



# The Friends of Sagamore Hill

*A Chapter of the Theodore Roosevelt Association*

**23<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL THEODORE ROOSEVELT® PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST**

## **2018 Nassau County Theodore Roosevelt® Public Speaking Contest**

### *Contact Information:*

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### **RULES & GUIDELINES – Please print and distribute to your students.**

The Friends of Sagamore Hill Chapter of the Theodore Roosevelt Association and Sagamore Hill National Historic Site are pleased to announce the 2018 Nassau County Theodore Roosevelt® Public Speaking Contest to be held in Oyster Bay, NY. The competition is open to all Nassau County public high school students. Students will be challenged to develop, organize and communicate ideas relating to the life and career of President Theodore Roosevelt using critical thinking, independent research and proper speech.

### **PURPOSE**

The Theodore Roosevelt® Public Speaking Contest is designed to encourage students to develop public speaking skills, such as organization and communicating ideas; developing critical thinking; performing independent research; and gaining an understanding of the interrelationship of various disciplines. Public speaking skills enable students to enhance their academic potential and scholarship, and build confidence, self-reliance, social awareness and leadership ability, all of which will help them to achieve success in further education, business and professional pursuits.

### **RECOGNITION**

The contest offers the following incentives:

- Development of oral communications, research and interdisciplinary skills necessary for civic leadership, social awareness and success in business and professional endeavors;
- A better understanding of issues and events in local and national history;
- Cash prizes as follows: First Prize: \$5,000 College Level Scholarship (\$2,000 Check to winner followed by scholarship of \$1,000 each year for the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> year of full time matriculation in a degree program at an accredited college or university upon TRA's receipt of proof of student's school registration; Second prize: \$1,000; Third Prize: \$500;
- Sculptured bust of Theodore Roosevelt by Gleb Derujinski to the First Prize Winner and to the school of the First Prize Winner;
- Theodore Roosevelt® Public Speaking Contest commemorative medals for all finalists;
- Certificate of Achievement for all participants;
- Please make note that the Theodore Roosevelt Association may video tape the "Finals".

## DATE AND TIME OF CONTEST

### SEMI-FINALS (Selection of Finalists):

Christ Church  
61 East Main Street, Oyster Bay, NY 11771

#### **SESSION I: May 23<sup>rd</sup>, Wednesday**

9:30 am morning & 1:00 pm afternoon sessions

#### **SESSION II: May 24<sup>th</sup>, Thursday**

9:30 am morning & 1:00 pm afternoon sessions  
(afternoon session TBD on Thursday)

*Schools will be assigned a session.  
Requests will be honored as far as possible.*

### FINALS (Selection of Prize Winners):

Christ Church  
61 East Main Street, Oyster Bay, NY 11771

**May 31<sup>st</sup>, Thursday -- 10:00 am**

## SELECTION AND PREPARATION OF CONTESTANTS

Each participating school may select up to **THREE (3) students/contestants** by whatever method it considers most appropriate.

Students in the Nassau County Contest who are selected to compete in the FINALS will receive a brief coaching/feedback session with the judges after each Semi Final competition.

A **Study Guide for Students** containing brief biographies and chronologies of the life of Theodore Roosevelt and bibliographies of works about Theodore Roosevelt is available on-line to all on our website, [www.theodoreroosevelt.org](http://www.theodoreroosevelt.org), under *WHAT WE DO*, select *Public Speaking Competitions* and look for the LINK for *Resources and Materials*.

## ENTERING THE CONTEST

This contest is open to all Nassau County high school (grades 9 to 12) students. Starting on **MONDAY, MARCH 26<sup>th</sup>** **REGISTRATION forms** can be found at [www.theodoreroosevelt.org](http://www.theodoreroosevelt.org), under *WHAT WE DO*, select *Public Speaking Competitions, Nassau County*. **Up to three (3) students from any one school may participate.** Students wishing to compete, must complete a **STUDENT REGISTRATION form on-line no later than Friday, APRIL 27<sup>th</sup>**.

