

JACL Pacific Southwest District
2008 Dr. Roy Nishikawa Oratorical Competition

Sunday, April 20, 2008
JACCC, Little Tokyo

Purpose: To develop, encourage and reinforce verbal skills among the younger members of the JACL. Orators are competing to represent the Pacific Southwest District at the 2008 Minoru Yasui Oratorical Competition in Salt Lake City Utah in July 2008 at the JACL National Convention.

Topic: "The current generation of Japanese American youth faces issues of growing ethnic and generational diversity within the community. As a youth member of the Japanese American Citizens League, how will you approach this challenge of increasing diversity to meet the needs of the changing community? "

Eligibility:

- All competitors must be members of the JACL at the time of the District Council and National competitions. (Membership must be in the participants name either as a student or individual – a parental or family membership does not qualify)
- Open to high school students, age 16 or older, or full time undergraduate college students
- Competitors must compete in-person at the district council where they hold their JACL membership

Rules:

- Speeches are limited to 3-5 minutes in length. All speeches must be composed by the contestants. Speeches should be committed to memory. An outline on index cards is permitted. The same speech may be used for both District and National competitions. Visual aids are not allowed.
- No more than 150 words may be a direct quotation from any speech or writing. Extensive paraphrasing of another source is prohibited.

Judging:

A panel of individuals will rate the participant. The speaking order should be decided 30 minutes before the competition.

- **Delivery and Presentation:** How well does the participant speak? Does the presentation flow evenly or are there unnatural pauses? Is the speech well memorized? Does the student make use of vocal qualities for presentation purposes such as changes in volume, tone and dramatic pauses.
- **Answering the Question:** Does the participant's speech answer the question asked or does the student's analysis go off on a topic unrelated to the question? Are all the possible areas of discussion dealt with or does the participant omit some of the obvious areas related to the question?
- **Analysis and Logic:** Does the participant use sound logic and analysis in presenting the reasoning behind the answer to the question? Is the speech organized in a coherent manner with the issues logically arranged?

Awards:

The first place winner of the Pacific Southwest District, Dr. Roy Nishikawa Oratorical Competition will compete in the 2008 Minoru Yasui Oratorical Competition at the 2008 JACL Convention in Salt Lake City, UT on July 16-19, 2008. The winner will receive roundtrip airfare to Salt Lake City, two nights lodging at the convention and attendance at the Sayonara Banquet. For more information please visit: <http://www.jacl.org/youth/convention-youth.htm>

If you are interested in participating or for more information, please call the Pacific Southwest District Office at (213)626-4471 or visit our web site at www.jaclpsw.org