

DISTRICT 2-X3
“Opportunities for Youth”
DRUG AWARENESS SPEECH
Contest Rules 2009-2010

“ILLEGAL AND ILLICIT DRUGS – LEGALIZED – REALLY?”

If you have been following the headlines lately, the idea has been presented that legalization of illegal and illicit drugs could be a possible solution to federal and state budget issues. Fees, income taxes and sales/use taxes would be additional income streams and the reduction of associated law enforcement costs would be a reduction of expenditures. Also, in the past, the argument has been used that legalization would allow for better regulation of the substances, thereby making them “safer” for users.

The presentation should analyze the problem and present a solution. Research for this topic can be conducted by interviewing school officials, teachers, judges, law enforcement personnel, probation personnel, counselors, juvenile court officials, legislators, medical personnel and by using Internet and library resources. The topic is broad and allows the contestant considerable latitude in addressing the matter. Sources of data and quotes should be identified by title and date of publication. Innovative, practical and reasonable ideas are welcomed.

Each contestant must be a full time student in a Texas high school or comparable education program, must be a Junior or Senior class member at the time of the District 2-X3 Lions Mid-Winter Conference on **January 23, 2010**, and be sponsored by a Lions, Lioness or Leo Club in District 2-X3. The First Place Winner of the contest will then advance to the State-level competition being held at the MD-2 Lions State Convention on **May 13-15, 2010**, in **El Paso, Texas**.

The speech will be from five (5) to seven (7) minutes in length. Notes, cue cards and video equipment may not be used at District or State competitions. Contestants will be required to use either the stationary or hand-held microphone for presentation. A monitor will signal contestants at five (5) minute and at six and one-half (6-1/2) minutes. At seven (7) minutes, the monitor will signal and five (5) points will be deducted from contestant’s score. A speech of less than five (5) minutes or greater than seven and one-half (7-1/2) minutes will be disqualified. Should a disturbance occur during the speech, the monitor will adjust the time as needed.

The area must have good acoustics, be free from outside noises and disturbances and have controlled access. *No one will be allowed to enter the area after a presentation has begun, and no one will be allowed to leave until after the judges have finished scoring the contestant.*

Contestants will be allowed to visit the presentation area, test the microphone and ask questions about contest facilities and procedures.

Contestants will draw for positions and remain outside the contest area until invited to enter by the Contest Coordinator.

Contestants will not give any self-introduction but give the title of their speech and then proceed with the presentation. The audience should be informed before the first contestant to not talk during the speech, to turn off cell phones and pages and to not applaud at the end of the speech.

Contestants will then take their seats in the assigned area and remain to hear following speeches.

When all speeches have been presented, contestants, in the order of their presentation, will stand one at a time and state their names, hometowns, ages, schools, grade levels and sponsoring Lions Clubs. At the end of this process, the audience may then collectively applaud all contestants. Persons involved in the conduct of the contest, parents, chaperones and guests of the contestants will then be introduced.

The winners will be announced during the District 2-X3 Lions Youth Awards Luncheon at noon. The winner will present his speech at that time. The winner will receive **\$300.00** and the runner-up will receive **\$150.00**

All contestants must agree to be available, on request, to participate in District 2-X3 Lions events and activities during the period from immediately after the contest until the end of the following year's contest.

The entry fee of \$100.00 (which is paid by the Lions Club that sponsors the contestant) must be submitted with the Contest Application, two photographs (head and shoulders close-up), biographical information and three (3) copies of the essay. The sponsoring club must make sure all documents are completed and have all the required signatures before sending the application to the District Chairman no later than the **December 18, 2009** deadline.

All contestants should be accompanied by a chaperone from the sponsoring Lions Club to the Mid-Winter Conference. Each club must register and pay in advance for each Contestant and Chaperone to attend the Youth Awards Luncheon.

Direct all questions and send applications with required information and entry fee to:

DRUG AWARENESS SPEECH

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Note: District Competitions will be held on January 23, 2010, during the Mid-Winter Conference in Crockett, Texas.