contribution to the awards in future years.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

1. By personal and club donations.
2. By memorial gifts to honor departed Lions and friends.
3. By gifts of property, stocks or bonds.
4. By including the Foundation in your will, and thereby becoming a member of the Student Speakers Bequest Club.
5. By becoming involved in the Supporter Patch Program, with a minimum \$100.00 yearly donation, a "Supporter" will receive a patch or year chevron.

The Foundation also has established four fellowships, named to honor distinguished Lions who have been instrumental in the formation and operation of the Foundation.

Fred W. Smith Fellow - will be conferred upon any individual contributing \$500.00 to the Foundation in a single donation.

Donald E. Snyder Fellow - will be conferred upon any individual contributing \$400.00 to the Foundation in a single donation.

Dwight E. Stanford Fellow - will be conferred upon any individual making a single donation of \$300.00.

Harry J. Aslan Fellow - will be conferred upon any individual making a single donation of \$200.00.

Donations to the Foundation are deductible under both state and federal taxing regulations and should be made payable to the "4th District Student Speakers Foundation, Inc." Please mail all donations to the Foundation Presidents Address.

AL OHRMUND, President
Lions 4th District Student Speakers Foundation, Inc.
331 Spur Trail Avenue, Walnut, CA 91789
Ph#: (909) 598-0554 E: ohrmu@aol.com

WHO ARE THE LIONS?

Lions are men and women who volunteer their time to humanitarian causes in their local and world communities. By conducting service projects and raising funds, Lions strive to help those in need, wherever the need exists. The Lion's motto is "We Serve".

The International Association of Lions Clubs was founded in Chicago, Illinois in 1917. It is the world's largest service club organization with 1.35 million members in over 206 countries.

WHAT DO LIONS DO?

- The Lions of California, known as MD-4 (Multiple District Four), do many wonderful projects including:
- Provide services to the blind and visually impaired in their local communities and through Lions foundations.
- Support youth programs such as Lions Quest, a substance abuse prevention program; youth exchange programs where students travel to foreign countries; and high school Leo clubs who participate in service activities, literacy and culture projects.
- Sponsor a student speakers contest which provides \$103,500 in scholarships to high school students for higher education.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in a Lions club is by invitation. In addition to community service, members have opportunities to develop personal friendships and gain leadership skills.

For more information please contact:

Multiple District Four Headquarters

129 Los Aguajes Avenue

Santa Barbara, CA 93101

1-800-546-6634

admin@md4office.org

MD4lions.org

or contact your local Lions Club.

