



**BLACKS IN GOVERNMENT®
TRAINING IN COMMUNICATIONS (TIC)**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. TIC Program Guidelines
 - TIC Program Overview
 - TIC Program Application
 - TIC Program Evaluation Form
2. Oratorical Contest Planning Guide
 - Planning Calendar
 - Competition Project Requirements
 - General Rules
3. Oratorical Contest Flyer
4. Oratorical Contest Brochure
5. Oratorical Contest Press Statements
6. Oratorical Contest Entry Form
7. Oratorical Contest Score Sheets
 - Student Score Sheets
 - Master Score Sheets
8. Oratorical Contest Timekeeper Sheet
9. Oratorical Contest Sample Certificate
10. Oratorical Permission Form



BLACKS IN GOVERNMENT TRAINING IN COMMUNICATIONS (TIC) PROGRAM

These guidelines establish procedures for the implementation of Blacks In Government (BIG) Training in Communications (TIC) program. The purpose of this program is to provide young African Americans training in communication and leadership skills, and practical experiences to develop those skills. Through the TIC program, BIG is developing a mechanism for growth and power for future Black government employees.

The Training In Communications program gives students a quality learning experience and a challenge in which they can develop life skills. The program also involves providing youth role-models and support systems through one-on-one mentorships with BIG members. The general community will benefit from this program because it is a proven method of directing our youth toward activities for personal enhancement. The better our youth feel about themselves the more they will strive to become productive and successful adults.

1. Program Objectives

The program is targeted for youth in grades nine through twelve. Through participation in the TIC program, students will:

- Understand the concept, scope, approaches and process of communication.
- Understand the fundamentals of verbal and nonverbal communication.
- Enhance their ability to present oral presentations.
- Improve their analytical, research, and evaluation skills.
- Build networks and develop relationships with mentors to facilitate their growth and development.

2. Program Methodology

The program is composed of two parts—Part I is the Communications Academy and Part II is the Oratorical Contest.

- 2.1 Part I, Communications Academy.** Chapters offer youth in grades nine through twelve an 8-session program (1 to 2 hours per session). Youth participate in workshops and seminars on various public speaking and leadership topics. Topics can range from such subjects as how to speak effectively; the concept, purpose, and approaches to communication; the process of communication; leadership skills; writing and delivering speeches; use of audiovisual aids; effective listening; and so on. Chapter members, school teachers, and other community leaders can serve as guest presenters. During the academy, students give presentations to practice their communication skills. Each participating chapter of BIG must complete a Communications Academy Application to receive a Communications Academy program package that contains materials to assist in conducting the program. Chapters also have the option of working with local public speaking organizations such as Toastmaster's Clubs. Toastmaster offers a Speechcraft program that focuses on writing and delivering speeches.



BLACKS IN GOVERNMENT TRAINING IN COMMUNICATIONS (TIC) PROGRAM

- 2.2 **Part II, Oratorical Contest.** Students will present orations and compete for awards at the chapter level. Winners will then compete at the BIG regional level with the culmination of the competition at the National level of Blacks In Government. Chapters can conduct Oratorical Contests without participating in the Communications Academy.

3. Program Resources and Funding Guidelines

- 3.1 Chapters wishing to participate in Communications Academy will be provided a program package.
- 3.2 National will provide travel and lodging for regional winners to participate in the national oratorical competition which will take place during the Annual BIG National Training Conference.

4. Submission of Requests for Program Package

- 4.1 Request Communications Academy Program package (application form at atch 1).
- 4.2 Chapters must also send a copy of the application to the Regional Council President at the same time they request a program package from the BIG National Office. Send the original application to:

Blacks In Government
Attn: Program and Planning
3005 Georgia Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001-5015

- 4.3 After the official conclusion of the program, chapters and regional councils are asked to complete the Training In Communications Evaluation Form (atch 2) within 30 days and mail to the BIG National Office.



BLACKS IN GOVERNMENT
TRAINING IN COMMUNICATIONS (TIC) PROGRAM

COMMUNICATIONS ACADEMY APPLICATION

A. Name of Requesting Chapter: _____

B. Mailing Address: _____

C. Chapter President or Designee: _____

Telephone Number: _____

E-mail address: _____

D. Project Date for Start of Program: _____

E. Name of Chapter Project Officer: _____

Telephone Number: _____

E-mail address: _____

F. Officer Signatures (Two Required):

Name (Print or Type) _____

Signature _____

Title _____

Name (Print or Type) _____

Signature _____

Title _____



BLACKS IN GOVERNMENT
TRAINING IN COMMUNICATIONS (TIC) PROGRAM

EVALUATION FORM
(Use continuation sheets as necessary.)

