

87th Annual  
*Student Speakers*  
**CONTEST**

2023-24 Topic



Sponsored by The California Lions Clubs  
Multiple District Four

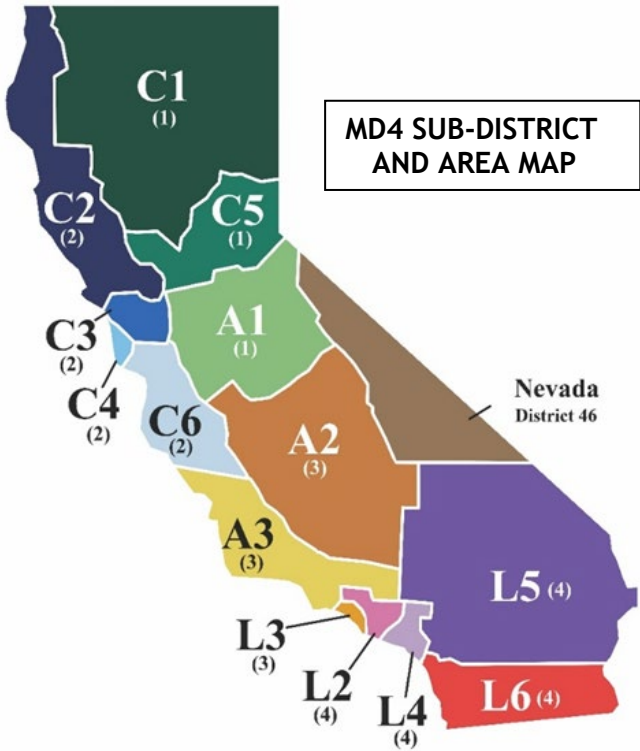


Scholarships sponsored by  
The Fourth District Student Speakers Foundation

## MARKETING

Promote the Student Speakers Contest for Success.

1. Social networking sites such as Twitter, YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and Flickr.
2. Post on District and Club websites.  
Link to video
3. Contact local newspapers, magazines, and city event calendars. Tools to use:
  - Press Release Template
  - Letter to the Editor
  - Display Ad



AREAS AND SUB-DISTRICTS				
1	4-C1	4-C5	4-A1	
2	4-C2	4-C3	4-C4	4-C6
3	4-A2	4-A3	4-L3	
4	4-L2	4-L4	4-L5	4-L6

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## **LETTER FROM THE COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON**

*It is my great honor to welcome you all to the 87th annual Student Speakers Contest hosted by the Multiple District 4 Lions of California. On behalf of this year's Council of Governors and all California Lions, I am pleased to announce this year's chosen topic for the contest: For a better world, what would you change?*

*The Student Speakers Contest is open to all California High School students. Lions work together to select a relevant topic that is of interest to students, Lions, and all people. The contest stimulates student growth and challenges students to higher levels of critical thinking, organization, competition, public speaking, performance, responsibility and sharing diversity of thought as well as boosting confidence and social connection for students. I am always amazed and inspired by the caliber and level of skill that the student speakers bring to the competition! It is my great honor to encourage and applaud the many students that will participate in the contest this year. May you receive the full breadth of intrinsic value from your endeavors!*

*I would like to recognize MD4's awesome Student Speaker Foundation ([studentspeakerfoundation.org](http://studentspeakerfoundation.org)) which makes the scholarships to these outstanding individuals possible. Winners come away with financial support at every level of the contest, with the higher-level winners awarded scholarship money from the foundation. Finally, I want to thank the many Lion and community volunteers that contribute to the success of the competition. I wish all those involved a terrific competition!*

*Craig Durand, Council Chair*

*2023-2024 Council of Governors*

# *California Lions*

## **MULTIPLE DISTRICT FOUR 2023 2024 COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS**

Council Chairperson  
Craig Durand

Council Secretary  
4-C1 Elisa Coyle

Council Treasurer  
4-L4 Drew Sasser

District 4-C2 Rick Carnal

District 4-C3 Manil Babu Shrestha

District 4-C4 Kevin Guess

District 4-C5 Zenny Yagen

District 4-C6 Benjie Fernandez

District 4-A1 Claudia Miller

District 4-A2 Christy Kroell

District 4-A3 Rick Cervantes

District 4-L2 Scarlett Ku

District 4-L3 Lily Harris

District 4-L5 Hank Trueba

District 4-L6 Julio DeGuzman

# MD4 STUDENT SPEAKERS COMMITTEE

## AREA 2

**Chair: 4-C4 Michael Coffaro**, 668 Cedar St. Apt 6, San Carlos, CA 94070 E: sclionmike@yahoo.com C: (650) 303-1888 • R: (650) 591-3845

## AREA 4

**4-L2 Nancy Chen**, 9069 Argo Place Rosemead, Ca. 91770  
Nancy1212@gmail.com

## AREA 1

**4-L5 PCC Dave Johnson**, 21465 Snooks Rd, Colfax, Ca. 95713 E: pccliondave@gmail.com

## AREA 3

**Mary Ann Novak**, 3493 Stiles Ave. Camarillo Ca. 93010  
E: caredtop@aol.com C: (805) 216-0694

C-5 DG Zenny Yagen  
L-3 1st VDG Jennifer Cho  
L-5 1st VDG Alan Winkelstein  
C-5 2nd VDG Brent Showalter



Each year, the District Chairpersons are invited to attend the August Council of Governors meeting to participate in the selection of the contest topic for the year. In addition, the MD4 committee reviews all of the materials used for the contests and welcomes suggestions from the District Chairpersons as to any revisions that should be made.

The District Chairpersons are to encourage Lions in their District to submit topic suggestions prior to the August COG meeting on the MD4 website: [www.md4lions.org](http://www.md4lions.org)

The District Chairperson is responsible for training the Club, Zone and Region Chairs. The training is usually held at the Fall District Meeting.

All Contest materials will be mailed directly to the Club Chairs in October.

## **DISTRICT CHAIRPERSONS**

**4-C1** Niki Manning, P.O. Box 318 Lakehead Ca. 96051  
E: lakeheadniki@yahoo.com C: (530) 515-1280

**4-C2** Deanna Byrne, 231 West View Way, Santa Rosa, Ca. 954 03  
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**4-C3** PDG Calvin (Skip) Zhender, 2488 Wayfarer Court, Discovery Bay,  
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**4-C6** Kathy Spinelli 746 Delaware Ave. San Jose, Ca. 95123 E:  
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**4-A2** PDG Anthony Martinez. P.O. 755 Parlier, Ca. 93648  
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**4-A3** Sheri Hughes. 1199 Pino Solo Dr. Orcutt, Ca 93455  
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**4-L2** PDG Chris Ohrumd. 331 Spur Ave. Walnut, Ca. 91789  
E: Ohru@aol.com C: (909) 646-0673

**4L-3** Myrna Averia.  
E: lionmyrnaaveria@gmail.com C: (323) 377-6053

**4-L4** Lynda Durand. 7602 Anthony Ave Garden Grove Ca.  
92841 E: lyndakdurand@gmail.com C: (714) 260-0101

**4-L5** Dr. Alan Winkelstein. 31217 Pauba Rd. Suite 100,  
Temecula, Ca. 92592. E: drwink@drwink.com C: (915)265-  
1044

**4-L6** Mary Manning. 726 Post Trail, El Cajon, Ca. 92019  
E: edandmary@coxnetnet R: (619) 445-5044

\* Protocol for resolutions of unresolved controversies of rules, processes, procedures shall be directed to the District Chairperson or if unavailable, to the MD4 Area Committee Chairperson

## **CONTEST MATERIAL**

Lions Clubs must order their contest packets online at: [www.md4lions.org](http://www.md4lions.org) no later than October 1 each year.

