



# Dixie, Gilchrist & Levy Local Speech Contest Information

**Contest will be hosted together with a winner from each county.  
Each winner advances to the area contest on May 9th in Gainesville.**

- Manuscripts Due: Friday, April 19th
  - Contest will be held: Monday, April 29th
  - Location: Haven Hospice - 311 NE 9th St Chiefland, FL 32626
- \* Registration starts at 9:30 and the contest will begin at 10\*

## AWARDS:

### Dixie

**1st-** \$250  
**2nd:** \$150  
**3rd:** \$100

### Gilchrist

**1st-** \$125 gift card  
**2nd:** \$100 gift card  
**3rd:** \$75 gift card

\* \$25 gift card for all participants

### Levy

**1st-** \$250  
**2nd:** \$150  
**3rd:** \$100

## Contest Information

You can find more information on the following websites:

<https://afcd.us/speech-contest/>

<https://www.nacdnet.org/general-resources/stewardship-and-education-materials/contests/>

## For More Information

Please contact your local office:

Dixie & Levy:

Tara Davis  
(352) 317-1040

Gilchrist:

Ashley Cook-Gregory  
(352) 317-0504



## **RULES FOR 2023-2024 DISTRICT, AREA AND STATE SPEECH CONTESTS**

### ELIGIBILITY

Contest is open to public, private, or home school students from 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

Provide a typewritten speech, double spaced on 8.5" x 11" inch white paper, with 1" margin. Use standard font, no greater than 12 point type. Include a cover page with contestants' name, speech title, parent or guardian's name, email address, home address, telephone number, and school name. A signed release form is also required.

Gilchrist - 729 East Wade Street Trenton, FL 32693

Speech must be hand-delivered to Levy/ Dixie- 625 N Hathaway Ave Bronson, FL 32621, or emailed to

Gilchrist: [Ashley.Cook-Gregory@fdacs.gov](mailto:Ashley.Cook-Gregory@fdacs.gov) by Friday, April 19th @ 12 pm

Levy/ Dixie: [myswcd@outlook.com](mailto:myswcd@outlook.com)

The District contest may be divided into two categories (6-8 & 9-12) with the highest overall scoring students from each category advancing to Area Contests.

### CONTEST RULES

Contest Topic – "May the Forest Be with You, Always."

Speeches must be original, not previously used, and created by the contestant. Notes may be used while speaking, but audio and visual aids of any form are not permitted.

Contestants must not give their name or introduce themselves by name as part of their speech. Contestants will be introduced as "Contestant number one, Contestant number two" and so on forth. While Judges are finalizing the scores, students will be introduced and asked to give personal information.

Winner of the local competition will be entered in an area competition (multi District), and may then advance to the State competition. Highest scoring Area winner will advance to the State competition. Contestant may not wear attire that identifies them with any organization (e.g., FFA, 4-H, school logos).

Time Limit – Speeches must be a minimum of five to seven minutes in length. Time under or over these limits, respectively, will result in two points deducted for each 15 second increment or part thereof.

Judging – A standard score sheet will be used for all contestants. Three judges and one time keeper will be used at district, area, and state competitions. Judges should be experienced in public speaking and should not be elected supervisors or staff. Judges will score entries based on the following criteria:

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>POINTS</u>
CONTENT	Relevance to the given topic	10
	Treatment (material used and accuracy of statements)	20
	Originality (subject matter and treatment)	20
	Total Content Points	50
COMPOSITION	Organization, cohesiveness, grammar, style	10
	Total Composition Points	10
DELIVERY	Voice (enunciation, modulation)	10
	Personal Appearance (neatness, posture)	10
	Communicative Expertise (sincerity, ability to convey thought and meaning)	10
	Stage Presence (gestures, visual contact)	10
	Total Delivery Points	40
	Total Possible Points	100

Oral speeches will be presented on Monday, April 29th at 10:00 (Registration starts at 9:30) - Haven Hospice in Chiefland.