A. Name of Requesting Chapter: _____

C. Mailing Address: _____

C. Point of Contact: _____

Telephone Number: _____

E-mail address: _____

A. Were the objectives of the project met? (Why or why not)

B. What were the positive aspects of the project?

C. What were the shortfalls (areas for improvement)?

D. Write a brief summary to describe the project after completion.

Mail completed form to:
Attn: Chair, Program and Planning
Blacks In Government
3005 Georgia Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001-5015



BLACKS IN GOVERNMENT 2007 ORATORICAL CONTEST PLANNING GUIDE

2007 ORATORICAL COMPETITION THEME:

“What Character Traits Must Youth Develop to Become Emerging Leaders in the 21st Century?”

The Oratorical Contest provides youth the opportunity to enhance their communication skills. Solid public speaking and written communication skills will be an integral part in youth’s chosen career field.

This planning guide provides all the details you will need to conduct a successful oratorical contest in your chapter. Be sure every student in grades nine through twelve in your area has the opportunity to participate in the contest.

Local Chapter Awards are determined and sponsored by individual chapters. Awards will be determined by each region at the regional level.

*Students “MUST” physically compete at the chapter and regional levels in order to compete at the national level.

If a chapter or region has only ONE entrant the chapter president or the regional council president (as appropriate) must submit a written endorsement to the Regional Chair or National Program and Planning Committee Chair (as appropriate). Chapters and Regions must also provide the Judges’ Score Sheets and Master Score Sheet to the Regional Chair and National Program and Planning Committee Chair, as appropriate.

Competition Levels

There are two levels of competition: 9th and 10th Grades and 11th and 12th Grades.

Students must compete in those two areas.

Awards

Local chapter awards are determined and sponsored by individual chapters. Awards will also be determined by each region at the regional level. National Awards are:

National Awards--All categories:

First Place: \$1000 and Plaque

Second Place: \$600 and Plaque

Third Place: \$400 and Plaque



BLACKS IN GOVERNMENT 2007 ORATORICAL CONTEST PLANNING GUIDE

Planning Calendar

- Oct/Nov 2006**
- Competition packages mailed out to all chapters and regions
 - Request Communications Academy program package to conduct training for youth
- Oct/Nov 2006**
- Determine local chapter and regional council awards/recognition
 - Select date and site for contest
 - Send the information to the local school officials, teachers, civic clubs, churches, etc. about the contest
 - Distribute the brochure and flyers to all potential sponsors and contestants
 - Publicize the contest and circulate press releases on the contest
 - Select three judges for the contest, along with a timekeeper and Sergeant-at-Arms. Use both genders as judges and alternate judges.
- Feb/Mar 2007**
- Reproduce/purchase certificates of participation for all contestants
 - Conduct contest and select local contest winners. Submit winner to regional chair
- (Check with regions on time frame for regional contest)
- Apr–Jun 2007**
- Regional contests take place at conferences/council meetings
- 1 July 2007**
- Submit Regional Winners and all required documents to National Chairs. **Student entry forms and ALL required documents must be postmarked no later than 1 July 2007.** Also provide names, addresses, e-mail addresses, and phone numbers of primary and alternate chaperones to National Program and Planning Committee Chair.
- August 2007**
- National Competition scheduled during Annual BIG National Training Conference



BLACKS IN GOVERNMENT 2007 ORATORICAL CONTEST PLANNING GUIDE

Planning and Promotion

Use the planning calendar to determine the specific dates to conduct the chapter contest. The Oratorical Brochure has an application form for students to submit to your chapter. Before passing these out, make sure you write your chapter representative's/point of contact's name and number on the form, along with your application deadline.

As you discuss the Oratorical Contest, remember to share the goals and objectives of Blacks In Government with school officials, parents, and community leaders. Also, invite them to future chapter meetings.

Contact school counselors and discuss which departments might be most interested in receiving the materials--speech, English, history, and language arts teachers are usually good candidates. Talk with as many school officials as possible and always leave brochures and flyers.

Selecting Judges

Select **three** judges who will individually rank the entries. Their combined ratings will determine the winners. Judges should not be acquainted with any of the contestants. Select both males and females as judges and alternate judges.

Timekeeper

Appoint a timekeeper to record the duration of the orations. To ensure accuracy, the timekeeper should use a stopwatch. It is also recommended that a time light be used.

