

ORATORICAL CONTEST

Please follow instructions from your district administrator on submitting an entry for your district oratory contest.

OFFICIAL RULES

- A. The subject for all orations will be determined ahead of time and distributed to clubs via email and news stories on keyclub.org.
- B. Each orator must be a member of a Key Club in good standing with Key Club International.
- C. Each orator will be allowed a maximum of five (5) minutes for their presentation. Exceeding the time limit by 10 seconds or more will result in a penalty unless extenuating circumstances exist.
- D. The content and presentation of the oration must be original and completely developed by each orator. Content and presentation will be considered equally in judging.
- E. Orators must attend the international convention and submit the entry form signed by an advisor or administrator to participate in the international oratory contest. Orators from non-districted areas should email Key Club International, keyclubinfo@kiwanis.org.
- F. At the Key Club International convention, elimination trials will be held among contestants. Judges may select no more than three orators to appear live before the entire convention.
- G. Oratory finalists will receive suitable awards and recognition for their excellence in public speaking.
- H. Winning orations in written and electronic form (video) will become the property of Key Club International. Key Club International reserves the right to publish winning orations in any medium, providing appropriate credit to the orator.
- I. The decision of the judges is final, and no changes, alterations or regrading

will take place after the results have been certified by the judges of this contest.

- J. To be eligible for the international audition, the entry form below must be received on the first day of registration during the Key Club International Convention. Judging and awarding points will be based on the following criteria:

Content: 50 points total	
Clarity of message and projection of ideas	15 points
Structure, grammar, transitions and flow	15 points
Depth	5 points
Originality	15 points
Presentation: 50 points total	
Presence, posture, gestures and ability to engage the audience	15 points
Voice, tone, diction, effectiveness and pronunciation	15 points
Ease of presentation and intimacy with the audience	15 points
Attention to the audience	5 points

2026 Oratory Topic:

Servant leadership: Leading by lifting others

Leadership has the greatest impact when leaders serve and empower other people. As Key Club moves into a new century of service and leadership, we invite you to reflect upon your personal journey. How has your understanding of leadership shifted through the act of empowering others? In what ways has lifting others challenged, changed, or deepened your own sense of leadership?

ORATORICAL CONTEST ENTRY FORM

Name of Contestant:

Contestant's Preferred Pronouns:

Contestant Email Address:

Name of Contestant's Key Club:

Key Club ID, found on engage.kiwanis.org:

Address of the Contestant's Key Club:

Name of Key Club Advisor:

Email addresses for Key Club Advisor:

Signature of Faculty Advisor, Kiwanis Advisor, or district administrator.

This certifies that this entry is original and was created in accordance with copyright laws.