*After that date a fee of **\$50** is applied prior to delivery of the packet.*

The material is published on the MD4 website: [md4lions.org](http://md4lions.org) for Lions members only as well as a revised handbook for the participants.

### **Please contact your District Chairperson with questions regarding the contest.**

Each District will receive the contest packets for the Area, District, Region and Zone Contests and they are distributed to the appropriate Chairpersons at a regularly scheduled meeting.

Anyone can submit a topic-subject at the beginning of the Lions Year, July 1, to the MD4 Student Speakers Contest Chairperson or on the MD4 website.

## **Contest Dates** also, on page 11

### **Club Contest**

*on or before Monday, February 26, 2024*

### **Zone Contest**

*on or before Monday, March 18, 2024*

### **Region Contest**

*on or before Monday April 15, 2024*

### **District Contest**

*on or before Monday, May 06, 2024*

*(Note: April 13-14, 2024- CHSSA)*

### **Area Contest**

*on or before Monday, May 20, 2024*

### **MD4 Final Contest**

*Joint Council of Governors mtg. Saturday, June 15, 2024*



## **LIONS CLUB SPONSORSHIP**

Lions Clubs agree to extend to the participating schools and students their fullest cooperation. **Individual Clubs also agree to provide for the requirements and welfare of any student whom they may be sponsoring when that student appears in a Zone, Region, District, Area or Final Contest.** Clubs are to lend every assistance in connection with the Student Speakers Contest. Payment of expenses of parents, coaches or other guests is at the sponsoring Club's discretion.

## **PURPOSE OF THE CONTEST**

- To provide an opportunity for competitive public speaking among students on a subject of vital interest to the contestants and to the American people as a whole.
- To stimulate self-expression and independent thinking.
- To present to the public through the student speakers contests the problems surrounding the maintenance of this commonwealth as a free nation.
- To consider the means at our disposal of meeting the present and future world problems.

## **TIME LIMITATIONS**

Students entering the contest shall prepare a talk to be as close as possible to, but not over, ten minutes, nor less than five minutes delivery time.

## **STUDENT SPEAKERS TOPIC SUGGESTIONS**

Anyone may submit topics for the succeeding year. The committee will gladly accept all suggestions. Topics may be submitted online at [www.md4lions.org](http://www.md4lions.org) beginning July 1st of each year.

All proposed suggestions are considered by the Student Speakers Committee and the District Chairpersons. The topics are recommended by them and then submitted to the Council of Governors who make the final selection.

**CONTEST POLICY: The MD4 Student Speakers Committee is solely in charge of the rules and operation of the MD4 Student Speakers Contest. The fourteen (14) District Contest Chairs abide by the rules and operate the District Contests for the Committee. NO OTHER LION SHOULD PROVIDE INFORMATION OR RULE ON ANY STUDENT SPEAKERS CONTEST MATTER.**

## TOPIC

This year's topic has been carefully selected. Entrants should be certain to speak on the topic since points are awarded for adhering to the subject title.

## ENTRANTS

1. The contest is open to students who reside in MD4, including foreign exchange students, grades 9-12 of any high school or junior high school, charter school, private school, home school or independent study.
2. Contestants may have completed grade 12 prior to the termination of the fall semester of the academic year.
3. The presentation shall be given in the English language only. Phrases in a non-English language must be immediately followed by a direct English translation.
4. Winners of the previous MD4 Final Contests are not eligible. Eligible students shall be those of the above grades and under the age of twenty-one as of February 26, 2024.
5. **Only one winner shall be certified to the next succeeding contest.**

**Students should be reminded of their obligation to complete the contest and arrive to contests on time. Scheduling conflicts are the student's responsibility to resolve.**

6. If a student who wins a District Contest forfeits attending any contests above that level, for any unexcused reason (except family emergencies, such as death of an immediate family member, accidents or serious illness) they CANNOT participate in the following year's Student Speakers Contest. . NO EXCEPTIONS.

## AWARDS

Awards must conform to the policy set by the Council of Governors of MD4. This provides for an orderly relationship in the amount of the award at the various contest levels.

**Paid by the Lions 4th District Student Speakers Foundation Inc:**

**District Contests** - The fourteen winners shall each receive a \$4,500.00 scholarship.

**Area Contests** - The four winners shall each receive a \$6,500.00 scholarship.

**Final Contest** - The winner of the MD4 Contest shall receive a \$10,000.00 scholarship.

**Paid by Lions checks:** Club Contests - The Club shall present \$100.00 to the winner and \$25.00 to each finalist. (Who completes minimum time).

Zone Contests - The District shall present \$150.00 to the winner only.

Region Contests - The District shall present \$250.00 to the winner only.

The scholarship awards are to any accredited two or four-year college or university or to any other school approved by the Lions 4th District Student Speakers Foundation, Inc.

The winners shall be allowed seven years from the date of high school graduation to utilize their scholarships. The winner shall receive 33 1/3% upon enrollment and 33 1/3% at the beginning of each succeeding enrolled quarter. For the semester system, the winner shall receive 50% on enrollment and 50% at the beginning of the succeeding enrolled semester. Scholarship payments may be extended over a longer period if it meets the recipient's needs.

If any winners do not utilize any portion of the scholarship within the seven-year period, the money shall revert to the Lions 4th District Student Speakers Foundation, Inc.

A certificate of scholarship provided by the Lions 4th District Student Speakers Foundation, Inc., shall be presented to the winning speakers of the District, Area and MD4 Final Contest.

The high school of the student winning the MD4 Final Contest shall receive an appropriate plaque provided by the Foundation.

Awards furnished at the Club, Zone, Region, District, Area and Final Contest shall be restricted to those approved by the Council of Governors of MD4.

MD4 provides certificates of appreciation for judges and contestants at all levels.

**There shall be no exceptions.  
Any violation of additional awards will  
Result in disqualification of a contestant**

## CLUB CONTESTS

1. The President of each participating Lions Club shall appoint an experienced Lion of the Club as the Club Contest Chairperson.
2. **Clubs on status quo or not in good standing by the date of the Club Contest shall NOT sponsor or participate in the Speakers Contest.**
3. It shall be the duty of the Chairperson to contact all eligible schools and Leo Clubs, other organizations and individuals in the community early enough to allow ample time for student preparation prior to the Club Contest.
4. An appointment should be made with school representatives to discuss the details of the contest.
5. Handbooks should be given to the coaches and teachers. If additional copies are needed, PDFs of the handbook are also available online at <http://www.md4lions.org/student-speakers-contest>.
6. PDFs of the posters are available online for members to print and they should be displayed in a prominent location.
7. **The Chairperson and student participants should stay in contact with the school representatives to check on the progress of the Contest.**
8. **No student shall participate in more than one Club Contest during the Contest year. If only one student is a contestant at any Contest level, the Contest still needs to be conducted.**
9. Where MORE THAN ONE such school exists in a community, speakers from such schools shall compete for first place in a contest sponsored by a Lions Club in the community.
10. No Lions Club may hold more than one Club Contest in any given year. The winning speaker will represent the Club in the Zone Contest.
11. If a question arises as to the sponsorship of various schools by neighboring Lions Clubs, the District Student Speaker Chairpersons, with consent of the District Governors, shall allocate the sponsorship.
12. The size of the room should be adequate for the anticipated audience. The room must be capable of being closed during the Contest. The room should be reasonably quiet when closed.
13. If a meal will be served at the Contest, arrangements should be made to pay for contestants, coaches, judges and other guests at the Clubs discretion. If no meal is served, water must be provided for the Student Speakers.