Sergeant-at-Arms

Appoint Sergeant-at-Arms to ensure no one enters or leaves the room during an oration. Have one sergeant at arms at each exit plus one (i.e., if there are two exits, three sergeant at arms would be needed).

Calculations Committee

Appoint two committee members to be responsible for calculating the judges' final scores and deducting any points based on time penalty to determine overall contest winners. Penalty system is also in place for contestants who provide identifying data during their oration. Penalty deductions are described under scoring procedures.

Handling Ties

In case of a tie, the competition chair will establish the means for determining the 1st place winner. Only ONE 1st place winner for each category can compete at the National level.

Food/Lodging/Travel

Check with your regions to determine what type of support they will provide chapters who participate in the contest. National Blacks In Government will provide information on any travel and lodging funding for youth to attend the National Youth Awards Program at the National Training Conference.



BLACKS IN GOVERNMENT 2007 ORATORICAL CONTEST PLANNING GUIDE

Blacks In Government Oratorical Contest General Rules (Provide these rules to all contestants)

The official title is, “*What Character Traits Must Youth Develop to Become Emerging Leaders in the 21st Century?*”

Students must understand the rules and guidelines of the Oratorical Contest. They should also be made aware of the guidelines for scoring.

1. The Blacks In Government (BIG) Oratorical Contest is divided into three levels of competition—chapter, regional council, and national. You “MUST” compete at the chapter and regional levels in order to compete at the national level. If a chapter or region has only ONE entrant, the chapter president or the regional council president (as appropriate) must submit a written endorsement to the Regional Chair or National Program and Planning Committee Chair (as appropriate). Chapters and Regions must also provide the Judges’ Score Sheets and Master Score Sheet to the Regional Chair and National Program and Planning Committee Chair, as appropriate.
2. Contestants must be in grades nine through twelve and must be in good academic standing. *There are two levels of competition—9th-10th Grade and 11th and 12th grade.*
3. Contestants shall prepare orations not less than four minutes nor more than six minutes and must speak on the topic. The penalty for going over or under the time limit is, “three (3) points for each 15 seconds over or under the time limit.” A time light is recommended for use during the contest.
4. Contestants shall not state their names or any other identifying data during their oration (i.e., name of school, city, state, or sponsoring chapter). The penalty for stating identifying data is two (2) points.
5. Birth certificate and two (2) typed copies of the presentation “MUST” be presented to the Regional and National Contest Chairs prior to the competition.
6. Any quotations or copyright material used in the speech must be identified properly.
7. Blacks In Government shall have the right to edit, publish, and record any oration entered into contest without payment to the author.

Contest Rules

1. Contestants draw numbers for order of presentation.
2. Timing begins on the first word uttered and stops on the last word. Penalty system is in place for those who go over or under the time limit—three points for each 15 seconds over or under the time limit.
3. No one is allowed to enter or leave the room during an oration.



**BLACKS IN GOVERNMENT
2007 ORATORICAL CONTEST PLANNING GUIDE**

4. Contestants do not state your name or any other identifying data during your oration (i.e., name of school, city, state, or sponsoring chapter). Penalty system is in place for those who provide identifying data—two points.
5. A minimum of one minute of silence is granted to judges after an oration.
6. No pictures or other activities are allowed during an oration other than the official BIG photographer or videotaper (videographer).
7. Protest must be made before the final scoring. The contest chair shall have the final ruling on all protests.

Scoring

Scoring procedures at all levels of the contest will be identical and will conform to the following point system.

CATEGORY	SUB TOTALS	TOTAL POINTS
1. Delivery		25 Points
Articulation	10 points	
Vocal Variety	10 points	
Gestures	5 points	
2. Effectiveness		30 Points
Clear Purpose	15 points	
Ability to Sell Your Position	15 points	
3. Content		35 Points
Referenced Facts	20 points	
Material's Substance	15 points	
4. Appearance		10 Points
Professional Attire	5 points	
Grooming	5 points	
GRAND TOTAL		

Calculations Committee will deduct any points based on going under or over the time limit—three points for each 15 seconds over or under the time limit.

Calculations Committee will also deduct two points if contestant states any identifying data during the oration (i.e., name of school, city, state, sponsoring chapter or region).



