

**CONTESTANT ENTRY FORM  
FOR THE**

**JOSEPH S. RUMBAUGH HISTORICAL ORATION CONTEST**

*THE FOLLOWING REQUIRES THE SIGNATURES OF BOTH THE CONTESTANT AND COACH.  
PLEASE READ CAREFULLY.*

In entering this contest we understand the oration must be an original composition, of not less than five minutes, or more than six minutes. We are aware that this oration, in the chapter, state and national contest, must be given from memory and without the use of notes or any kind of props. We understand that in composing this oration the subject shall deal with an event, a personality, or a document, pertaining to the Revolutionary War, showing the relationship it bears to America today. It is understood that we can create the title of the oration.

We agree that the interpretation of rules and decisions of the NSSAR and its judges shall govern without reservation. Judges' notes and collective contestant ranking are the property of the SAR and will not be provided to the contestants, but will be destroyed immediately after the contest.

---

(date)

---

(Contestant's Signature)

---

(Signature of Contestant's Coach)

**NOTE:**

If this contestant becomes the State entrant for national competition, the state chairman is responsible for forwarding this entry form with the other documents to the national chairman.

**Form B** (page 1 of 2)  
(State or National)

## ***BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH***

Please complete the following biographical sketch. If necessary you may attach an additional sheet for extended comments. This biographical sketch and entry blank should be accompanied by a (1) recent photo with your name on the back and (2) a copy of your oration.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last) (First) (Middle)

YOUR NICKNAME OR THE NAME YOU GO BY \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City) (State) (ZIP)

DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NUMBER (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS 9 10 11 12 (Circle Grade)

SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

FATHER'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_ OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_

MOTHER'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_ OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_

MOTHERS PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ FATHERS PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

SIBLING'S NAMES AND AGES \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

YOUR FUTURE PLANS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

The State Chairman will notify you of the dates of the local and state contests

## Official Rules of The Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest

The contest will be held in preliminary round(s) by state societies and/or chapters of the Sons of the American Revolution to select one winner from each participating state. In districts where no state society sponsors an entrant, a district entry is permitted. Each participating state society or district should provide information regarding the contest to senior high school, parochial, private and homeschooled speech and/or history teachers and principals or counselors as early as possible.

1. The contest is open to all students of the Grades **freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior classes (Grades 9 - 12)** in public, parochial, private, and home schools within the jurisdiction of the sponsoring state society or district.
2. The oration must be original of not less than five minutes or more than six minutes. The subject shall deal with an event, personality, or document pertaining to the Revolutionary War and show a relationship to America today. The oration must be essentially the same as the submitted manuscript. Notes and props (including military uniforms) may not be used in the presentation.
3. The state society or district establishes the date and deadlines for its contest allowing adequate time to submit its winner as an entrant in the national competition (**Four weeks before the start of NSSAR Congress**). Form A & B must be received by the National Chairman by the deadline.
4. Before the chapter winner competes in the state contest, a copy of the oration, a photograph and biographical sketch of the entrant, and the completed Form B should be mailed to the state chairman following the chapter contest. Form A (State) will be sent by the Chapter Chairman to the State Chairman.
5. At Congress the NSSAR will furnish awards and give recognition to all orators who participate in the national preliminary and final contests.
6. Expenses involving lodging, meals, and transportation to, at, and from the NSSAR Congress may be borne by the sponsoring state society or district. Chaperon for the entrant may be provided by the state society or district.
7. During the presentation of orations at chapter, state-district, or national contest, no applause is permitted until all orators have finished speaking.
8. During the contest, no private videotaping or flash picture taking will be allowed.
9. By action of the 1985 Congress, all judges in the Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest must be members of the SAR. The judges will select the winners by the following criteria: A. Composition; B. Delivery; C. Significance; D. History. Time allocated for delivery is between 5 and 6 minutes. (A penalty is applied for going outside the time allocations.)
10. The contestants must agree that the interpretation of rules and the decisions of the NSSAR and its judges shall govern without reservation. The judging sheets and notes are the property of the SAR.
11. The first place winner at the national level of the Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest may not compete in its future competitions.
12. The first place National winner is expected to attend the youth awards luncheon the day after the final competition.

## Statement of Commitment:

This form is used to secure the commitment that the chapter-winning contestant will move forward and compete in the Texas Regional, State Contest, and the National SAR contest. We had an occasion where a chapter contestant had changed their mind after winning due to more attractive events. This is unfair to the follow-up second place contestant.

"We welcome you, your family, and your teacher to be part of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) Rumbaugh Oration Contest. Through this competition, the SAR has provided a program by which students can enter an Oratorical Contest for the benefit of obtaining scholarship awards. The event begins at the Chapter (local) level and will evolve through a Regional Contest, a State Contest, and a final contest at the National Level.

In order to conduct a contest of this type, it is necessary for the participant to commit to and be able to follow through with the chapter, the regional, the state, and eventually participation at the National level. We ask that you recognize a posture of fairness in accepting the responsibility of this commitment. We ask that you consider the rights of the other contestants who are entering the contest with the anticipation of being able to win. A last minute withdrawal is not fair to the other contestants, the local chapter, or to the Texas SAR. Should the winning contestant withdraw for any reason from the competition, any awards or prizes received are required to be returned."

---

I, (your signature) , acknowledge this commitment.

Date

---

Parent or Guardian signature

Date

**Mark Harrison**  
Chairman, Oration Contest  
[mharrison.sar@gmail.com](mailto:mharrison.sar@gmail.com)  
214-733-7078

**National Society- sar.org**  
**Texas Society – Texassar.org**

**TEXAS SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION ORATION CONTEST**