## **CONTEST DATES**

1. Each contest must be held separately and completed by the following dates regardless of the number of contestants competing.

**If only one (1) student is a contestant at any contest level, the contest still needs to be conducted.**

**Club Contest on or before Monday, February 26, 2024**

**Zone Contest on or before Monday, March 18, 2024**

**Region Contest on or before Monday April 15, 2024**

**District Contest on or before Monday May 06, 2024  
(Note: April 13-14, 2024 CHSSA)**

**Area Contest on or before Monday, May 20, 2024,**

**MD4 Final Contest**

**Joint Council of Governors mtg. Saturday, June 15, 2024**

2. *Zone, Region, District, Area and MD4 Final contest dates must be set and announced no later than the Club level contest.*
3. Failure to complete the contest by the required dates shall disqualify the winners from further competition that year.
4. The Zone Chairpersons, Region Chairpersons, District Student Speakers Chairpersons, Area Chairpersons, and final Chairperson shall be responsible for their respective contests and for the selection of qualified judges. Where a Governor chooses not to appoint Region Chairpersons for their year, the Region level contests will be conducted by Lions appointed by the Governor for that specific purpose. Zone contests cannot be combined with other Zone contests.
5. Each of the Zone, Region, District and Area Chairpersons, by entering representatives in further competition, will be affirming that these candidates completed their preliminary contests no later than the dates set forth.
6. **No contest dates or time once announced shall be changed unless all contestants are given a minimum of one week's notice.**

## **NOTIFICATION OF WINNERS**

Club, Zone, Region, District and Area level Chairpersons should fill out the required information about their contest winner on the form provided and mail or e-mail to the next level Chairperson upon completion of the contest.

Zone, Region, District Area, and Final Chairpersons shall give information about their own contest to their prior level Chairperson two weeks before the prior level contests take place. This can be done by filling out and mailing/e-mailing a form letter which will be given to the winner of the prior level contest by that Chairperson. In addition, once the Tellers' worksheet is received listing the winner, a photocopy of the form letter must be provided to the contest winner. Please cc the MD4 office.

## **AREA LEVEL CONTEST**

**All Area Contestants must hand deliver a printed signed hard copy manuscript with all references cited, to include the contestant's name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, the name of the sponsoring Lions Club and address, the Club's President's name and phone number, and the High School's name and address to the Area Chairperson at the time the speaking order is selected.**

The Area Contest Chairperson submits the winner's manuscript and all other info to the next level and to the MD4 Office. The MD4 Student Speakers Committee Members of the respective Area will be the presiding Chairperson of the that Area contest. The Chairperson shall be responsible for the selection of qualified judges.

These contests must be completed by the required dates. At the conclusion of the Area Contests there will be four speakers eligible to enter the MD4 contest.

The following Districts will constitute Areas:

### Area 1

District 4-C1

District 4-C5

District 4-A1

### Area 3

District 4-A2

District 4-A3

District 4-L3

### Area 2

District 4-C2

District 4-C3

District 4-C4

District 4-C6

### Area 4

District 4-L2

District 4-L4

District 4-L5

District 4-L6

## **MULTIPLE DISTRICT FOUR FINAL CONTEST**

The 2023-2024 MD4 Final Contest will be held on **Saturday June 15, 2024** at the **Hilton Arden West** in **Sacramento Ca.**

Each year the location rotates between Areas with the Joint Council of Governors meeting. The winning speakers at each of the Area Contests of California shall be entitled to appear at the Final Contest if all rules have been complied with.

Area winners will receive travel, hotel and meal expenses for the MD4 Final Contest. Travel will be based upon mileage by the most direct route and reimbursed at fifty cents (.50) per mile round trip mileage or airfare, whichever is less. The maximum allowed for one night's lodging at a hotel will be up to eighty-five dollars (\$85.00), and thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) per meal up to 2 per day all with itemized receipts. It will be the responsibility of the MD4 Area Chairperson to advise the student of the date and place of the Final Contest. Paid receipts shall be submitted to the MD4 office within thirty (30) days following the contest. *MD4 positively will not pay any of the expenses of relatives, chaperones or coaches of the contestants.*

The Final Contest will be recorded by a videographer authorized by the MD4 Student Speakers Committee.

## **MEETING AGENDA**

**Call to Order:** start on time — **This is the official start of the Contest.**

**Pledge of Allegiance:** song and invocation or other desired opening ceremonies, by the Chairperson.

**Draw of Speaker Order**

**Introductory Remarks:** Brief outline of the objects and history of the contest. Announce the subject title of the current contest. State the purpose of the contest:

- To provide an opportunity for competitive public speaking among students on a subject of vital interest to the contestants and to the American people
- To stimulate self-expression and independent thinking.
- To present to the public through the Student Speakers Contest the problems surrounding the maintenance of this country as a free nation.
- To consider the means at our disposal of meeting the present and future world problems.

## START HERE

# CONTEST RULES

## - MUST BE READ AS PRINTED

1. A late contestant shall not compete if arrival time is after the draw of the speaker order for that contest.
2. No one may enter or leave the room while a contestant is speaking. (Call upon Guards to man the doors.) Entry or departure to the room can be made during the intermissions.
3. **No smoking, food or beverages are allowed during the contest, except beverages during intermissions, with the exception, the speakers may drink water during their speech.**
4. Do not applaud the speakers until after the judges' worksheets have been collected.
5. Each speaker will speak for no less than five minutes and no more than ten minutes or penalty/scoring deductions will be applied; no warning signals shall be given.
6. There will be a quiet three-minute intermission between and after speakers, and as much time as needed after the final speaker, to allow judges to complete scoring. There shall be no conferring with judges during the contest.
7. No photography, video or audio taping will be allowed during the contest. Only an MD4 video representative will be authorized to record the FINAL CONTEST.
8. All noise-emitting electronic devices such as phones, etc. must be turned off until the contest is completed.
9. **Any protest relative to the contest must be made to the Chairperson before the winner is announced.**
10. The contest Chairperson shall review and verify the Tellers' worksheets before announcing the results.

## THE FOLLOWING ARE CAUSES FOR DISQUALIFICATION - MUST BE READ AS PRINTED

1. Use or display of props of any nature.
2. Uniforms or any method of personal identification, including saying name and school.
3. Failure to give reference source of quoted material in manuscript submitted at Area level.
4. Use of notes above Club level in excess of one 3x5 card on both sides, or the Braille equivalent.  
**Note: Use of all notes at the Club level is ok.**



5. Use of prompters includes electronic devices.
6. Publication of speech, except for very brief quotations, in print or electronic media (i.e., YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, etc.) prior to completion of the Final Contest.
7. Acceptance of awards other than those approved by the Council of Governors of MD4.
8. Participation in more than one Lions Club Contest during the contest year.
9. Watches or electronic devices of any kind shall not be worn or used by the contestants during the Contest.

**STOP HERE**

***Violation of these rules must result in disqualification of the speaker by the Chairperson, whose decision shall be final. Any protest relative to the contest must be made to the Chairperson before the winner is announced***

**Call speakers** only by number in order. Remind the audience **not** to applaud individual speakers during the Contest. If only one speaker is present, he/she must still speak and be judged.

