

100

BLACK MEN
OF GREATER DETROIT, INC.

2010 Oratorical Contest
“Speaking with Confidence & Excellence”

Detroit Public Schools
and
Detroit Charter Schools



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Mission

The 100 Black Men of Greater Detroit, Inc. is a group of concerned African American men whose goal is to improve the quality of life in the African American community through their collective resources, abilities and experiences. Recognizing the need to develop strong, vital and self-supporting communities, the organization has committed to helping African American youth achieve success in four (4) main focus areas:

1. Education
2. Mentoring
3. Health and Wellness
4. Economic Development

History

The 100 Black Men of Greater Detroit (100BMOGD) has been in existence since October 1993, and has a membership of men who are business and community leaders in the metropolitan area. The chapter is one of over 106 chapters across the United States. The organization has developed a variety of programs directed towards improving the lives of African American youth.

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Overview

The 100 Black Men of Greater Detroit, Inc. is sponsoring its 14th annual “Speaking with Confidence & Excellence” oratorical contest for all Detroit Public Schools (DPS) and Detroit Charter Schools, high school seniors. The annual program is designed for students to gain experience in public speaking and provide them with the opportunity to compete for college scholarships and textbook monies.

How to Enter

Interested students, regardless of race or sex, must submit an application and prepare a 4 to 6 minute speech on the assigned topic to be presented at the competition.

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Eligibility

The contest is only open to seniors attending DPS High Schools and Detroit Charter High Schools as of December 31st for the 2009-2010 school year.

Selected Topic – Persuasive Speech Format

The current State of Michigan process for funding primary and secondary education is (or is not) designed to deliver educational excellence for students.

Minimum Number of Participants

Each high school is allowed to designate up to (3) students to participate in the contest. It will be the responsibility of the high school to ensure that each participant meets the eligibility requirements and in conjunction with the student completes and returns (in a legible fashion) a ***signed application no later than April 23, 2010. The application must be faxed to 248-851-3565. Failure to comply with this requirements prohibits a student from participating in the contest. No exceptions will be granted.***

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Contest Deadlines

*April 23, 2010 signed application due
May 8, 2010 First Round and Finals competition*

High schools and/or students are required to submit the signed application, via fax, to 248-851-3565 no later than April 23, 2010. The First Round and Finals competition are scheduled for May 8, 2010 and will be held at the Charles H. Wright African American Museum. The contest will begin at 9am unless otherwise noted in future communications to participants. ***Failure to meet the deadline will prohibit the student from participation in the contest. No exceptions will be granted.***

Prize Levels

All eligible students will compete in the First Round to earn the right to become one of seven participants who will then compete in the Finals for the awards listed on the following page.

To receive awards, the winner must provide proof of admission and attendance to an accredited Community College, 4-year College/University and/or Technical/Vocational School before May 30, 2011.

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Contest Prize Levels

| | 100 Black Men Cash Awards | *Scholarships College/University Partners | ** Book Allowances |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| First Place Winner | \$2500 | \$8,000 | \$1000+\$1000 |
| Second Place Winner | \$1500 | \$8,000 | \$1000+\$1000 |
| Third Place Winner | \$1000 | \$8,000 | \$1000+\$1000 |
| Fourth Place Winner | \$500 | \$8,000 | \$500+\$500 |
| Fifth Place Winner | \$500 | \$8,000 | \$500+\$500 |
| Six Place Winner | \$500 | \$8,000 | \$500+\$500 |
| Seventh Place Winner | \$500 | \$8,000 | \$500+\$500 |

*Each winner will be awarded an \$8000 (\$2000 per year – up to 4 years) scholarship from one of our college/university partners per the terms outlined in the contest rules (Rule #19).

** Each winner will receive their corresponding book allowance, as outlined, and a matching amount will be allocated in their name to their respective school for the purpose of buying supplies. The 100 Black Men of Greater Detroit, Inc., will work directly with the school in securing their supplies. Arrangements and acceptance with schools must be made by September 30, 2010.

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Award Redemption Process

At the conclusion of the contest finals, each winner will be required to submit their name, address and social security number to the 100 Black Men of Greater Detroit, Inc. for processing.

Each winner will must be accepted and enrolled at the College/University Partner's school to receive the scholarship award of \$8000 (\$2K per year). The book allowance is independent of what college/university selected and can be used at any higher education institution the winner is attending. In both cases, appropriate documentation will be required so that the funding can be forwarded directly to the institution in the name of the student.

Each award winner will be required to provide appropriate documentation to the 100 Black Men of Greater Detroit, Inc. from their chosen school of higher education. At receipt of the appropriate documentation, the 100 Black Men of Greater Detroit, Inc. will forward the awarded amount directly to the institution of higher learning on behalf of the award winner.

All award winners, will be required to submit their claim no later than May 30, 2011. If this deadline is not met, the award amount will be forfeited by the winner and the award amount will remain with the 100 Black Men of Greater Detroit, Inc.

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Judges' Criteria and Duties

At both the First Round and Final Round levels, the judges will be selected by the 100 Black Men of Greater Detroit, Inc.

