

Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church
The Youth Department Presents

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. & Claudia M. Campbell
2025 Oratorical Contest

The objective of this oratorical contest is to provide a platform for young people to enhance their public speaking and leadership skills



“If you can’t fly then run, if you can’t run then walk, if you can’t walk then crawl, but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward.”

- Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Competition will take place on
Wednesday, April 9, 2025 at 6:30 pm

TOPIC:

“Why is it important to keep going even when progress seems to be crippled?”

Eligibility: Kindergarten through 12th Grade

Deadline:

Contestants should submit entry form by Wednesday, April 2, 2025
(via Google Documents)

Sponsor: Tabernacle Youth Department

Reverend Stanley L. Walker, Pastor

General Rules for Speech

1. Contestants speech must relate to topic (see first page)
2. Contestants shall prepare orations according to grade levels and must speak on topic.
3. Any quotations or copyright material used in the speech must be identified properly.
4. Tabernacle shall have the right to edit, publish, and record any oration entered into contest without payment to the author.
5. Timing begins on the first word uttered and stops on the last word.
6. The penalty for going over or under the time limit is, “three (3) points for each 15 seconds over or under the time limit.”
7. A minimum of one minute of silence is granted to judges after an oration.
8. In case of a tie the judges will decide the winner based on the orator’s performance.

Categories for Scoring

Delivery	<i>Articulation, vocal variations and gestures</i>	25 points
Effectiveness	<i>Clear purpose and ability to sell position</i>	30 points
Content	<i>Referenced facts and material substance</i>	35 Points
Appearance	<i>Professional attire</i>	10 Points
Total		100 Points

Divisions and Time Limitations:

Primary Division	Kindergarten to 2nd Grade	1-2 minutes
Intermediate Division	3rd-5th Grade	2-3 minutes
Middle School Division	6-8th Grade	3-4 minutes
High School Division	9-12th Grade	4-6 minutes

Awards:

1st, 2nd and 3rd Place Cash prizes will be awarded for all levels.
All other contestants will receive a participation award.