**Introduce** speakers and judges only after the Tellers have collected all worksheets and have retired from the room.

**Announce** the winner first and present the award.

**Announce** the date, time and place of the next contest.

**Publicize** the Lions Fourth District Student Speakers Foundation, Inc.

**Close the Meeting** this is the official end of the Contest.

## **GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

The student speakers must draw numbers to determine the order of speaking. Also, the Chairperson should obtain the names, schools, sponsoring Lions Clubs, coaches, etc. for each speaker to use in his/her introductions to be made after the contest.

Contestants and judges must not be introduced by name until after the Contest is completed and the judge's Worksheets have been collected. Contestants should be designated by numbers indicating the order of speaking only.

1. Microphones and speaker's stand should be available for use at option of the speaker.
2. Clocks in the contest rooms must be removed or covered.
3. Watches shall not be worn or used by the contestants during the contest.
4. Judges and contestants **shall not** engage in conversation prior to the contest.
5. Worksheets from the contest shall be kept confidential.
6. No penalty shall be assessed in the event the competitor does not address the chair or give the topic title.
7. Students must present speeches in person at all levels.

# JUDGING

## SCHOOL CONTESTS

1. One or more members of the school faculty may determine the winners of all school elimination contests.

## ALL LIONS CONTESTS

1. At the Club, Zone, and Region level, it is required that at least three qualified individuals who are not Lions and have had speech training or experience in public speaking, should be selected as judges by the Chairperson of the respective contests.
2. It is recommended that judges for a given contest, if possible, be from different professions or fields of endeavor and represent each geographical location involved.
3. At the District, Area, and Final Contest, five (5) judges should be used.
4. The Chairperson or his/her designee of each contest will meet with all judges to explain rules and scoring procedures prior to the contest.
5. At least one alternate judge should be selected and available in all contests.
6. When there are five or more speakers (three (3) speakers are recommended for Club Contests but shall be limited to no more than six (6)), and in the District, Area, and Final Contest, it is recommended that a committee of five (5) judges should be selected.
7. **NO** LION, LIONESS, LEO, SPOUSE, PARTNER OR IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER of any living Lion within MD4 shall be permitted to judge at any level.
8. **NO** member of any competing high school faculty shall be selected as a judge.
9. **NO** person shall judge the same contestant in any Lions student speakers contest more than once during the same contest year.

10. Extreme care should be exercised in judge selection to avoid a judge and contestant knowing each other.
11. The judges **MUST not** sit together or with Contestants or confer with anyone during or after the speeches before submitting their worksheets to the Tellers.
12. All scoring by the judges should be whole numbers - not fractions.
13. **NO** two students shall receive the same score on any judges' sheet.
14. No judge can discuss scores with the speakers.

## **SPEECH EVALUATION STANDARDS**

The judges will have in mind the following factors as they listen to each of the speeches. Points indicated are maximum scores.

1. **THE TEXT ALONE** (Thought content)
 

Did the speaker present important ideas?

  - a. Originality ..... 10 points
  - b. The speech adhered to the subject title..... 10 points
  - c. Main points were supported by evidence ..... 10 points
  - d. Conclusion was clearly presented. .... 10 points
2. **DELIVERY ALONE**

Did the speaker give a formal public speech?

  - a. Emphasis, voice control..... 10 points
  - b. Enunciation, pronunciation ..... 10 points
  - c. Sincerity, enthusiasm, poise ..... 10 points
3. **OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS OF THE EFFORT.**
  - a. Was the speech a well-rounded, cohesive effort? ..... 10 points
  - b. Was it logical and organized? ..... 10 points
  - c. Was the speaker persuasive? ..... 10 points

## **INSTRUCTIONS TO TIMERS**

1. In all contests, three people serving as timekeepers shall submit to the Tellers, in writing on OFFICIAL TIMER'S WORKSHEET, the time used by each contestant recorded in minutes and seconds. Stopwatches are recommended for use by the Timers at all contest levels. The official time shall be the average of three Timers worksheets.
2. Timing shall start when the speaker first speaks - not at the conclusion of their salutation to the chair and the audience.
3. There shall be no warning signal given to contestants by the timekeepers or others.

## **INSTRUCTIONS TO TELLERS**

1. **There shall be at least two Tellers at all contests. The duties of the Tellers are to collect the Timers' worksheets and average time scores; collect the judges' worksheets making sure the sheets are signed and no two final scores for a contestant are the same; and check the worksheets for accuracy. Tellers MUST be secluded while tallying the student speakers' scores.**
2. In all competitions a penalty of 2% for each judge's score shall be imposed for each minute or fraction thereof by which the speaker's talk is less than 5 minutes or more than 10 minutes. After deducting any penalties on timing, the Tellers shall designate the places earned by the various speakers on each judge's Worksheet, such as 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc., using an OFFICIAL TELLER'S WORKSHEET.
3. When this has been done, the Tellers will add the total number of first places for each speaker, and the one who had earned the majority of first places shall be declared the winner.
4. If no speaker has a majority (over one-half) of the first places, the Tellers will then total the places earned and the contestant with the lowest total of places earned will be declared as the winner.
5. In the event they are tied with the same total of places earned, the tie shall be settled by adding the scores of the tied speakers, and the one with the highest total of such scores, after deducting time penalties, shall be declared the winner of the contest.
6. In the event they also tied with the same percentage scores, the tie shall be settled by using the Timers worksheet and awarding the contest to the speaker who comes closest to, without going over, the maximum ten-minute limit. That person shall therefore be declared the winner of the contest.

7. The contest Chairperson shall review and verify the Teller's worksheets before announcing the results.
8. **Under no circumstances should anyone but the winner be announced. All students not winning should always be considered finalists.**

## **CERTIFICATES**

1. One type of certificate will be used for presentation to judges and contestants at all levels.
2. It is recommended that certificates be typed or professionally printed and placed in presentation folders in advance of the contest. Certificates and templates can be electronically acquired through the MD4 website. After judging has been completed indicate the level of the contest and "Winner" or "Finalist" on the line in the lower right-hand corner of the contestant's certificate.
3. Twelve (12) certificates are included in all Club packets. If additional certificates are required, please call the MD4 Office or download them from the website. ALWAYS USE THE OFFICIAL CERTIFICATE.

## **AFTER THE CONTEST (CHECK WHEN COMPLETED)**

1. Make sure the Teller's Worksheet is completed in its entirety including the name of your Club, Zone, Region, District or Area, whichever is appropriate.
2. Send the Teller's Worksheet, Judge's Worksheets and contest Winner's Notification form along with any unused printed material to the Chairperson of the next level contest.
3. Zone, Region, District and Area Chairs upon receipt of the above material send a copy of the form letter of congratulations to the contest winner.
4. At least two weeks before the prior level contest send the original form letter of congratulations to your prior level chair. In the letter give the date, time, place and reservation requirements. Example: A Club contest is scheduled for February 18. The Zone Chair sends the form letter to that Club Chair by February 4 to be given to the winner of that contest.
5. The scores given by the judges for an INDIVIDUAL STUDENT may be given to that student or the student's speech coach. Do not identify the judges or disclose the scores of the other students.
6. The Club Chairperson shall present the Student Speakers handbook to the winner at the conclusion of the Club Contest.

