

EDUCATION DAY

BLACK HISTORY ORATORY COMPETITION GUIDELINES



WHAT IS THE ORATORY COMPETITION?

The Black History Oratory Competition is a fun and creative opportunity for middle and high school students to learn African American history and connect the past to today's issues in a verbal format.

COMPETITION THEME: "Why is Black History relevant today, and how does it impact me and/or my generation?"

We invite students to explore African American arts, culture, contributions, and history to compose your entry. Research African Americans' struggles and triumphs, highlight Black Iowans or other Black historical places or people and consider how we as a country or as individuals arrived at this moment in time and how this history has made an impact on you and/or others.

IMPORTANT DATES AND ACTIONS

- **Upload video of your Biz Pitch to by noon on February 21, 2022.** The upload link is provided on the Education Day Page at <https://www.worldiniowa.com/educationday2022>
- **Winners announced:** Friday, February 25, 2022, during Virtual Education Day

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

- All Iowa middle and high school students. Please note that younger students may participate but they will be competing with older students.
- Individuals or teams are welcome.

WHAT ARE THE PRIZES?

Cash prizes will be awarded in both the middle and high school categories: \$200–1st Place, \$100–2nd Place and \$50–3rd Place. Winning presentations will be featured on the IMMAWII 2022 webpage and Education Resource Page.

IMMAWII BLACK HISTORY ORATORY COMPETITION PLANNING GUIDE

RULES

- Students must sign up separately to participate in the completion. The sign-up form can be found at the bottom of the IMMAWII Education Day page at <https://www.worldiniowa.com/educationday2022>
- Presentations should be no less than 3 minutes and no more than 5 minutes long (approximately 750 words). Presentation that are too long or too short will be penalized.

- Entries will be judged based on the content, quality of the presentation, use of research sources, and timing.
- The speech does not need to be memorized; you may use notes.
- Dress in a way that supports your presentation.
- Presentations must be original. However, you may include quotes and citations if attribution is included.

SUGGESTED SPEECH IDEAS

The theme is “Why is Black History relevant today, and how does it impact me and/or my generation?” Participants should use other ideas to explore and express the theme.

Here are some ideas to get you started:

- African American History Makers
- Important events and movements in Black History
- Why Black History is American History
- Black Music (example: The History of Hip Hop)
- Black History Timeline
- The history and Impact of Black culture
- African Americans and the Vote
- African History (Black History Did Not Start in America)
- How Has the Media Portrayed Black People
- The History of Soul Food

Please note these ideas are only suggestions.

TIPS

- Pick ideas you are excited about. Your energy will come through in your presentation.
- Your speech should have an introduction, a body and conclusion.
- Make sure your speech has clear organization and logical transition between thoughts
- Keep it smooth (watch the “ums” and “uhs”).
- Practice in front of a mirror
- Ask some else to video you.

VIDEO

- Students should name their video file with their name, grade, teacher and school.
- Students should say their name, grade, teacher and school before they begin their speech.
- Participants will not be judged on video quality as long as the student is seen and heard clearly.

PRACTICE AND HAVE FUN!

If you have questions or your student needs help with video recording or upload, please **Contact Detric Doolin**, Competition Chair, at 319-560-0482 / dedricdoolin@gmail.com or the IMMAWII Office at 515-288-7171/bettycandrews@yahoo.com.