



THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

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The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin Names Oratorical Contest Winner

Timothy Davis was named the winner of The Wisconsin American Legion State Oratorical Contest on February 9, 2019.

Davis, the son of Matthew and Dana Davis, won the contest held at the Ripon College. A senior at Maranatha Baptist High School in Watertown, Davis earned \$3,000 and will now compete for the \$18,000 top prize at the National contest in Indianapolis, Indiana, to be held April 5-7, 2019. To get to the State contest, Davis won contests at the Post, District and Regional levels.

Each contestant delivered a prepared oration as well as an oration on a randomly assigned constitutional topic. Davis impressed the judges with a speech titled, “*Reclaiming Our Founding Document*”. He is sponsored by Watertown Post 189. This is Davis’ second year competing. Post 189 Oratorical Chairman, Ken Wzorek, originally shared the opportunity with Davis’ speech teacher. Davis said, “I’ve always been patriotic and saw this as a cool learning opportunity.” When asked how he decided on his topic Davis responded, “Upon hearing my speech, I want to leave people with a strong call to action.” Future plans include attending Maranatha Baptist University to study Business Management.

Elijah Anumolu, a Homeschooled sophomore, placed second with his speech titled, “*America’s Hidden Treasure*”. He was sponsored by Milwaukee Post 331 and received \$2,500. Malik Staude, a senior at Oconomowoc High School, placed third, receiving \$2,000 for his speech, “*The Constitutional Life*”. Oconomowoc Post 91 served as his sponsor.

Since 1938, The American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program has encouraged the nation’s high school students to study the U.S. Constitution and to hone their public speaking skills.

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The Wisconsin American Legion is the state’s largest veterans’ service organization with over 53,000 members and 504 posts in communities across Wisconsin serving troops, veterans and youth since 1919. For more information on the Legion’s programs and membership, please visit www.wilegion.org.

Photo (attached) Back: Wisconsin Commander Frank Kostka , Past National Commander Denise Rohan
Front: Malik Staude (3rd Place), Elijah Anumolu (2nd Place), Representative Jim Edming, Timothy Davis (1st Place), Representative Joan Ballweg, Robert Stone (Chairman State Oratorical), Senator Luther Olsen

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The mission of The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin is to provide service to veterans, their families and their communities.