# **THE FOURTH DISTRICT STUDENT SPEAKERS FOUNDATION, INC.**

## **HISTORY**

### **BY PAST INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR DWIGHT STANFORD**

When District 4 was split up into five Sub-Districts in 1937, Fred Smith (later International President) became the first District Governor of District 4-C. His District ran from Stockton down to the southern end of the San Joaquin Valley and included the coast Area from Paso Robles through Oxnard. He realized that the Clubs in his new District had nothing more in common than they did with the Club in San Francisco or San Diego. He expressed his thoughts to the other officers in his District and asked for suggestions. One of his Deputy District Governors, Frank Colston, superintendent of schools in Oxnard, suggested a student speaker contest for high school students in the District. The idea was approved as something that would give all the Clubs in the District something in common and hopefully, would bring them closer together as a unit. From that we are told, the contest was a great success.

The following year, James Hodges, District Governor from Covina, proposed to the Council of Governors that Fred's speech contest become a project for all of District Four. The proposal was adopted, and the contest has been one of our District's principal projects ever since. During the past sixty years, many groups and Clubs have followed our lead by engaging in joint service activities. It is one of the stars in our MD4 crown.

In the beginning the Student Speaker Foundation was organized by Don Snyder, District Governor of 4-A3, 1958-59 who first asked PIP Fred Smith and then International Director Dwight Stanford to join him as the organizers and first directors of the Foundation. Don did all the work getting IRS and California taxing authorities' approval. He is now a lifetime, honorary director of the Foundation, as is Dwight Stanford.

The Foundation's first cash came from the profits of the Lions Goods Store at the MD4 convention. District Governor Al Mendel of Apple Valley, 1961-62, ran the store and suggested the gift. The first few years of the Foundation were a bit thorny. It was hard for the organization to collect money when it had very little prestige. Gradually the situation changed, and the Foundation began to supplement the prizes which heretofore had been paid entirely out of the MD4 budget. Foundation funds come entirely from voluntary donations and income from the accumulated assets.

Past International President Fred Smith was the first President of the Foundation, followed by Past International Directors Dwight Stanford and Robert E. Anderson. Past District Governors Seeley J. Kondris, George "Jake" Jacobssen served between 1994 and 2002, Gordon Wellman served between 2002 and 2005, PDG Al Ohrmund served between 2005-2012, PDG Ken Sherwood served between 2012-2015, PCC William Dunlevy served 2015-2016 and the current president is PDG Chris Ohrmund.

For the 2023-2024 Contest, the Foundation will provide all the prizes above the Region level, as it has done now for many years. Each of the 14 District winners will receive a \$4,500 scholarship. The four Area winners will each receive an additional \$6,500 and the final MD4 winner another \$10,000. For the latter, the total accumulated scholarships will be \$21,000 and the other three Area winners will have \$11,000 each. Total scholarships awarded in the Contest amount to approximately \$10,000, all from the Foundation.



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**STATEMENTS FROM THE 2022-2023  
Contestants  
Student Speaker MD4 Final Contest**

**Md4 Contest Winner  
Jacob Sandoval—Area 3**

*I remember the day I won my district contest clearly. In the moment I said "if all else fails, I can at least say I made it this far" that was something that stayed with me up until the very end. Not once did I think I'd win, not in a million years. And every time I advanced I would say the same thing. "I can at least say I made it this far" The struggle to overcome the idea that I wasn't good enough to keep going was hard. It was hard to not be able to see what others saw in me.*

*As the co-captain of my Speech and Debate Team I understood the time and effort it takes to win. I knew it wouldn't be easy. But like the quote above says "Our greatest weakness lies in giving up." So every time I'd stand up to give my speech, in my head, I'd tell myself "just one more time." To win the Student Speaker contest was life changing. It was such a surreal moment because everything I had worked at, all the time, tears, wins, and loses they all helped me get to where I ended up.*

*But I did not win alone.*

*First, thank you to MD4 Lions Club for providing students with the platform to speak on important topics. Next, to my sponsoring club, the Cutler-Orosi Lions. Thank you for believing in me the entire contest. I am fortunate to say that they stuck by me until the very end. To the Patels and Anna Herrera, thank you for always being the shoulder to lean on when I needed it. To Chad Widman, Alex Widman, and Linda Duran. I cannot stress enough how thankful I am for your continued support. Thank you for always driving me to all my contests, thank you for always giving me pep talks before I'd speak, thank you to Chad for your exceptional words of wisdom, thank you to Alex for coaching me, and thank you to Linda for always believing in me. Without you three I never could have won. Lastly, to my Speech and Debate coach Karson Kalashian. I can't possibly fit all my thanks you's into this, but I will say this. When it felt like everyone had given up on me, you didn't. You always saw the potential I had and what I could become and you never stopped pushing me to be my best. I accredit all my speaking skills to you. Because without you I never would have learned all the fundamentals of public speaking nor*

*gotten over my fears.*

*These are all things that helped me get to where I am now. I can say I don't have to worry about paying for my general education classes thanks to the Student Speaker contest. If I had to give advice to any student out there wanting to participate in the Student Speaker contest It would be the following: Pick the side you truly believe in, don't attempt to play to both sides of the coin, it's your voice, use it for good. Every time your situation seems impossible always remember "Your greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time"*

#### ***MD4 CONTEST FINALIST***

***Audrey Vinci –Area 4***

*My name is Audrey Vinci and I am the proud student speaker representative of the Pomona Host Lions Club. 2023 marks my third year participating in the student speaker contest, and my second year competing at the final round of competition. Having competed before, I was highly excited to re-enter the contest and write a speech on one of the most urgent and relevant issues facing young people today: Social Media. "Social Media: Connects Us, or Isolates Us?" Though a rather complicated topic, I immediately knew what I wanted to say. No issue is one sided, and social media is no exception. The issue is not as simple as "isolates" or "connects." Rather we must understand that social media's impact is heavily influenced by how it is used, so I resolved to create a solution-oriented speech, addressing both the positives and negatives of social media and elaborating on the ways in which we can take ahold of our experiences and use social media in a safe and healthy way. I felt it necessary and important to acknowledge social media as a tool and resource to be utilized and valued, rather than something to be misused or frightened of. I was so proud to have the chance to share my personal experiences with social media, and the experiences had by hundreds of other teens on social media platforms. From positive connection with people across the world and the ability to make friends with the click of a button, to social detachment and worsened social abilities - It was an honor to share my thoughts with so many wonderful Lions this year. The Lions Club Student Speakers Contest is one of the most generous programs I have ever had the honor of being apart of.*

*I am so grateful for the value that is put on my voice and the voices of so many other young people through this competition. By providing a platform for young people to share perspectives about difficult issues while earning scholarships, the Lions Club is helping us to become well educated and well spoken young men and women. I would like to especially thank my beautiful and amazing mother, who listened to my speech over 100 times, my father and siblings who supported me, my coach, Mr. Tom Vavra who facilitated my ability to participate in this contest, all of the Lions under Area 4, and of course, a very special thank you to WendyAnn, Ann, Jo, Gil, and all of the other Lions at the Pomona Host Lions Club who cheered me on. Competing with Lions Club has been an unforgettable experience, and I am eternally grateful for everything the Lions have done for me.*

***STUDENT SPEAKER MD4 FINAL CONTEST***

***MD4 CONTEST WINNER 2021-2022***

***Alex Widman — Area 3***

*I write this as a guiding quote to all of those competing in the MD4 Student Speaker Contest. "If at first, you don't succeed, try, try and try again." (Robert the Bruce, 1314) It took four years of writing, revising, winning, and losing to get beyond the District round. Even then, I felt fortunate to make it beyond the Club contest. Never in a million years did I think I could make the final round, let alone win. Although winning was a plus, I would say that learning to be confident in my ability as a speaker and an individual, would be my greatest takeaway. If someone from the middle of nowhere, can do it, I have faith that you can too. If not at first, "try, try and try again."*

