

## I. PURPOSE

The Rotary Clubs of District 5170 sponsor the Richard D. King Annual Youth Speech Contest each year with three goals in mind for the Club Members and each Speech Contest Participant:

To increase personal knowledge and awareness of the importance of being able to speak effectively before a group.

To increase public knowledge of what Rotary is and does throughout the world, especially among young people. Through this knowledge, we hope that they will learn, as we have in the past, "He profits most who serves best."

To increase participation in the contest and to provide all high school contestants an opportunity to win prizes as top public speaker, or runner-up, in District 5170.

The prizes are awarded with "no strings attached." However, it is hoped that the award might be used to further the student's education. Our goal as Rotarians is to recognize and to support these young people who are tomorrow's leaders.

## II. PRIZES

The District's uniform prize structure is:

<u>Level of Contest</u>	<u>Level of Prize</u>	<u>Prize Amount</u>
<b>Club</b>	First	\$ 100.00
	Second	\$ 50.00
	Finalist(s)	\$ 25.00
<b>Area</b>	First	\$ 200.00
	Second	\$ 100.00
<b>Regional</b>	Top two	\$ 250.00 ea.
<b>District</b>	First	\$ 1,000.00
	Second	\$ 600.00
	Finalists	\$ 300.00 ea.

## III. LEVELS OF COMPETITION

**Club Level.** Each of the 54 clubs in Rotary District 5170 is eligible to hold a speech contest, drawing contestants from the high schools in the Club's local area. At each Club, the First Place Winner will participate at the Area Level competition. The Club Level speech contests are to be completed by **February 14, 2020.**

**Area Level.** Within the District, Clubs are grouped into **eight Areas**, with **four to Eight Clubs** in each Area. Every Club Level winner will compete with the winners from the other clubs in that Area. First Place winner will be selected as finalists to participate in the Regional Level competition. The Area Level Contests are to be held between **February 17-March 6, 2020** at a designated Rotary Club.

**Regional Level.** The District sponsors two Regional competitions. The two regions are the Northeast Region (Areas 1 through 5) and the Southwest Region (Areas 6 through 9). The top two finalists from each Regional Competition will go on to the final competition at the District Conference. The Regional Level competitions will be held between **March 9-March 20, 2020.**

### District Finals:

The Four Regional Finalists, with parents/guardians, will be Rotary's guests on **March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020** at the District Training Assembly. **LOCATION TBD**

## IV. RULES OF COMPETITION

**Eligibility:** Contests are open to student speakers in grades 9 through 12 who attend a local public or private high school within District 5170. Student (contestant) **MUST NOT ENTER a Rotary club's contest if they have already completed at different club.** Student speakers are to enter only one Contest.

**Original Work of Student:** The speech must be the original work of the contestant.

**Theme:** The Rotary theme for the speech shall be, "Rotary connects the World." The theme must be clearly identified in the speech and need not be the topic for the speech.

**Topic:** Each student may choose any topic he or she feels is timely and of interest, as long as the content of the speech relates to the theme of "**Connects The World**". and incorporates at least one (1) of the principles of **The 4-Way Test.**

**The 4-Way Test Principles:** Each speaker must clearly relate, apply or interweave one or more of the **4-Way Test** principles into his/her speech. These four principles, which Rotarians have adopted as a guide for everyday living, are as follows:

### The 4-Way Test

Of the things we think, say or do

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and better **FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all Concerned?



**Richard D. King Annual Youth Speech Contest**

**Time Limitations:** Speeches are between 4 and 5 minutes in length. Timing will begin when the contestant first speaks, not after the student’s salutation to the chairperson or audience. A penalty of 2% shall be deducted from each judge’s score for each 30 seconds (or fraction thereof) the contestant speaks **under 4** or **over 5** minutes.



**Use of Props, Prompters and Notes:** "Contestants at the **CLUB LEVEL ONLY**, may use a smart device, only to **GLANCE** at their notes, or **one** 3” by 5” card.

As the contestant advances to the Area / Regional / Final competitions, he/she **SHALL NOT** use props, displays, prompters, or **smart devices** of any kind. Notes may be used only if they are on **one** 3” by 5” card. "

**Identification of Speaker or School:** There shall be **NO** implicit or explicit identification of the speaker or of the speaker’s school in the content or title of the speech, the attire of the contestant, or by any other means whatsoever.

EACH CONTESTANT IS EXPECTED TO KNOW AND FOLLOW EACH OF THESE RULES AT EVERY LEVEL OF THE CONTEST. VIOLATION OF ANY OF THESE RULES SHALL RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION OF THE SPEAKER. Contestants may only compete once at the Club Level. The final decision, whether or not a violation has taken place, will be made by the District Youth Speech Contest Chairperson.

**IV. JUDGING CRITERIA**

Judging criteria and a copy of a Judge’s Ballot will be supplied to every contestant for review. These references are provided to ensure that students understand how their speeches will be evaluated and scored. Please note that it is required that at least one (1) of the 4-Way Test Principles be included in the speeches. However, it is **NOT** required that all four (4) must be used.

**GOOD LUCK.**

Richard D. King Annual Youth Speech Contest 2019-20

**Club Level**

**Host:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Rotary Club of** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Time:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**RICHARD D. KING ANNUAL YOUTH SPEECH CONTEST**



**District 5170**



*“Rotary connects The World”*

**Ramesh Hariharan**  
*District Governor*  
**2019-2020**

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