BLACKS IN GOVERNMENT 2007 ORATORICAL CONTEST PLANNING GUIDE

Protests

Any protest in the conduct of the contest must be made immediately to the contest chair. The chair has the final decision, and no higher appeals will be recognized. In the case of chapter contests, the chapter chairperson has the final authority; the same applies at the regional and national levels.

Pointers for Youth

This oration is designed to introduce youth to the concepts of leadership. It will help youth become aware of the personal traits that they need to develop to become the type of leader that they would like to have. When developing the oration, consider the following key factors:

1. Leaders are not only the people making headlines in the national news. They are people who are trying to work with other people to make a difference.
2. If youth want to make a difference, they need to learn about leadership skills.
3. The youth will study leaders in history and in their community and identify the characteristics that these leaders have which make them a good leader.

Fully research the topic as you create your original speech. Remember to document all references and copyrighted material cited in your oration.



BLACKS IN GOVERNMENT 2007 ORATORICAL CONTEST

TOPIC: *What Character Traits Must Youth Develop to Become Emerging Leaders in the 21st Century?*



Booker T. Washington



Bessie Coleman



Teachers



Dr. Martin L. King



Rosa Parks



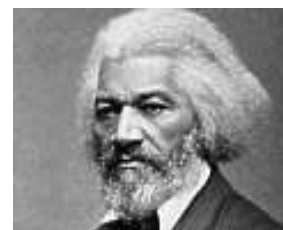
Firemen and Women



Harriet Tubman



Tuskegee Airmen



Fredrick Douglas

*Leaders aren't born, they are made; and they are made just like anything else, through hard work.
Vince Lombardi*

For More Information Contact:

Name _____

Phone _____

E-mail Address _____

Registration Deadline _____

9th – 10th Grade Category
and 11th-12th Grade Category
Students Compete for Awards and Scholarships

*Blacks In Government Promotes Equity in All Aspects of American Life,
Excellence in All We Do, and Opportunities for All Americans*

Application for 2007 BIG Oratorical Contest

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Grade _____

School _____

Teacher/Sponsor _____

Name of BIG Chapter Representative

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Blacks In Government (BIG) is a national response to the need for African Americans in public service to organize around issues of mutual concern and to use their collective strength to address workplace and community concerns.

BIG's Goals are to promote equity in all aspects of American life, excellence in all we do, and opportunity for all Americans.

Blacks In Government
3005 Georgia Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20001-5015
<http://www.bignet.org>

(202) 667-3280



NATIONAL ORATORICAL CONTEST



Booker T. Washington



Bessie Coleman



Teachers



Dr. Martin L. King



Rosa Parks



Firemen and Women



Harriet Tubman



Tuskegee Airmen



Fredrick Douglas

Leaders aren't born, they are made; and they are made just like anything else, through hard work.
Vince Lombardi

THEME:

"What Character Traits Must Youth Develop to Become Emerging Leaders in the 21st Century?"

What is the Purpose of the Oratorical Contest?

The purpose of the National Oratorical Program is to provide youth training in communication skills. The contest gives youth public speaking experience.

The contest theme is,
“What Character Traits Must Youth Develop to Become Emerging Leaders in the 21st Century?”

Awards

Chapter Awards: Certificates of participation and chapter-determined awards will be presented for first, second, and third place winners.

Regional and National Awards: Winners will receive awards at the regional and national levels.

Regional first place winners will compete in the national competition at BIG’s National Training Conference in Nashville TN in August 2007.

Section I--General Rules

1. The Blacks In Government Oratorical Contest is divided into three levels of competition--chapter, regional, and national.
2. Contestants must be in grades nine through twelve in good academic standing. Students in 9th and 10th grades will compete with each other and students in 10th and 11th grades will compete with each other.
3. Contestants shall prepare orations on the designated topic.
4. Birth certificates and a typed copy of the presentation must be presented to the Regional and National Chairs prior to the competition.
5. Any quotations or copyrighted material used in the speech must be identified properly.
6. BIG reserves the right to edit, publish, and record any oration entered into the contest without payment to the author.

7. The National first place winner is ineligible for future contests.

8. All contestants receive a certificate of participation.

Section II--Contest Rules

1. Contestants draw numbers for order of presentation.
2. Do not state your name or any identifying data during the oration.
3. Presentations shall be not less than four minutes nor more than six minutes.
4. No pictures or other activities are allowed during an oration other than the official Blacks In Government photographer and videotaper.
5. Protests must be made before the final scoring. The contest chair shall have the final ruling on all protests.