*As the co-captain of my Speech and Debate Team, I have competed and won many awards at tournaments throughout my high school career. I was even the California State Champion in Humorous Interpretation. Aside from Speech and Debate, all things math and science-related are of interest to me. For college, I intend to get a degree in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science from UC Berkeley, and one day help bring opportunities of the STEM field to students of low income. In my opinion, education and experience are key. I would first like to thank the Multiple District Four California Lions for giving students a platform to*

*Speak out on such important topics. More than that, the scholarships that are attached to the speak-off are enough to change one's life. You have given me peace of mind when it comes to paying off my general education classes. This gives me time to work and save up money to pay for my major-specific courses. A thank you has to go out to my sponsoring club, the Cutler-Orosi Lions. They have stuck beside me during the four years of competition. Win or lose, they were still there to cheer me on. I would also like to thank my speech coach Karson Kalashian. He is probably one of the most sincerely aggravating people on planet Earth. However, without him, I would not be the person I am today. He drove his wife and two daughters from Sanger California to Reno just to watch me give my last in-person speech in High School. If he does not deserve a thank you, I don't know who does. Lastly, I would like to thank my parents, Chad Widman and Linda Duran. They are the pillars that hold up my foundation. When times are rough, they are there to comfort me, but more importantly, they have always pushed me to be the best me I can be. Thank you, Mom and Dad, I love you.*

*Growing up in a low-income, minority community, I understand the importance of education. In my opinion, it is one of the most important things necessary to escape poverty. When the constant of school was stripped away from children, impoverished or affluent, it was clear that there were negative effects across the board. Grades dropped, motivation to push on nearly disappeared, and worst of all suicides among youth were on the rise. We as students needed to make our voices heard. If not for ourselves, then for our classmates that the education system let down.*

*There may not be a singular solution to providing equal education to all students during moments of national turmoil, but after COVID-19, it is clear that in-person schooling is necessary. Now that we understand how important in-person education is, we can do our part to ensure that it is never taken away again. We can do this by speaking out on behalf of our students. I have now become a Lions member to give back to my community and to speak up for those who can't. "If at first, I don't succeed, I will try, try and try again."*

## **PREVIOUS CONTEST WINNERS**

1937-38 Benjamin Hoover, Modesto High School, Modesto, CA  
"AMERICANISM"

Sponsored by Modesto Lions Club.

1938-39 George Grover, Glendale High School, Glendale, CA  
"DEMOCRACY"

Sponsored by Glendale Lions Club.

1939-40 Joseph Hadzima, Chaffey Union High School, Ontario, CA  
"THE WILL TO BE FREE"

Sponsored by Ontario Lions Club.

1940-41 Mary Sowden, Anaheim High School, Anaheim, CA  
"DEMOCRACY IN A CHANGING WORLD"

Sponsored by Ontario Lions Club.

1941-42 Franklin Brown, Tulare High School, Tulare, CA  
"OUR NATIONS SECURITY"

Sponsored by Tulare Lions Club.

1942-43 Emerson Arends, Fremont High School, Sunnyvale, CA  
"AFTER THE WAR - WHAT"

Sponsored by Sunnyvale Lions Club

1943-44 John Irwin Trotter, Huntington Park High School,  
Huntington Park, CA

"WINNING THE PEACE FOR AMERICAN MANPOWER"

Sponsored by Vernon Lions Club.

1944-45 Mac Ward, Notre Dame High School, San Francisco, CA  
"WHAT MY PARENTS MEAN TO ME"

Sponsored by Mission (SF) Lions Club.

1945-46 Mary J. Doudna, Boulder City, Nevada.

"MY RESPONSIBILITY AS A YOUNG AMERICAN TO LASTING  
WORLD PEACE"

Sponsored by Boulder City Lions Club.

1946-47 Dave Ford, San Rafael High School, San Rafael, CA  
"CAN YOUTH, BY LOCAL LEADERSHIP, STRENGTHEN THE  
RESPONSIBILITY OF GOVERNMENT?"

Sponsored by San Rafael Lions Club.

1947-48 Ed Marshall, Las Vegas High School, Las Vegas, NV.  
"DO FRONTIERS OF OPPORTUNITY STILL EXIST FOR AMERICAN  
YOUTH?"

Sponsored by Las Vegas Lions Club.

1948-49 Bo Jansen, Glendale High School, Glendale, CA  
"THE UNITED NATIONS - SAFEGUARD OF HUMAN LIBERTY"

Sponsored by Glendale Lions Club.

1949-50 Bill Van Alstyne, Dorsey High School, Los Angeles, CA  
"EDUCATION IN AMERICAN IDEALS - BASIS FOR  
INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING"

Sponsored by the University Crenshaw District Lions Club.

1950-51 Gabe Solomon, Bakersfield High School, Bakersfield, CA  
"AMERICAN VOTERS' RESPONSIBILITIES"

Sponsored by Oildale Lions Club.

1951-52 William Bethel, San Jose High School, San Jose CA  
"LEARNING TO LIVE TOGETHER"

Sponsored by San Jose Lions Club.

1952-53 Harkjoon Paik, Monterey Union High School,  
Monterey, CA "MAN'S SEARCH FOR SECURITY"

Sponsored by Monterey Peninsula Lions Club.

1953-54 Arveal Felts, San Bernadino High School, San Bernadino, CA "WHAT THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES MEANS TO ME"  
Sponsored by San Bernadino Uptown Lions Club.

1954-55 Barry N. Watson, Santa Ana High School, Santa Ana, CA "SAFETY THROUGH SANE LIVING"  
Sponsored by Santa Ana Lions Club.

1955-56 Dan E. McCall, Modesto High School, Modesto, CA "YOUTH'S PROBLEMS OF TOMORROW"  
Sponsored by Modesto Lions Club.

1956-57 Martin McNair, Polytechnic High School, Long Beach, CA "MY PLACE IN THE WORLD OF 1976"  
Sponsored by Downtown Long Beach Lions Club.

1957-58 David Bartlett, Los Angeles High School, Los Angeles, CA "COMMUNITY SERVICE - A WAY OF LIFE"  
Sponsored by City Terminal (Los Angeles) Lions Club.

1958-59 Heidi Pavelka, El Cerrito High School, El Cerrito, CA "COMPLACENCY - A DANGER TO AMERICA"  
Sponsored by El Cerrito Lions Club.

1959-60 Joan Moran, Marin Catholic High School, San Rafael, CA "PEOPLE TO PEOPLE - KEY TO WORLD UNDERSTANDING"  
Sponsored by San Rafael Lions Club.

1960-61 Lew Sargentich, Alhambra High School, Alhambra, CA "OUR NATIONAL HERITAGE - PATTERN FOR TODAY" Sponsored by Alhambra Lions Club.

1961-62 Tim Eagen, Montgomery High School, Santa Rosa, CA "MY RESPONSIBILITY IN A CHANGING WORLD"  
Sponsored by Montgomery Village Lions Club.

1962-63 Eric J. Van Young, John Marshall High School, Los Angeles, CA "CONFORMITY - A REAL CHALLENGE TO ME"  
Sponsored by Griffith Park Lions Club.

