Arkansas Communication and Theatre Arts Association
Original Oratory – Comment Ballot

Performer_________________________________________________________ School #________

Title______________________________________________________________ Round 1 2 S F Section ______

Length of Performance_____________________________________________ Rank (Circle) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Rules: If a rule is broken, judge should lower performer one ranking and rating
*The general purpose of the speech is to persuade. Any other purpose such as to inform or entertain shall be secondary.
*Speech should be well researched and organized with evidence, logic, emotional appeals, and sometimes humor to convey a message
*The content of the speech should be the original work of the speaker with no more than 150 direct quoted words. Extensive paraphrasing from other sources is prohibited.
*The speech must be completely memorized and delivered without a manuscript.
*No visual aids are permitted.
*The time limit is 10 minutes with a 30 second “grace period.” Should a student go beyond the grace period, the student may not be ranked 1st. No minimum time is mandated.
*Movement is optional.
*Note: It is the expectation that performances are the artistic creation of the performer(s). It is plagiarism to copy a performance in detail from a video online. If there is suspicion of plagiarism, please be prepared to cite the source that was copied and consult with the tournament director. The tournament director will then consult with the coach of the performer(s) concerning consequences, which may result in their disqualification from the tournament.

Criteria For Evaluation:

Judge’s Remarks:

Organization: Speech is organized with introduction, body and conclusion evident. Introduction contains an attention device and thesis statement. Body has at least three main points. Conclusion contains a repeat of main points and an ending statement.

Analysis and Content: Speaker shows credibility and understanding of speech topic. Speaker uses logic and reasoning when presenting main points. Speaker uses factual data within speech. Speaker cites credible sources within speech. Topic is original. Topic is appropriate for speaker and audience.

Oral Presentation: Transitions are used and flow smoothly. Speaker uses appropriate emotions for topic and speech. Speaker uses fluid speech with good projection, articulation and clear diction. Speaker uses appropriate word choice.

Physical Presentation: Speaker uses appropriate body language and movement (optional). Speaker uses appropriate gestures. Speaker uses appropriate eye contact with audience. No nervous habits are evident during speech presentation.

Judge’s Signature_________________________________________________________ School #___________________