Contact <Chapter President/
Contest Chair>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STUDENTS TO COMPETE IN ORATORICAL CONTEST

A contest to give students a chance to present orations to win scholarships and awards is being promoted by the _____ Chapter of Blacks In Government (BIG). The organization is providing an opportunity for youth to improve and enhance their communications skills.

_____, President of the BIG chapter, said students would be competing in a nationwide contest to enhance public speaking and written communication skills. The topic for the contest is: *“What Character Traits Must Youth Develop to Become Emerging Leaders in the 21st Century?”* Scholarships and other prizes will be awarded to national winners at BIG’s Annual National Training Conference in Nashville TN in August 2007.

<Chapter President> said the project reflects an increasing need to assist students develop and enhance their communication skills for the future workplace.

BIG is a national organization of African American government workers committed to excellence in government through equality of opportunity. For more information, call _____ at _____.

30-SECOND PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Scholarships and awards will be awarded by Blacks In Government to students who compete in a local, regional and nationwide contest testing public speaking and written communication skills. The contest is open to students in grades nine through twelve. Schools, community and fraternal groups are urged to provide contestants. For more information call the _____ Chapter of Black In Government at _____.

BLACKS IN GOVERNMENT
Official Entry Form for Oratorical Contest

Information on Contestant 2007

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Grade _____ School _____ Home Phone _____

E-Mail Address _____

Social Security Number _____

Statement of Conformity to Rules

I have studied the Official Rules of the Oratorical Contest and fully understand and agree to be bound by them. I understand that the final ruling on all protests will be made by the Contest Chairperson.

Contestant's Signature _____ Date _____

**The following is to be completed by the
Chapter Oratorical Contest Chairperson and President**

Chapter Statement

We submit the enclosed entry form in full compliance with the Official Rules of the Oratorical Contest.

Chapter Name _____

Chapter President (Signature) _____

Phone _____

E-mail Address _____

Chapter Oratorical Chair (Signature) _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

Address _____

E-Mail Address _____

Regional Council Statement

We submit the enclosed entry form in full compliance with the Official Rules of the Oratorical Contest.

Regional Council (i.e., Region I) _____

Council President (Signature) _____

Phone _____

E-mail Address _____

Oratorical Chair (Signature) _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

Address _____

E-mail Address _____



**ORATORICAL CONTEST
JUDGE'S SCORE SHEET**

9th – 10th Grade

Judge's Name _____

Contestant's Name _____		
CATEGORY	SUB TOTALS	TOTAL POINTS
1. Delivery		25 Points
Articulation 10 points		
Vocal Variety 10 points		
Gestures 5 points		
2. Effectiveness		30 Points
Clear Purpose 15 points		
Ability to Sell Your Position 15 points		
3. Content		35 Points
Referenced Facts 20 points		
Material's Substance 15 points		
4. Appearance		10 Points
Professional Attire 5 points		
Grooming 5 points		
GRAND TOTAL		



**ORATORICAL CONTEST
JUDGE'S SCORE SHEET**

11th – 12th Grade

Judge's Name _____

Contestant's Name _____		
CATEGORY	SUB TOTALS	TOTAL POINTS
1. Delivery		25 Points
Articulation	10 points	
Vocal Variety	10 points	
Gestures	5 points	
2. Effectiveness		30 Points
Clear Purpose	15 points	
Ability to Sell Your Position	15 points	
3. Content		35 Points
Referenced Facts	20 points	
Material's Substance	15 points	
4. Appearance		10 Points
Professional Attire	5 points	
Grooming	5 points	
GRAND TOTAL		



**ORATORICAL CONTEST
JUDGE'S SCORE SHEET**

MASTER SCORE SHEET
9th-10th Grade Category

ENTRY NUMBER	JUDGE 1	JUDGE 2	JUDGE 3	TOTAL	PENALTY DEDUCTION	FINAL TOTAL	RANK
Contestant #1							
Contestant #2							
Contestant #3							
Contestant #4							
Contestant #5							
Contestant #6							
Contestant #7							
Contestant #8							
Contestant #9							
Contestant #10							
Contestant #11							
Contestant #12							

NOTE: Timekeeper provides calculations committee with contestant times. Calculation committee deducts three (3) points for each 15 seconds over or under the time limit.

Calculations committee will also deduct two (2) points if contestant states any identifying data during the oration (i.e., name of school, city, state, sponsoring chapter or region).



