

Heritage Music Foundation, Inc.

Scholarship/Essay Contest

March 15, 2021 @ 5PM (PST)

College scholarships will be awarded during a virtual presentation

*(Actual scholarship amounts vary depending on contributions;
however, past recipients have received \$1,000, \$750, \$500 and \$250.)*

Purpose: The objective of this contest is to encourage and inspire young people to use the art of public speaking. It will give them the opportunity to compete for a **college scholarship** and express their views on the topics below.

Choose one of the following topics:

This May be the Last Time, I Don't Know: Using the Voice of Gospel Music to Speak Against Social Injustices

We know that Negro Spirituals and Freedom Songs were used during the Civil Rights Movement of the 50s and 60s to convey the social atrocities and blatant racism facing America at that time. If you were to use the voice of Gospel Music to address current issues, what Gospel songs would you choose and why? Your discussion should make connections to today's Gospel music and the issues you feel are facing society today.

Make America Great Again

This 2016 campaign phrase took on different meaning as it became the emblematic slogan sometimes associated with racism, sexism, and other negative stances. If you were to use the voice of our fathers, our faith and our freedom, to address current issues, what Gospel songs would you choose? Your discussion should make connections with Gospel songs through the ages to now and show how they describe make America Gospel again.

How to enter: The deadline is February 28, 2021 to email your application, a 3 x 4 photo (1080 x 920), and a video of your speech to the coordinator at hmforgospel@aol.com. We will post your videos on our website and you must get 20 views by March 14th. Your video will be judged prior to the event, and on March 15th the awards will be announced. An orientation meeting will be held February 15 to answer questions you may have.

February 22-Orientation Meeting

February 28-Contest Deadline

March 15-Virtual contest and award night

Eligibility: High school seniors and college freshmen between the ages of 16-19 years.

Criteria: The speech should be at least 4 minutes, but not over 5 minutes in length. In addition to the length of the speech, participants will be judged on the following criteria:

- Poise (appearance, personality)
- Content of Speech (subject adherence, theme, logic, content, color)
- Delivery & Presentation (voice, volume, pronunciations, gestures, eye contact, sincerity, emphasis)
- Overall effectiveness (appeal, impression, attitude, effect)
- **Points are deducted for going over the specified time.**

Email applications and videos to: hmforgospel@aol.com with ATTN: ORATORICAL CONTEST in the subject line. Please provide the contest coordinator with an electronic copy of your prepared speech on or before the contest night. It can be emailed to the hmforgospel@aol.com.

The event will air live on March 15, 2021 when scholarships are awarded. If you have any questions, please call April Parker at (323) 293-8189 or email at hmforgospel@aol.com.

*The mission of the Heritage Music Foundation is to preserve and nurture Gospel music
as a viable fine art form for all people, through the building of a Gospel House.
It will stand as a facility of education, information an a repository for Gospel research, technology and history.*

Heritage Music Foundation, Inc. Oratorical Contest Application

To be completed by the student *(Please print clearly.)*

Name _____ Birth Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone () _____ Email _____

Parent's Name _____

School/Church Information

School Name _____

School Address _____

School City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Church Name _____

Church Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Church Phone () _____

Future plans (i.e. colleges you've applied to, career goals)

I will abide by all the rules of the Heritage Music Foundation, Inc. Contest Committee and follow the instructions of the contest. I hereby attest that my prepared oration and assigned topic presentations are my original work and I have cited my sources for my research.

I hereby authorize HMF to use my printed speech for historical documentation in the archives of the foundation as they deem so. I will provide an electronic copy to the contest coordinator on the day of the event.

Electronic Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

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