



RALPH D. VINES II
PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST




AN AFTERNOON

WITH THE

Sunday, April 13, 2025
2:00 pm

CONTESTANTS

Clinton Presidential Center
1200 President Clinton Ave
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201



13 April 2025

Dearest Friends,

WELCOME!

I regret that I am unable to attend due to illness, but I am with you in spirit. Thank you for joining us at the 16th Ralph D. Vines, II Public Speaking Contest. Public speaking holds a special significance for me, as I personally navigate the challenges of a speech impediment. Every day in my role as a commercial contractor, I am reminded of the importance of clear communication when interacting with various agencies and clients.

This is why I am deeply committed to fostering opportunities for young individuals to develop their confidence and skills in public speaking. My endowment supports this annual contest to provide students with a chance to practice, learn, and grow as eloquent communicators.

As we gather today, let us take inspiration from these talented participants and continue to nurture their development in speaking confidently—not just for today, but as a lifelong pursuit.

Thank you once again for being part of the Ralph D. Vines, II Public Speaking Contest, where our mission is to empower young Arkansans by promoting their personal and professional growth through the art of public speaking.

Sincerely,

Ralph D. Vines II

Ralph D. Vines, II



STATE OF ARKANSAS
SARAH HUCKABEE SANDERS
GOVERNOR

April 13, 2025

Dear Contestants,

As Governor, it is my honor to welcome you to the 16th annual Ralph Vines II Public Speaking Contest. The ability to communicate effectively is a powerful skill that fosters confidence, builds understanding, and strengthens organizations and communities. This contest offers you a platform to showcase your abilities and further refine your craft.

Your dedication and perseverance have brought you to this moment, and those same qualities will propel you toward even greater achievements. I wish you the best of luck as you compete for the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Grand Prizes, and I encourage you to embrace this experience, creating memories that will last a lifetime.

On behalf of the State of Arkansas, I extend my best wishes for an inspiring and enjoyable competition and continued success in all your future endeavors.

Sincerely,



Sarah Huckabee Sanders
Governor of Arkansas

State Capitol Building • Little Rock, AR 72201
Telephone: (501) 682-2345
www.governor.arkansas.gov

JOHN BOOZMAN
ARKANSAS
555 DIXON SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
202-224-8843

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY
CHAIRMAN
APPROPRIATIONS
CHAIRMAN: MILITARY, CONSTRUCTION, WOMEN'S AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AFFAIRS
ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

GREETINGS FROM JOHN BOOZMAN UNITED STATES SENATOR

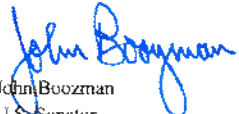
On behalf of the United States Senate, it is my distinct honor to join you in celebrating the 2025 Ralph D. Vines II Public Speaking Contest.

I am very proud of each student participating this year. It takes courage to enter and compete in this prestigious competition and you are setting a tremendous example for your peers across Arkansas. You worked hard to get here, and I hope you continue to cultivate the skills you gained in this contest as you prepare for your future.

I also want to share my sincere gratitude with the volunteers and others who ensure this event is successful year after year. Thank you for your commitment to creating opportunities for young people. Your efforts make a difference as you help them develop the skills to lead and serve our great state for generations to come.

Good luck to all the participants. You are great representatives of Arkansas.

Best wishes,


John Boozman
U.S. Senator

106 W. MAIN ST., SUITE 104, EL DORADO, AR 71733, 870-883-4041
1120 GARRISON AVE., SUITE 2B, FORT SMITH, AR 72901, 479-573-0189
309 S. CHURCH ST., SUITE 400, JONESBORO, AR 72401, 870-268-0025
1401 W. CAPITOL AVE., SUITE 103, LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201, 501-372-7153
212 W. WASHINGTON, SUITE N, LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201, 501-372-0400
1001 N. W. 42 E., SUITE 11, ARDMORE HOME, AR 72003, 870-426-0179
620 E. 22ND ST., SUITE 204, STUTTGART, AR 72160, 870-672-0341

RALPH D. VINES, II PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

Mission: to empower young people by enhancing their communication skills, building their confidence, and fostering their ability to express ideas effectively

Ages 9-19

Age Maximum Speech Time

09-12	2.0 Minutes
13-15	2.5 Minutes
16-19	3.0 Minutes

Prizes:

Winthrop P Rockefeller Grand Prizes **\$1500**

Is awarded to the best female and male speaker respectively.

