February 23, 2025

Greetings Moderators/Pastors,

Below is the information concerning the James F. Wertz Oratorical Contest for 2025. Please share with all appropriate staff under your leadership. We are strongly urging all churches to encourage your youth to participate in the Oratorical Contest. Participants should be a member of a church within the Wake Missionary Baptist Association.

The Topics for 2025 are as follows:

**Division I: Preparatory** –The preparatory division includes students who are in grades: 6, 7 and 8. Speeches for these students should NOT BE UNDER 3 minutes and NOT BE OVER 4 minutes.

* “Lord, I Surrender” (Matthew 16:24-25)
* “Anointed to Win” (1 John 2:20)
* “Being About Our Father’s Business” (John 6:29)

**Division II: Juniors** – The junior division includes students who are in grades: 9, 10, and 11. Speeches for these students should NOT BE UNDER 4 minutes and NOT BE OVER 5 minutes.

* “Evangelism is a Lifestyle” (Matthew 28:19-20)
* “Transformed From the Inside Out” (Romans 12:1-2)

**Division III: Seniors** – The senior division includes students who are in grade 12. Speeches for these students should NOT BE UNDER 5 minutes and NOT BE OVER 6 minutes. (**Participants should be a member of the class of 2026**)

* “Serving God in an AI age” (Romans 12:2) (How does AI [Artificial Intelligence] either help or hinder teenagers in serving God or sharing the Gospel.)

The WMBA Oratorical Contest will be held in-person on Saturday, May 3, 2025, at 10am. The location for the oratorical is TBA. Each contestant is allowed to invite guests. All applications and speeches must be typed, and post marked by April 15, 2025. Please mail applications and speeches to:

Springfield Baptist Church

C/O Rev. Dr. Kevin D. Sturdivant

4309 Auburn Knightdale Rd.

Raleigh, NC 27610

Regards,

Rev. Dr. Kevin D. Sturdivant, President

WMBA Congress of Christian Education

WAKE MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

JAMES F. WERTZ ORATORICAL CONTEST

CONTEST ENTRY FORM

PART 1: PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name of Contestant: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_ F \_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parents/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Contestant: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Parent Cell #: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parents/Guardian email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PART II: CHURCH INFORMATION

Name of Church: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Pastor: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Part III: ORATORICAL INFORMATION

Oratorical Topic: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Number of pages: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Your grade as of July 1, 2025: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Division: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_