



AAUW California Speech Trek

Student Toolkit

ATTENTION:

**Speech Trek contests may take place virtually this year.
Please contact your local AAUW branch for more information.**

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2021-2022 SPEECH TREK SPEECH CONTEST TOPIC

Has the United States lived up to its pledge of “liberty and justice for all”? Would requiring the study of diversity, equity and inclusion in a high school setting help ensure liberty and justice for all?

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.”
Declaration of Independence, 1776

In just five years from now, on July 4, 2026, the US will mark the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. As this milestone anniversary approaches, the conversation around diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) appears to be intensifying throughout society:

“While we have progressed in making that famous American promise of equality a reality, the journey is far from over,” said Society of Human Resources Management (SHRM) President/CEO Johnny C. Taylor, Jr. “We need true equity and inclusion...we must strike at the root of the problem, not with trainings and policies, but in and through workplace culture.”

“You can mandate diversity, but you can’t mandate inclusion,” pointed out Esi Minta-Jacobs, Vice President, Human Resources, Assetmark Financial Holdings, Concord, CA. “Inclusion is about behavior, relationships. You have to change hearts and minds.”

Robert Sellers, Chief Diversity Officer at the University of Michigan, explained DEI this way:

Diversity is where everyone is invited to the party.

Equity means that everyone gets to contribute to the playlist.

Inclusion means that everyone has the opportunity to dance.

Ana Navarro, cohost, “The View”, ABC TV, stated her thought even more simply. “Education is key to stopping and confronting discrimination.”

What do high school students think? “Pushing for impactful change in the areas of diversity, equity and inclusion is among the significant challenges of our times...it is pretty obvious that it takes more than affirmative action and inspired policies to enact these ideals,” stated Sophia Llanos-Crowder, at Women and Worth Summit, March 2021. “I’m only in high school right now, but as a future member of the workforce I am hopeful that discussions like this will keep pushing us forward towards a more equitable future for all.”

Has the United States lived up to its pledge of “liberty and justice for all”? Would requiring the study of diversity, equity and inclusion in a high school setting help ensure liberty and justice for all?

CONTEST INFORMATION

Eligibility: Speech Trek is open to all actively attending high school students in California.

Deadlines: Interested students must submit a "Student Application and Parent/Guardian Permission" notice to their local AAUW CA Branch per the date set by that Branch (please see Page 4).

Time Limits: Students are to prepare an original 5:00-6:00 minute speech, with a 30-second grace period on either side. **Speaking under 4:30 or over 6:30 will result in disqualification.**

Presentation: These presentations are to be original speeches. Appropriate use of **one** 4" x 6" note card is an option--prompting is not allowed.

Judging: During the State Semi-Final and Final competitions, judges shall use the official ballot and score each speaker in two areas: Content (includes Introduction, Organization and Conclusion), 0-50 points; and Delivery, 0-50 points. Branches may opt to use their own Judge's ballot at the local level. Students are advised to request a copy of their Branch's Judge's ballot.

Prizes: Each local Branch of AAUW CA will determine the level of award for their contestants.

Branch Winner: Each participating Branch will post the video of their winning speech online (YouTube) by **March 1, 2022**. The State Speech Trek judges will identify five finalists, two of whom will be named as Honorable Mention. The judges will award the 4th place finalist with \$250 and the 5th place finalist with \$150. A new panel of three judges will view the top three finalists' videos and determine the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners. The top three finalists' videos will be showcased at the virtual AAUW CA Annual Meeting on April 30, 2022. Winners will be announced at that time.

State Finalists: First place winner at the State contest will receive \$1500; Second place winner at the State contest will receive \$1000; and Third place winner at the State contest will receive \$500. If held live, travel expenses, lodging, and meals for each finalist and her/his chaperone will be reimbursed by Speech Trek. Those expenses should not exceed approved budget.

Your School Contact is: _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Your AAUW Branch Contact is: _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Your Speech Contest Coach is: _____

Phone _____ Email _____

STUDENT APPLICATION AND PARENT/GUARDIAN PERMISSION

Student Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

High School Attending: _____

School Advisor/Counselor: _____

My signature below certifies that I wish to participate in the AAUW California Speech Contest and that I have received and read the following forms:

▮ Student Instructions

▮ Judge's Instructions & Ballot

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Information and Permission:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

My signature below certifies that I have read the rules for the speech contest and wish for my child to participate in the AAUW California Speech Trek Contest. In addition, I understand that my child's name may be publicized locally as a contest participant, and that the speech will be recorded for higher-level competition and selection of finalists.