1963-64 Suzanne Couture, Grace M. Davis High School, Modesto, CA "MORAL INTEGRITY - IMPERATIVE FOR SURVIVAL"  
Sponsored by Modesto 500 Lions.

1964-65 Elizabeth Zepada, Alhambra High School, Alhambra, CA "MATURITY - ITS PRIVILEGES AND RESPONSIBILITIES"  
Sponsored by Alhambra Lions Club.

1965-66 Warren R. Chambers, Sweetwater High School, National City, CA "LAW AND LIBERTY"  
Sponsored by the National City Lions Club.

1966-67 Cliff Howard Finlayson, Richmond Union High School, Richmond, CA "PEACE IS ATTAINABLE"  
Sponsored by Richmond Breakfast Lions Club.

1967-68 Robert P. Manley, Mount Shasta High School, Mount Shasta, CA "FREE ENTERPRISE - THE CORNERSTONE OF OUR REPUBLIC"  
Sponsored by Mount Shasta Lions Club.

1968-69 Mark McConville, Villanova Prep School, Ojai, CA "THE HOPES AND FEARS OF TODAY'S YOUTH"  
Sponsored by Meiners Oaks Lions Club.

1969-70 Glen E. Aubrey, Grossmont High School, La Mesa, CA "GENERATION GAP - FACT OR FANTASY?"  
Sponsored by Fletcher Hills Lions Club.

1970-71 Christine Baron, Grossmont High School, La Mesa, CA "SHOULD YOUTH BECOME INVOLVED?"  
Sponsored by Fletcher Hills Lions Club.



1971-72 Robert M. Shatswell, Branham High School, San Jose, CA "EDUCATION TODAY - AS I SEE IT"  
Sponsored by Cambrian Park Lions Club.

1972-73 Alexander Zubak, Del Valle High School, Walnut Creek, CA "ADULTHOOD AT 18 - ITS RESPONSIBILITIES"  
Sponsored by Walnut Creek (Diablo Valley) Lions Club.

1973-74 Daniel J. McLoon, Valencia High School, Placentia, CA "ECOLOGY - ITS PRICE"  
Sponsored by Brea Lions Club.

1974-75 Loren R. Hooker, Hughson High School, Waterford, CA "AMERICA'S FUTURE - WHERE NOW"  
Sponsored by Waterford Lions Club.

1975-76 David Huscher, San Luis Obispo High School, San Luis Obispo, CA "CITIZEN RIGHTS VS. CRIMINAL RIGHTS"  
Sponsored by San Luis Obispo Lions Club.

1976-77 Brian Austin Baker, Corona High School. Corona, CA "GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE - FACT OR FICTION?"  
Sponsored by Corona Lions Club.

1977-78 Louis Hawthorne, Ventura High School, Ventura, CA "TOMORROW'S ENERGY - TODAY'S DILEMMA"  
Sponsored by Ventura Avenue Lions Club.

1978-79 Debra Dunn, Wheatland High School, Wheatland, CA "WHO AM I?"  
Sponsored by Wheatland Lions.

1979-80 Susan Essex, Mr. Whitney High School, Visalia, CA "TAXPAYERS' REVOLT - WHERE WILL IT LEAD?"  
Sponsored by Visalia Sequoia Lions Club.

1980-81 Bertine Groepe, Foreign Exchange Student from South Africa attending Acalaces High School, Lafayette, CA "MY WORLD - MY ANSWER"  
Sponsored by Lafayette Lions Club.

1981-82 June E. Tierney, Hoover High School, Fresno, CA "FREEDOM AND ITS RESPONSIBILITIES"  
Sponsored by Fresno Breakfast Lions Club.

1982-83 Timothy S. Galbraith, Birmingham High School, Woodland Hills, CA "NUCLEAR USE OR MISUSE"  
Sponsored by Woodland Hills Lions Club.

1983-84 David R. Hall, Carson High School, Carson City, NV. "EDUCATION - WHOSE RESPONSIBILITY"  
Sponsored by Carson City Host Lions Club.

1984-85 Robin Marie Kim, St. Mary's High School, Stockton, CA "TELEVISION - MASTER OR SERVANT"  
Sponsored by Waterloo Italian Lions Club.

1985-86 Beverly Rodriguez, Cypress High School, Cypress, CA "SPACE EXPLORATION, WHAT PURPOSE?"  
Sponsored by Buena Park Noon Lions Club.

1986-87 Evette J. Castillo, Pittsburg High School, Pittsburg, CA "DRUG ABUSE - WHAT IS THE SOLUTION?"  
Sponsored by Pittsburg Lions Club.

1987-88 Jason Matthews. Covina High School, Covina, CA "THE OCEAN - BREADBASKET OR WASTE BASKET?"  
Sponsored by Covina Breakfast Lions Club.

1988-89 Carol Caronna, San Dieguito High School, Carlsbad, CA "TRANSPORTATION 2001 - HOW WILL WE GET THERE?"  
Sponsored by Carlsbad Lions Club.

1989-90 Inie Park, Marlborough School, Los Angeles, CA  
 "WHAT THE AMERICAN FLAG MEANS TO ME"  
 Sponsored by Los Angeles Evergreen Lions Club.

1990-91 Dawn Steeves, Alhambra High School, Martinez, CA  
 "PEER PRESSURE - CAN YOU SAY NO?"  
 Sponsored by Martinez Lions Club.

1991-92 Gordon Thomas Wittman, Anderson High School,  
 Anderson, CA "VOTING: A RIGHT OR A RESPONSIBILITY?"  
 Sponsored by Anderson Lions Club.

1992-93 Shantel Pleasants, Reed High School, Sparks, Nevada.  
 "DOES TODAY'S EDUCATION MEET TOMORROW'S NEEDS?"  
 Sponsored by Sparks Greenbrae Lions Club.

1993-94 Keith A. Barry, Reed High School, Sparks, Nevada.  
 "TODAY'S YOUTH - WHY THE VIOLENCE?"  
 Sponsored by Sparks Greenbrae Lions Club.

1994-95 Lorna Perez, St. Mary's High School, Stockton, CA  
 "THE MEDIA - DO THEY GO TOO FAR?"  
 Sponsored by Stockton Fil-Am Lions Club.

1995-96 Kristina Williams, Fairfield High School, Fairfield,  
 CA "AFFIRMATIVE ACTION - PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE"  
 Sponsored by Suisun Valley Lions Club.

1996-97 Heather Jordan, Newport Beach High School,  
 Newport Beach, CA "TODAY'S LEGAL SYSTEM - IS IT JUSTICE?"  
 Sponsored by Harbor Mesa Lions Club.

1997-98 Heather Torvend, Beyer High School, Modesto, CA  
 "CYBERSPACE - RIGHTS VS. CONTROL"  
 Sponsored by Modesto Breakfast Lions Club.

1998-99 Lourdes Libre, Mercy High School, San Francisco, CA  
 "CLONING - HOW FAR SHOULD SCIENCE GO?"  
 Sponsored by San Francisco Nikkei Lions Club.

1999-00 Jonna Lee Henderson, Arbuckle, CA "COMMUNITY  
 SERVICE - WHOSE RESPONSIBILITY IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM?"  
 Sponsored by Arbuckle Lions Club.

2000-01 Michael Sheehan, St. Augustine High School, San  
 Diego, CA "POLITICS - ISSUES OR MONEY?"  
 Sponsored by Hillcrest Mission Valley Lions Club.