4 First Place Winners **\$600**

4 Second Place Winners **\$400**

4 Third Places Winners **\$300**

All contestants **\$50**

Judges

Barbara Abraham
Alice Armstrong
Jolie Ballantyne
Sheila Beck
Deidre Coleman
Ebony Durun
Edward Fryer
Sandra Gibson
Tyrone Harris
Mary Lackie
Mike Montgomery
Nancy Reese
Alan Rogers
Carlas Sadler
Nate Todd
Lisa Twillie-Wymer
Carlton Wing

Loretta Alexander
Pam Ashcraft
Rick Beck
Edith Brown
Earnest Duckery
Jane English
Miguel Fuentevilla
Linda Hall
Iverson Jackson
Tyler Lewis
Nikolas Murray
Caleb Williams
Lori Ross
Lisa Todd
Ardelia Walker
Sam Wherry
Kenya Wilbert

"Confidence comes not from always being right, but from not fearing to be wrong." – Peter T. McIntyre

"Your voice is your power. Use it to inspire, inform, and ignite change." – Unknown

Programme

Mistress of Order.....Pamela Smith

Presentation of Colors.....Parkview High JROTC

Welcome.....Ralph Vines, II

*Welcome..... Victoria DeFrancesco Soto
University of Arkansas, Clinton School of Public Service
Clinton Foundation*

Introduction of Judges..... Pamela Smith

Speakers Showcase..... Pamela Smith

Ages 9-12 years — 2 Minutes

Nora Vawser
Angel Padilla
Zoey Gibbs
Carter Boone Ebbs
Shelby Lee McDonald

Brady Noland
Lathan Lee
Ismael Sanchez
Catherine Romero
Arni Shiddamreddy

Ages 9-12 years — 2 Minutes

Avnik Narravula
Beverly Robinson
Jamie Schildknecht
Coraline Allen
Kenzie Bahgat

Camden Alexandria Lee Smith
Mackenzie Enoch-Noble
Virginia Story
Riya Sandeep
Perla Jarquin

Ages 13-15 years — 2.5 Minutes

Pia Prodhan
Ayush Banerjee
Charlotte Anderson
Pranav Prodhan
Shaylynn Tienda
Pericles Wang

Lucy Lewis
Kenneth Yu
Kinslee Bagley
Yosef Tam
Harrison Sites

Ages 16-19 years - 3 Minutes

Rose Fougrousse
Yassin Bahgat
Olivia Grace Evatt
Eric Tang

Isabella Dunkley
Vera Kanu
Alli Clark-Hunt

Presentation Of Winners

Louis Rockefeller

Grand Prize Presentation

Lisenne Rockefeller
Louis Rockefeller

Closing Remarks

Pamela Smith

Acknowledgement

Thank you all for your invaluable contributions to this public speaking contest. We deeply appreciate the kindness, support, and encouragement of teachers, counselors, parents, family, and students. It has truly been a joy to host this event!

Winthrop P. Rockefeller Family
Ralph D. Vines, II
Col. Addie Morris
Carlotta Sadler
Pamela Smith
Cassandra Cosen

Annellese Murray
Shelly Buck, CPA
Jennifer Pierce
Tereasa Ochs
Barbara Wait

Host & Hostess

Central High School, ROTC
Ethan Gong
Sarah Ivory
Ducy James
Jasmine Merrida
Disha Ram
Gunner Ramsey
Laila Spencer

Benjamin Bannerman
Cayden Ivory
Diontye James
Charquizz Luster
Akshath Narravula
Aden Ramsey
Devin Romas
Will Hunter