The 100 Black Men of Greater Detroit, Inc. will supply each judge with a copy of the rules and the judging forms. Judges should never discuss or compare their impressions of the speakers or their scores. Each judge must score independently from other judges. No one is permitted to view the scores except the designated (by the 100 Black Men of Greater Detroit, Inc.) Contest Chair.

Timekeepers

At both the First Round and Final Round levels, a timekeeper will be appointed by the 100 Black Men of Greater Detroit, Inc. The timekeeper is responsible for recording the official length of each speech.

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Handling Protests

All protests will be handled and decided upon by the 100 Black Men of Greater Detroit, Inc. All decisions will be final and all participants agree to this stipulation by virtue of participating in the contest.

Videotaping Guidelines

All participating contestants must present their speech live, not judged on videotape. However, it is permissible for the use of one video camera at a contest to give participants a take-home copy of their speech. Each contestant shall have the option of having the camera off during his/her presentation.

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Contest Scoring

Scoring by the judges in all contests will conform to the following criteria:

1. **Poise** – appearance and confidence: 20 points
2. **Content of Speech** – subject adherence, theme, logic, content and color: 35 points
3. **Delivery & Presentation** – voice, volume, gestures, pronunciation, eye contact, sincerity and emphasis: 35 points
4. **Overall Effectiveness** – appeal, impression, attitude and effect: 10 points

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Contest Scoring (continued)

The following penalties, assessed by the timekeeper, will apply to all contestants, as appropriate:

1. Failure to announce the official topic: 3 points
2. Self-identification (i.e. no names, school, etc.) 5 points
3. Failure to identify non-original material: Disqualification
4. Use of props, etc: Disqualification
5. Failure to complete the speech: Disqualification
6. Time penalties: 1 point for each 15 seconds or fraction of over or under the allotted time.

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Contest Rules

1. All contestants must receive a copy of the official rules and be instructed to thoroughly familiarize themselves with the rules. The contest is open to all DPS and Detroit Charter High School seniors regardless of race or sex.
2. The Contest Chair, prior to the beginning of the contest shall conduct a drawing with all the contestants present for the speaking order. All contestants will then be introduced as “Speaker A”, “Speaker B”, etc.
3. All contestants must speak on the official topic.
4. All contestants must state the official topic before beginning their speech in order for the timekeeper to record the exact time of the speech. A 3-point penalty is automatically assessed by the timekeeper for failure to state the official topic.
5. Any quotation or copyrighted material used in the speech must be identified verbally during the presentation and in the written copy of the speech with the original author’s name. The contestant shall be fully responsible for the use of any quoted material and the 100 Black Men of Greater Detroit, Inc. shall assume no responsibility. Failure to identify non-original material will result in disqualification.
6. The use of props, special costumes or clothing, or the use of prompters will not be permitted. The penalty will be disqualification. Notes and lecterns can be used if the contestant desires.
7. The time allowed will not be under 4 minutes or over 6 minutes. Contestants going over or under will not be cautioned, and will be penalized one point for each 15 seconds or fraction of over or under the allotted time. These penalties will be determined by the official timekeeper.
8. Timing will begin immediately after the official topic is expressed. Any salutation to judges, audience, etc, should precede the announcement of the topic. Timing will stop when the contestant finishes.
9. An interval of at least one minute and no longer than five minutes shall be allowed between contestants.
10. No spectator may enter or leave the audience while a contestant is speaking. The audience must be alerted to these rules before the competition begins and at various intervals by the Contest Chair.
11. Any protest in the conduct of this contest must be made immediately after the condition is noted to the Contest Chair. Protests received after the next contestant has been introduced, or in the case of the last contestant, after the judges leave to total the scores, will not be accepted under any circumstances.

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Contest Rules (continued)

12. The 100 Black Men of Greater Detroit, Inc., will decide all protests in accordance with the official rules. The decisions of the Contest Chair are final and no higher appeals will be recognized.
13. Each contest shall have at least two qualified judges (no more than 3) and one timekeeper. Judges must not be related to the contestants.
14. Judges and the timekeeper must use the official score sheets provided by the Contest Chair.
15. The timekeeper should be provided with a stopwatch or equivalent timing device.
16. Each judge must render a final decision on all contestants without consultation with other judges or any other person. Each judge and timekeeper must sign his/her official score sheet.
17. After the judges have totaled their scores for each contestant, deducted penalty points and ranked each contestant, the judges shall sign their score sheets and give them to the Contest Chair.
18. To eliminate any potential bias or prejudice, no reference can be made that identifies the student, parents or school. If this takes place, it will result in a deduction of 5 points.
19. At the Final round level, winners will have the option (in order of their respective finish) to choose which college or university partner scholarship they want to select. Each college/university partner has offered a limited number of scholarships and will be committed once a student has made his/her selection due no later than June 30, 2010. If more students want a particular scholarship than is available, the preference will be based on the order of finish in the final contest. Each student will be required to adhere to the requirements of awarding school to receive the scholarship.

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