

Ralph D. Vines, II.

Public Speaking Contest 2024

We support and encourage youth to develop critical thinking skills, leadership abilities, poise, and professionalism.

Application Deadline: Friday, March 15, 2024

Contest Date: Sunday, April 21, 2024

Location: Parkview Magnet High School

Presentation

Contestants should introduce themselves, their topic and begin their speech. Visual aids, props, or the assistance of a prompter are not allowed. Speeches must be original, written by the student, in good taste for a group of peers/adults, and cover topics such as Social, Economic, and Industry.

Length of Speech

Each contestant must recite speech by memory within the time guidelines. A penalty will be assessed against speakers who fail to complete the speech within the allotted time.

Speech lengths for age groups are as follows:

Ages 9-12: 1.5–2 min | **Ages 13-15:** 2–2.5 min | **Ages 16-19:** 2.5–3 min

A male and a female student will win the
Winthrop P. Rockefeller Grand Prize \$1,500

For each age category:

1st: **\$600**

2nd: **\$400**

3rd: **\$300**

All speakers receive **\$50**

Due to growing interest, a limited number of applications will be accepted. All applications **must** be submitted directly by each applicant's school counselor or principal to submissions@ralphvinesendowment.com to be considered.