2001-02 Victoria Wang, San Marino High School, San Marino,  
 CA "ENERGY - WHAT'S THE FUTURE?"  
 Sponsored by the San Marino Lions Club.

2002-2003 Alan Haimowitz, Analy High School, Sebastopol, CA  
 "TERRORISM AND WORLD SECURITY"  
 Sponsored by the Rohnert Park El Rancho Lions Club.

2003-2004 Ryan Villanueva, Mission Viejo High School, Mission  
 Viejo, CA "DEMOCRACY - IS IT FOR EVERYONE?"  
 Sponsored by Mission Viejo Lions Club.

2004-2005 Losmeiya Huang, Gabriellino High School, San  
 Gabriel, CA "IS ATTITUDE THE KEY TO SUCCESS?"  
 Sponsored by LA Downtown Lions Club.

2005-2006 Thomas Murphy, Bishop Amat High School, Covina,  
 CA "THE INTERNET - HERO OR VILLAIN"  
 Sponsored by West Covina Lions Club.

2006-2007 Harveen Gill, Yuba City, CA  
 "GLOBAL WARMING - FACT OR FICTION"  
 Sponsored by Yuba City Peach Bowl Lions Club.

2007-2008 Hannah Drain, Hayfork High School, Hayfork, CA  
 "IMMIGRATION-MY SOLUTION"  
 Sponsored by the Hayfork Lions Club.

2008-2009 Eric Brewster, Long Beach Polytechnic High School, Long Beach, CA "WATER-WILL CA BE LEFT HIGH AND DRY?" Sponsored by the Downtown Long Beach Lions Club.

2009-2010 Miles Witthaus, Area 2, Campbell, CA "UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE - HOW WILL IT AFFECT US?" Sponsored by the San Jose West/Campbell Lions Club.

2010-2011 Gabriel Gonzalvez, Area 2, Cupertino, CA ENFORCING OUR BORDERS; STATE VS. FEDERAL RIGHTS Sponsored by the West San Jose Campbell Lions Club

2011-2012 Jake Chambers, Area 1, Calaveras, CA WHAT COULD THE AMERICA OF YESTERDAY TEACH THE AMERICA OF TOMORROW? Sponsored by the San Andreas 49er Breakfast Lions Club

2012-2013 Esther Maddox, Area 3, Pearblossom, CA HOW DO WE CREATE AND KEEP JOBS IN AMERICA? Sponsored by the Acton Lions Club

2013-2014 Ryan Kelly Murphy, Area 4, Temecula, CA COMMUNITY SERVICE-WHAT DOES IT MEAN AND WHY DOES IT MATTER? Sponsored by the Temecula Lions Club

2014-2015 Madeline Claire Libby, Area 2, Sonoma Valley High School, CA "WATER CONSERVATION-HOW DO WE REDUCE, REUSE AND RECLAIM?" Sponsored by the Valley of the Moon Lions Club

2015-2016 Miranda Mize, Area 3, El Camino High School Ventura, CA "LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL" ...WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU?" Sponsored by the Ventura Downtown Lions Club

2016-2017 Indigo Funk, Area 2, Ukiah High School "IS THE RIGHT TO PRIVACY A THREAT TO OUR NATIONAL SECURITY?" Sponsored by Ukiah Redwood Empire Lions Club

2017-2018 Enrique Arcilla, Area 4 "INTEGRITY AND CIVILITY PLAY WHAT ROLE IN TODAY'S SOCIETY?" Sponsored by The Apple Valley Lions Club

2018-2019 Arron Hall, Area 1, Minarets High School "FREEDOM OF SPEECH, WHAT DOES IT MEAN?" Sponsored by the North Fork Lions Club

2019-2020 Halle Schaffe, Area 4, "HOMELESSNESS IN CALIFORNIA; WHAT IS THE SOLUTION?" Sponsored by The Encinitas Lions Club

2020-2021 Alexandre Widman, Area 3 "ONLINE AND DISTANCE LEARNING; PROS AND CONS." Sponsored by the Cutler Orosi Lions Club 4-A2

2022-2023 Jacob Sandoval, Area 3 "Social Media: Connects Us or Isolates Us?" Sponsored by the Cutler Orosi Lions Club 4-A2

## **AN INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LIONS 4TH DISTRICT STUDENT SPEAKERS FOUNDATION, INC.**

The Lions Fourth District Student Speakers Foundation Inc. is a California non-profit corporation (# 95-6104287) governed by a board of directors and fifteen trustees. Its purpose is to provide the scholarships given to winners of the California Student Speakers Contest.

The Foundation will provide \$103,500.00 total awards for the 2023-2024 contest. The assets of the Foundation are invested in a diversified portfolio to provide the highest rate of guaranteed return obtainable with maximum security for the principal. Under this investment policy and with continually increasing assets the Foundation will be able to raise substantially its annual contribution to the awards in future years.

### **HOW YOU CAN HELP**

1. By personal and club donations.
2. By memorial gifts to honor departed Lions and friends.
3. By gifts of property, stocks or bonds.
4. By including the Foundation in your will, and thereby becoming a member of the Student Speakers Bequest Club.
5. By becoming involved in the Supporter Program:

Al Ohrmund Supporter Award - will be conferred upon any District, Club or individual contributing a single donation of \$250.00. The award is named in honor of PDG Al Ohrmund who served as Foundation President 2005-2012

Supporter Patch/Year Chevron - minimum of \$100.00 yearly donation, a District, Club, or individual will receive a patch or year chevron.

The Foundation also has established four fellowships, named to honor distinguished Lions who have been instrumental in the formation and operation of the Foundation.

**Fred W. Smith Fellow** - will be conferred upon any District, Club, or individual contributing \$500.00 to the Foundation in a single donation.

**Donald E. Snyder Fellow** - will be conferred upon any District, Club or individual contributing \$400.00 to the Foundation in a single donation.

**Dwight E. Stanford Fellow** - will be conferred upon any District, Club or individual contributing \$300.00 to the Foundation in a single donation.

**Harry J. Aslan Fellow** - will be conferred upon any District, Club or individual contributing \$200.00 to the Foundation in a single donation.

*Donations to the Foundation are deductible under both State and Federal taxing regulations and should be made payable to the "4th District Student Speakers Foundation, Inc."*

*Please mail all donations to the Foundation's Office Address.*

*Lions' 4th District Student Speakers Foundation, Inc.*

*501(c)3 Non-Profit Corporation # 95-6104287*

*331 Spur Trail Avenue, Walnut, CA 91789*

## WHO ARE THE LIONS?

Lions are men and women who volunteer their time to humanitarian causes in their local and world communities. By conducting service projects and raising funds, Lions strive to help those in need, wherever the need exists. The Lion's motto is "We Serve".

The International Organization of Lions Clubs was founded in Chicago, Illinois in 1917. It is the world's largest service club organization with 1.4+ million members in 219 countries and geographic areas.

## WHAT DO LIONS DO?

The Lions of California, known as MD4 (Multiple District Four), do many wonderful projects including:

- Provide services to the blind and visually impaired in their local communities and through Lions foundations.
- Support youth programs such as Lions Quest, a substance abuse prevention program; youth exchange programs where students travel to foreign countries; and high school Leo clubs who participate in service activities, literacy and culture projects.
- Sponsor a student speakers contest which provides. Approximately \$103,500 in scholarships to high school students for higher education.

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership in a Lions club is by invitation. In addition to community service, members have opportunities to develop personal friendships and gain leadership skills.

For more information:

Please contact your local Lions Club.

