



Convention President

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Dr. Brett Snowden

State Oratorical Director

Jacques Durand, Jr .

Florida General Baptist Convention, Inc.

Florida East Coast Baptist Association

Congress of Christian Education Oratorical Contest 2025



Categories

Collegiate, Junior, Intermediate, Primary

Oratorical Categories

Students should be classified based on the 2025-2026 academic school year.

Each district association will be allowed to submit one candidate per category.

- **Collegiate** (Undergraduate Students)

- **Eligibility:**

- Must be a registered student of a post-secondary institution.
 - Must provide a letter proving membership from your home church or watchcare membership. The letter must be from the church's head pastor. The listed church must be part of the Florida General Baptist Convention, Inc.

Watchcare Membership: A temporary or associate form of church membership offered to college students who are away from their home church but still desire spiritual oversight and fellowship. It allows them to participate in worship, receive pastoral care, and engage in church activities without transferring to full membership.

Only applies to collegiate category

- **Junior** (Grades 9-11)
- **Intermediate** (Grades 5-8)
- **Primary** (Grades 1-4)

Oration Themes

Collegiate

Theme: Honoring Our Past, Building Our Future

Scripture(s): Deuteronomy 6:6-7

Focus: Highlighting how the Black church can supplement education in today's society by teaching African American history and faith-based activism to the next generation.

Junior, Intermediate, Primary

Theme: Anchored in God's Word: Standing Firm in an Ever-Changing World Scripture(s): Isaiah 40:8, Psalm 18:2

Focus: Encouraging resilience and stability through God's unchanging truth in a rapidly evolving society.

When

Monday, July 21, 2025, (Time-TBA)

Presentation of Oration

- The FECBA Congress of Christian Education Oratorical Contest will occur on **Monday, July 21, 2025**, (Time-TBA)
 - **Location:**
St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church
Delray Beach, Florida
- Orations must be **memorized**. No sing-song tones, props, or aides.
- It must be prepared by the contestant and must be original.
- **Typed double-spaced; New Times Roman, 12 pt. font size. Minimum requirement of 300 words. Maximum requirement of 800 words.**
- Speech must be logical and relevant to the theme, based on the key scripture(s) and prompt provided.
- Use the key scripture(s) and at least two (2) other scriptures to support your position.
- You are encouraged to use statistical data to support your position.
- Use of any quotations and/or copyrighted material in the speech must be identified and cited, including AI (Artificial Intelligence) software.

Organization of Speech

- The speech must use the appointed scripture(s) and theme.
- All speeches must be original, prepared, and written by the contestant.
- Any use of quotes and wording, not by the oratorical contestant, must be properly cited using the citation format of the orator's choice.
- The speech must be typewritten, organized, and submitted in a .pdf format in Times New Roman, 12-point black font, double-spaced.
- The speech must progress logically, be correct in form and content, be relevant, and address the established theme and scripture.
- Presentations should be 3-5 minutes in length.

- There should be no typographical or grammatical errors in the final submitted copy. The speech must document all references or copyrighted material cited in the oration. All supporting documentation must be neatly printed, complete, and accurate.

Attire**Males:**

- Long pants, dress shirt, tie, suit, and coat

Females:

- Dress or suit skirt
- Hosiery

Competition Checklist for State Oratorical:

- Advance through district oratorical contests.
- Ensure contestants' church and district are registered to attend the 2025 FGBCI Congress of Christian Education. All oratorical participants must be registered and attending the FGBCI Congress of Christian Education.

ORATORICAL CONTEST PARTICIPANT INFORMATION FORM

_____ Collegiate _____ Junior
_____ Intermediate _____ Primary

Name: _____

Church: _____

Church Address: _____

Pastor's Name: _____

District Association: _____

District Moderator: _____

District Congress Dean/President:

District Oratorical Director:

College/University or Post-Secondary Institution:
