

## C. HENRY SMITH ORATORICAL CONTEST

In 1974, the directors of the C. Henry Smith Trust took action establishing a Peace Oratorical Contest in the name of the late C. Henry Smith. C. Henry Smith was a Mennonite historian and professor at Goshen College and Bluffton College and had deep interest in the Mennonite peace position. The directors felt that an oratorical contest would be a fitting way to foster continuing thought about peace issues and would also provide a mechanism for making these views known.

### Guidelines

1. All students enrolled at Mennonite and Brethren in Christ colleges and universities are eligible to enter the contest.
2. Orations should be on the general theme of the application of the Christian peace position to contemporary concerns.
3. Orations should not be longer than 1500 words. Not more than ten percent may be quoted material.
4. Each participating Mennonite and Brethren in Christ institution should select only one speaker for entry into the intercollegiate, bi-national contest. The method of selection may be determined by each college. An award of \$400 will be made available to each school as prize money if campus contests are held. The money could either be awarded to one person or divided among several.
5. The oration from each school must be submitted in two forms: typed in manuscript **and** recorded clearly on DVD. The manuscript should include a title page which lists the student's **name**, the **school** and the **title** of the speech. DVDs should be labeled likewise. The student's name and school should not appear on any page of the manuscript other than the title page.
6. The manuscripts and DVDs should be submitted to Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) U.S., National Programs, PO Box 500, Akron, PA 17501-0500 by **May 15** of the year of the contest.
7. Three judges will be selected by National Programs, the body serving as administrator of the contest. The judges will be chosen in order to provide persons who combine theological knowledge, historical perspective and rhetorical competence. None of the judges will be from any of the colleges participating in the contest.
8. Cash awards for the winning orations in the intercollegiate, bi-national contest will be made as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> Place: \$300; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: \$225; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: \$150.

Additionally, scholarships will be provided for the top three orators to attend a peace-related conference or seminar of their choice in consultation with National Program Staff and a faculty advisor. The scholarships may be used for registration fees and/or travel costs. Maximum scholarship amounts are as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> Place: \$500; 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Places: \$200.

9. The text of the winning oration will be made available to *Mennonite World Review* for publication.
10. The directors of the C. Henry Smith Trust retain publication rights of winning orations.

# C. Henry Smith Oratorical Contest

## Awards for the intercollegiate, binational competition

**1<sup>st</sup> Place** \$300 cash  
\$500 conference scholarship (maximum)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place** \$225 cash  
\$200 conference scholarship (maximum)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place** \$150 cash  
\$200 conference scholarship (maximum)

## Guidelines for use of conference scholarships

The scholarship money is provided for the winner to attend a peace-related conference or seminar of her/his choice. The intent is to deepen the student's understanding of peace issues in an area of particular interest. Examples include, Christian Peacemaker Teams conference, Mennonite Conciliation Service mediation training, MCC US Washington Office annual seminar, etc.

1. The decision of what conference to attend will be made by the student in consultation with MCC US National Program Staff and a faculty advisor.
2. Scholarship money may be used for registration fees and/or travel costs and should not exceed the amounts listed above. If there are any questions about what is or is not a reimbursable expense, the student is responsible to check with National Program Staff.
3. The student may use money from other resources if the maximum amount does not cover the costs to attend a particular conference of interest.
4. The scholarship money must be used within one year of the ending of the contest year in which the student was a winner. The contest year ends September 30.
5. Expenses for the conference will be paid by MCC (for the C. H. Smith Trust) as follows:  
As a direct payment to a third party (such as the conference organizers)  
OR  
As a reimbursement to the student for expenses, provided receipts are submitted. If a personal car is used for travel to the conference, mileage may be reimbursed according to the current rate as set by MCC.
6. Requests for payment and reimbursement of receipts should be made to MCC U.S. National Program.

**Contact information:** Mennonite Central Committee U.S.  
National Program Staff  
PO Box 500, Akron PA 17501-0500  
717-859-1151

# C.H. SMITH PEACE ORATORICAL CONTEST

## Scoring Sheet

Speech Title: \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Points</u>	<u>Total Points</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Comments</u>
_____	20	Topic: appropriate to theme, "the application of the Christian peace position to contemporary concerns"	
_____	50	Content: --organization --formulation of supporting arguments --interpretation of subject matter --use of quotations, examples	
_____	15	Delivery: --impact --quality	
_____	5	Introduction: --catches attention of audience --informs audience of subject matter	
_____	5	Conclusion: --summarizes content briefly --forcefulness	
_____	5	Creativity and originality	
_____	100	Total	

More Comments:

Office Use: Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
College: \_\_\_\_\_