*\*Note to Teachers: Participation in this event would directly relate to Sunshine Standards, Language Arts, LA.C.3.4.1 and LA.C.3.4.2.*



## Entry & Release Form for participation in AFCD/FCDEA Speech Contests

Conservation District Name \_\_\_\_\_

All students participating in any Florida District, Area, or State, AFCD/FCDEA speech contest must submit this form prior to participation:

### STUDENT

Name: First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

School Name \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Speech \_\_\_\_\_

### PARENT OR GUARDIAN

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby acknowledge that I am an adult (18) or the parent/guardian of said student listed above and hereby give authorization for said student to participate in the AFCD/FCDEA speech contest at the District, Area, and State levels, if selected. This acknowledgement includes the right of the SWCD/AFCD/FCDEA to use said student's photograph, video and/or audio recordings, and/or the contents of the speech for educational or promotional purposes.

Signed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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**SPEAKER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**JUDGE:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Manuscript Content and Composition Rubric

	<b>Strong skill present</b> Exceptional Presentation <b>4 - 5 Points</b>	<b>Moderate skill present</b> Average Presentation <b>2 - 3 Points</b>	<b>Minimum skill present</b> Needs Improvement <b>1 Point</b>	<b>Total Score</b>
<b>Topic Relevance</b>	Topic addresses NACD's national theme.	Topic shows some relationship to the NACD's national theme.	Topic unrelated to NACD's national theme.	
<b>Persuasive explanation of position on topic</b>	Position clearly stated and ample evidence provided.	Position is not obvious, and evidence not clearly provided.	Position is not stated, and evidence not provided.	
<b>Logical order and unity of thought</b>	Clearly organized and concise with strong introduction, body and conclusion.	Good organization with few statements out of place or lacking in clear construction.	Minimal organization present; sometimes awkward and lacking construction.	
<b>Manuscript written according to guidelines: Double-spaced with 1" margins &amp; 12 point font; cover page with requested info; listed references and citations</b>	Manuscript and cover page written according to the requirements	Manuscript and cover page did not comply with a few of the requirements	Manuscript and cover page did not comply with many of the requirements	
<b>Overall Total Points</b> MAX 20 Points				



SPEAKER: \_\_\_\_\_

JUDGE: \_\_\_\_\_

### Presentation Rubric

	<b>Strong skill present</b> Exceptional Presentation <b>16 - 20 Points</b>	<b>Moderate skill present</b> Average Presentation <b>10 - 15 Points</b>	<b>Minimum skill present</b> Needs Improvement <b>1 - 10 Point</b>	<b>Total Score</b>
<b>Supporting Evidence</b>	Examples (stories, statistics, etc.) are vivid, precise and clearly explained; uses original content.	Examples are usually concrete and sometimes need clarification. Speech repeats facts and comes across as a report.	Examples are sometimes confusing, leaving the listeners with questions, and the speech is hard to follow.	
<b>Persuasive use of evidence</b>	Exemplary use of evidence to persuade listeners.	Sufficient use of evidence to persuade listeners.	Has difficulty using evidence to persuade listeners.	
<b>Audience Engagement</b>	Speaker uses exemplary emphasis and tone to captivate audience.	Speaker engagement with the audience fluctuates.	Speaker lacks enthusiasm and power to engage audience.	
<b>Presence: pace, eye contact, mannerisms, gestures, poise</b>	Speaks very articulately at rate that engages audience.  Portrays confidence and composure through appropriate body language (stance, posture, facial expressions).  Constantly looks at the entire audience (90 to 100 percent of the time).  No nervous habits are displayed.  Hand motions are expressive and used to emphasize talking points.	Speaks articulately but occasionally speaks too fast or has long unnecessary hesitations.  Maintains control most of the time; rarely loses composure.  Mostly looks around the audience (60 to 80 percent of the time).  Sometimes exhibits nervous habits.  Hands are sometimes used to express or emphasize.	Speaks too slow or too fast to engage audience.  Lacks confidence and composure.  Occasionally looks at someone or some groups (less than 50 percent of the time).  Displays some nervous habits.  Hands are not used to emphasize talking points; hand motions are sometimes distracting.	
<b>Total Points</b> MAX 80 Points				