### **PLEASE NOTE:**

- The registration process will be **strictly on-line** and will be open to the first 40 students to register.
- This document of competition details, prize structure and topic suggestions concerning the Theodore Roosevelt Public Speaking Competition will be made available on our website, [www.theodoreroosevelt.org](http://www.theodoreroosevelt.org) under *What We Do, Public Speaking Competitions, Contest Guidelines, Nassau County Students*.
- **Teachers who would like to be on our email list for all current and future competitions announcements, please send your contact information to Marie Kutch at the TRA: [mkutch@theodoreroosevelt.org](mailto:mkutch@theodoreroosevelt.org).**

## RULES AND GUIDELINES

- Speeches must be original. However, consultation with teachers, coaches or Theodore Roosevelt Association members is encouraged.
- The content of the speech is restricted to topics on the life, politics, beliefs, and/or career of Theodore Roosevelt.
- Speeches must be memorized; however, students may glance at a single small note card during their presentations. **Speeches may not be read in the entirety from a manuscript or notes.**

- Speeches must be approximately **five minutes** in duration. A 30-second grace period will be allowed, but **speeches shorter than 4 ½ minutes or longer than 5 ½ minutes may be disqualified.**
- Costumes and props of any kind are **NOT** permitted.
- Speakers are not permitted to leave the stage during their presentations.
- Previous First Prize Winners are not eligible to reenter.
- The decisions of the judges are final.
- The following topics are provided for consideration. These suggestions, however, are not intended to be limiting in any respect. **The speech may be historical in nature or may relate Theodore Roosevelt to contemporary issues.**

### **THEODORE ROOSEVELT**

AND	AS
Conservation	Champion of the Strenuous Life
Trust-Busting	Badlands Rancher
Consumer Protection	New York City Police Commissioner
The Nobel Peace Prize	Governor of New York State
Issues of Race	President of the United States
The Navy	Explorer
Immigration	Family Man
The Bull Moose Party	Author
Domestic Policy	Politician
Foreign Policy	Rough Rider
The Arts	Civil Service Commissioner
The Sciences	Assistant Secretary of the Navy
The Medal of Honor	New York State Assemblyman
Citizenship	Naturalist

### **JUDGING**

The finalists and winner will be selected by a panel of judges selected by the Theodore Roosevelt Association. Criteria for judging the speeches include: quality of the speech presentation, student delivery qualities, and the level of the student's preparation. Accuracy of facts, demonstrated mastery of topic, effective communication of ideas, proper use of voice and articulation, and originality all are important. A copy of the judging worksheet is included in this announcement. The decisions of the judges are final. See sample of our Judges' Worksheet Form.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Theodore Roosevelt Association is a national non-profit historical society and public service organization dedicated to perpetuating the memory and ideals of Theodore Roosevelt, who was the 26<sup>th</sup> President of the United States from 1901 to 1909. Founded in 1919 and chartered by Congress in 1920, the TRA has members in all 50 states and membership is open to all.

More information about the Theodore Roosevelt Association is available at [www.theodoreroosevelt.org](http://www.theodoreroosevelt.org). The Theodore Roosevelt® Public Speaking Competition is a public service initiative offered by several TRA chapters, including New York City, Friends of Sagamore Hill, New England (Boston, MA), Capital Area (VA, MD, DC) and Atlanta, GA.

***ON-LINE Student REGISTRATION OPENS: Monday, March 26<sup>th</sup>***

***ON-LINE Student REGISTRATION CLOSSES: Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup>***

***ONLY 3 STUDENTS PER SCHOOL MAY REGISTER***

# Sample Theodore Roosevelt Public Speaking Contest Judging Worksheet

Contestant: \_\_\_\_\_

Length of Presentation: \_\_\_\_\_

## CRITERIA

## NOTES

### **Speech Presentation:**

Captures Attention of Audience

Organizes Ideas (Present a specific point of view)

Introduces and uses research effectively

Interprets and understands subject

Uses resources and references

### **Student Delivery Qualities:**

Shows poise and confidence

Speaks fluently and with clarity

Uses satisfactory pronunciation

Has control of filters (“ums” “you knows” like”)

Effectively uses voice quality and volume

Delivery is smooth and natural

Develops rapport with audience

Uses body movements appropriately (gestures,  
eye contact, facial expressions, posture)

### **Contestant's Preparation**

Well-organized information

Accuracy of material

Informative

Original

Creative

Memorization

Observed Time Limit	Yes	No
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Time Used: _____
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Judge's Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Comments:**