**ORATORICAL CONTEST
JUDGE'S SCORE SHEET**

MASTER SCORE SHEET
11– 12th Grade Category

ENTRY NUMBER	JUDGE 1	JUDGE 2	JUDGE 3	TOTAL	PENALTY DEDUCTION	FINAL TOTAL	RANK
Contestant #1							
Contestant #2							
Contestant #3							
Contestant #4							
Contestant #5							
Contestant #6							
Contestant #7							
Contestant #8							
Contestant #9							
Contestant #10							
Contestant #11							
Contestant #12							

NOTE: Timekeeper provides calculations committee with contestant times. Calculation committee deducts three (3) points for each 15 seconds over or under the time limit.

Calculations committee will also deduct two (2) points if contestant states any identifying data during the oration (i.e., name of school, city, state, sponsoring chapter or region).



ORATORICAL CONTEST TIMEKEEPER SHEET

ENTRY NUMBER	START	FINISH	TOTAL	OVER	UNDER	PENALTY
Contestant #1						
Contestant #2						
Contestant #3						
Contestant #4						
Contestant #5						
Contestant #6						
Contestant #7						
Contestant #8						
Contestant #9						
Contestant #10						
Contestant #11						
Contestant #12						

NOTE: TIMEKEEPER PROVIDES CALCULATIONS COMMITTEE WITH CONTESTANT TIMES. CALCULATION COMMITTEE DEDUCTS THREE (3) POINTS FOR EACH 15 SECONDS OVER OR UNDER THE TIME LIMIT.

CALCULATIONS COMMITTEE WILL ALSO DEDUCT TWO (2) POINTS IF CONTESTANT STATES ANY IDENTIFYING DATA DURING THE ORATION (I.E., NAME OF SCHOOL, CITY, STATE, SPONSORING CHAPTER OR REGION).

Certificate of Participation



Presented to

«firstName» «lastname»

For Participating in the
Blacks In Government
2007 Oratorical Contest
<Category>

Topic: *“What Character Traits Must Youth Develop to Become Emerging Leaders in the 21st Century?”*

<Date>

<Place>

President's Signature Block

Program and Planning Chair's Signature
Block



BLACKS IN GOVERNMENT (BIG) NATIONAL YOUTH PROGRAMS

PARTICIPANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

(Please Print)

Youth's Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip _____

Parent/Legal Guardian Name: _____

Phone: (day) _____ (night) _____

Email address: _____

If I cannot be reached, please notify _____ Phone: _____

Please list any food allergies: _____

Medical Insurance Company _____ Policy # _____

Is your youth currently taking medicine or treatment? ___ Yes ___ No

If yes, explain: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

NOTE: This form is required and must be completed on each regional winner and submitted to the National Program and Planning Chair along with all other required documents.



BLACKS IN GOVERNMENT (BIG) NATIONAL YOUTH PROGRAMS

PARENTAL AUTHORIZATION (PARENT OR GUARDIAN)

(This form must be completed on each regional 1st place winner.)

I hereby give permission for _____ to take part in the following activities:

- Round trip travel from my child's residence to BIG's National Training Conference (NTC) in Nashville TN.
- Stay at a hotel in Nashville TN arriving August 16, 2007 and departing on August 18, 2007.
- Participation in BIG's Oratorical Contest or Information Superhighway Student Competition.
- Participation in and attendance at workshops at the NTC.
- Participation in and attendance at social events at the NTC.
- Participation in and attendance at youth events sponsored by the National Organization of BIG (Educational Summit, Reception, Youth Competitions).

So that my child can participate in BIG's Oratorical Contest or Information Superhighway Student Competition, I agree to the following:

I give permission for my child to participate in the activities sponsored above by the National Organization of BIG. I hereby release BIG and its members from responsibility and liability for any illness or injury that my child may sustain during this activity. I agree that if I am present in Nashville TN during the time that the activities noted above are taking place, I will exercise supervision over my child. In the event of an emergency, if I cannot be contacted, I hereby authorize that emergency treatment may be administered. I agree and certify that my child understands that he/she must abide by any guidelines set forth by BIG, and certify that my child is mature enough to understand and abide by restrictions imposed upon him/her if I am not at the conference. I hereby release BIG and its members from responsibility and liability for the negligent and intentional acts of my child. I hereby release BIG and its members from responsibility and liability for the negligent or intentional acts of third parties that result in harm to my child. I fully understand and agree to the terms of this agreement, and have been given the opportunity to ask questions regarding this release prior to my signing the agreement.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

NOTE: This form is required and must be completed on each regional winner and submitted to the National Program and Planning Chair along with all other required documents.