If my child is selected as the 1st place branch winner or one of three state finalists, I understand that the video of my child's competition speech may be posted online (see videos of previous speakers at: [aauw-ca.org>Programs/Project>Speech Trek](http://aauw-ca.org/Programs/Project/Speech%20Trek)) or used to promote the contest in subsequent years. I understand I will need to sign an AFFIDAVIT OF ELIGIBILITY AND LIABILITY RELEASE, prior to my child's participation in the competition.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Please return this application to your local branch contact:

Email: _____ **Phone:** _____

AFFIDAVIT OF ELIGIBILITY AND LIABILITY RELEASE

AAUW Speech Trek Contest

The undersigned participant of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Speech Trek Contest and the participant's parent or guardian hereby declare that they have read and understand all of the rules and conditions for the contest and that the undersigned has met all eligibility requirements on the date their contest entry was submitted.

The undersigned and the participant's parent or guardian represent that the speech submitted to the contest (the "Entry") is the participant's own original creation, and that the participant has perpetrated no fraud or deception in entering the contest or claiming any prize.

The undersigned and the participant's parent or guardian represent and warrant that neither she/he nor any parent or guardian is an employee of AAUW, or its related, parent, affiliated and subsidiary companies, advertising and promotion agencies, or the panel of judges, nor is she/he or any parent or guardian connected with them in any way.

The undersigned and the participant's parent or guardian irrevocably grant to AAUW, its successors and assigns and all other persons deriving rights from them, all rights, title and interest in the undersigned's Entry in perpetuity, to print, publish, broadcast, use or modify in any manner in any media whatsoever the Entry as submitted for the contest to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law.

In addition, the undersigned and the participant's parent or guardian grant to AAUW, its successors and assigns and all other persons deriving rights from them, the right to use the participant's name, likeness and/or voice and biographical information, and city of residence for promotional purposes in any medium without compensation, to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law.

The undersigned and the participant's parent or guardian hereby waive the opportunity and any right to inspect or approve any such promotion, printing, broadcast use or publication, and further release AAUW, its successors and assigns from all liability in connection with any such promotion, printing, broadcast, use or publication.

The undersigned and the participant's parent or guardian hereby release and hold harmless AAUW and its officers, directors, employees, and agents from any and all losses, claims or damages that may result, directly or indirectly, from participation in the contest or use of the prize award. The undersigned understands that any and all local, state or federal tax liability for the award will be the responsibility of the undersigned and the participant's parent or guardian.

The undersigned and the participant's parent or guardian further acknowledge and agree that the contest prize is non-transferable, and that no substitution of prizes will be allowed, except by the AAUW due to the unavailability of prizes at the time of the award.

The undersigned and the participant's parent or guardian understand that AAUW is proceeding with the award of any prize in the contest in express reliance on this release and the undersigned and the

participant's parent or guardian represent and agree that they are free to grant the rights set forth in this release.

The undersigned contest participant and the participant's parent or guardian hereby attest that they have read and understand all the foregoing provisions of this affidavit and agree to be bound by the same.

Signature of contest participant

Date

Type or print name of participant
Contest participant's current address
Telephone number

Signature of parent/guardian (if contest participant is under 18 years of age)

Print name of parent or guardian

Dated: _____

Judges Ballot

AAUW CA - Speech Trek

2021-2022 - JUDGES BALLOT

<p>NAMES OF CONTESTANTS - (Topic: <i>Has the United States lived up to its pledge of "liberty and justice for all"? Would requiring the study of diversity, equity and inclusion in a high school setting help ensure liberty and justice for all?</i>)</p>																								
Assign a score in the following categories	Need to Improve	Fair	Avg	Excellent	Superb/ Outstanding																			
CONTENT - INTRODUCTION	0-1	2	3	4	5																			
Interesting - held the audiences attention																								
CONTENT																								
Well prepared	0-6	7-12	13-18	19-24	25-30																			
Evidence of audience analysis																								
Effective use of example, story, illustration																								
Well researched and referenced																								
CONTENT - ORGANIZATION																								
Effective arrangement of ideas	0-5	6	7	8	9-10																			
Main points easy to follow																								
Transitions to move from point to point																								
Material appropriate for topic & purpose																								
CONTENT - CONCLUSION	0-1	2	2-3	4	5																			
Summary and a clear sense of finality																								
DELIVERY																								
Good diction, volume, rate, projection	0-12	13-21	22-30	31-40	41-50																			
Displayed poise and confidence																								
Displayed energy and enthusiasm																								
Maintained eye contact with audience																								
Avoided distracting mannerisms																								
Prepared delivery - not a reading																								
Appropriate movement and gestures																								
TOTAL FOR EACH SPEAKER																								
RANK SPKRS - High score = 1, Second = 2, Third = 3, Fourth = 4, Fifth = 5																								
Judge's Printed Name _____ Judge's Signature _____																								