



***Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Richland County Alumnae Chapter***

*Post Office Box 777
Columbia, South Carolina 29202
www.richlandcountydeltas.org*

October 31, 2017

Dear Teachers:

The Richland County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. assumes the responsibility to effect positive change in the communities in which we live. We are pleased to announce our **5th Oratorical Contest**. Our Oratorical Contest provides a platform for **middle school students** that will enhance their public speaking skills, and promote self-confidence, educational enrichment, and facilitate character building.

Applicants are asked to be prepared to speak on the theme listed in the information packet. ***Applications along with a copy of the student's essay must be received by Friday, January 26, 2018.***

Monetary Prizes will be awarded:

1st place \$125 2nd place \$100 3rd place \$75

Please **post the enclosed flyer in a highly visible location and** encourage students to participate in our Oratorical Contest which will be held **on Saturday, February 24, 2018** at W.J. Keenan High School Auditorium, **361 Pisgah Church Rd, Columbia, SC**. The contest will be held from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.

We are looking forward to providing the **middle school students** in Richland I, II, Lexington I, II, V, Fairfield and Newberry counties the opportunity to express themselves through the art of public speaking. If you have questions, please feel free to contact the Arts and Letters Committee Co-Chairs: Cheryl Nunnley at (803) 465-0606 or Pam Thomas at (843) 687-0765.

Thank you,

Sharon A. Parker

Sharon A. Parker, President
Richland County Alumnae



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5th Oratorical Contest - Information Packet

Theme: "Mission Possible"

***Your mission is to Heal the World: Make it a Better Place.
If you choose to accept this mission, you must do the following:***

Prepare and present an oration that answers the following question: Which guiding force would you use to Heal the World: 1) Your Brain, 2) Your Heart or 3) Your courage? Be creative and explain what you would do or how you would go about healing the world.

Eligibility:

Contestants should be middle school students.

How to Enter:

Application along with a copy of the essay must be received by Friday, January 26, 2018.

The participant application form is attached. Please make additional copies for interested students. The participant application is also available on the following website:

<http://www.richlandcountydeltas.org>



The application form along with a copy of the essay can be emailed or mailed to:

artsandlettersrca@gmail.com

Or

Richland County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Attn: Arts & Letters Committee (Oratorical Contest)
P. O. Box 777
Columbia, South Carolina 29202



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5th Oratorical Contest - Information Packet

❖ **Length of Oration:**

Each contestant shall deliver a prepared oration, which must be an original effort. The oration must be at least four minutes but not over five minutes. **All entries must be of good taste, free from profane language and must reflect a positive image.**

❖ **Presentation of Oration:**

Each contestant shall deliver his/her oration from memory. Note cards can be used to nudge the memory. However, reading any or all, of the oration directly from note cards will result in a deduction from the final score.

❖ **Criteria of Oration Point System:**

- Delivery ----- 40 Points
- Content ----- 35 Points
- Personal Qualities ----- 15 Points
- Overall Effectiveness ----- 10 Points

❖ **Monetary Prizes will be awarded:**

1st place - \$125

2nd place - \$100

3rd place - \$75

<u>Key Dates</u>		
Date	Event	Location
Friday, January 26, 2018	Completed application and a copy of the typed essay must be received.	Via email or mail
Saturday, February 3, 2018	(Mandatory Essay Workshop/Parent Orientation) The contestant must attend at least ONE Essay Workshop along with parent (guardian or representative). 10:00 am – 12 noon <i>The workshop is designed to develop - via feedback and discussion - presentation/public speaking skills in preparation for the competition. Students will work with professional writers and Toastmaster experts to help them build their self-esteem and enhance their communication and leadership skills.</i>	W.J. Keenan HS Lecture Hall Columbia, SC
Saturday, February 10, 2018		
Saturday, February 24, 2018	Oratorical Contest 11:00 am – 1:00 pm	W.J. Keenan HS Auditorium Columbia, SC



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5th Oratorical Contest Participant Application

Theme: "Mission Possible"

(Please type or print legibly with black or blue ink)

❖ This Section Must Be Completed by Participant		
Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial
Street Address	City/State	Zip
Home Phone	Cell Phone	Date of Birth
Current School Attending		Grade
❖ This Section Must Be Completed by Parent/Guardian		
Last Name	First Name	
Home Phone Number	Cell Phone Number	E-Mail Address
❖ This Section Must Be Signed By Parent/Guardian		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I agree that my child will attend at least <u>ONE</u> of the Mandatory Workshops: (please check one) February 3, 2018 _____ February 10, 2018 _____ • I do understand that if my child does not attend at least one of the designated workshops he/she will not be eligible to participate in the event. • I understand that the Richland County Alumnae Chapter reserves the right to cancel this event at any time or reject any entry that does not reflect a positive image. I also agree to abide by the judges' decisions. 		
Parent/Guardian Signature		Date