

Black History

North Penn School District

Oratorical Competition

North Penn High School Auditorium
Thursday, February, 23, 2023
6 pm



Dr. Todd M. Bauer, Superintendent
Dr. D'Ana Waters, Assistant Superintendent
Tina Stoll, NPSD School Board President

Welcome

Dr. Marjorie Diegue

Musical Entertainment

NPHS Navy Jazz Combo under the direction of Dave DiValentino

Master of Ceremony Introduction

Masters of Ceremony - Carrina Laventure and Yordanos Lemma

The Black National Anthem

"Lift Every Voice and Sing" by James Weldon Johnson

Performed by - Maouna Diarra, Naomi Riggs, and Jael Sykes

NPHS Students

Lift every voice and sing,
'Til earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;

Let our rejoicing rise
High as the listening skies,

Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,

Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;

Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,

Let us march on 'til victory is won.

Stony the road we trod,

Bitter the chastening rod,

Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;

Yet with a steady beat,

Have not our weary feet

Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?

We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,

We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,

Out from the gloomy past,

'Til now we stand at last

Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,

God of our silent tears,

Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;

Thou who has by Thy might

Led us into the light,

Keep us forever in the path, we pray.

Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,

Lest our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;

Shadowed beneath Thy hand,

May we forever stand,

True to our God,

True to our native land.



Lift Every Voice and Sing

James Weldon Johnson

Oratorical Presentations

Group 1 (Grades 3-5)

Geneva Cox, Gwynedd Square Elementary - Grade 3
Emma Moll, North Wales Elementary - Grade 3
Harjas Kaur, Gwynedd Square Elementary - Grade 4
Pradhyun Srinivasan, Hatfield Elementary - Grade 5
Saanvi Waghmare, General Nash Elementary - Grade 5

Group 2 (Grades 6-8)

Jyothi Anand, Bridle Path Elementary - Grade 6
Erick Crawford, Gwynedd Square Elementary - Grade 6
Peyton Jackson, Montgomery Elementary - Grade 6
Katherine Phillips, Montgomery Elementary - Grade 6
Ria Shankar, Montgomery Elementary - Grade 6
Jeffrey Jimmy, Penndale Middle School - Grade 7
Bradley Chaplin, Pennbrook Middle School - Grade 8

Special Feature: History of the Diaspora

AAA Color of Pride presents the History of the Diaspora Fashion Show
Narration by - Carrina Laventure, NPHS Student

Group 3 (Grades 9-12)

Kai Barnes, Penndale Middle School - Grade 9
Kate Hull, Penndale Middle School - Grade 9
Muskaan Kaur, Penndale Middle School - Grade 9
Anvitha Madaka, Penndale Middle School - Grade 9
Jordan Mancini, Penndale Middle School - Grade 9
Conor McLaughlin, Penndale Middle School - Grade 9
Isabelle Mikulski, Penndale Middle School - Grade 9
Summer Kresge, Pennfield Middle School - Grade 9
Vedika Deshpande, North Penn High School - Grade 10
Glenn Xavier, North Penn High School - Grade 10
Jalynn Grant, North Penn High School - Grade 11
David Lyons, North Penn High School - Grade 12

Presentation of Awards

Dr. D'Ana Waters, Assistant Superintendent

Closing Remarks

Dr. Todd M. Bauer, Superintendent

I Have a Dream...

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



1963

The Judges

Nicole Anderson is the President of Nicole Anderson Legacy (NAL) Speakers, with over 25 years of operations and business development experience. She is known for building collaborative working relationships, driving productivity, and motivating others to continuously deliver superior sales results. As the founder of NAL Speaker's Bureau, she operates a leading contemporary bureau connecting respected thought leaders, innovative thinkers, and connectors for learning businesses to audiences around the world through virtual or face-to-face keynotes, workshops, and summits.

Garry Herbert was elected Lansdale Borough Mayor in 2017. He manages the Chief of Police, the Lansdale Police Department, and Emergency Management while assisting Borough Council in the comprehensive management and development of Lansdale Borough. Mayor Herbert attends countless public events throughout the year to help support the community's growth and is often called upon to speak on behalf of the entire community. Alongside his Mayoral responsibilities, Mayor Herbert works professionally at Harmelin Media, one of the largest independent advertising agencies in the country, where he helps clients better define and understand their target audiences. Mayor Herbert lives in Lansdale with his wife Megan and their two boys Lukas and Connor.

J'Mel Johnson is an educator, author, mentor, singer, and songwriter. She has been an educator for 20+ years, and has been a part of the North Penn School District for 18 years. She is the other half of TommyJay, the husband and wife singing duo. Together they write, sing, and perform songs that reflect love. Johnson is also the author of the published book, *Quotes & Jokes: A Mental Detox for Tweens & Teens*. She has a special passion for motivating & inspiring tweens & teens, and helping them cultivate their character. She is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated, Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter, which is an organization committed to public service.

Taryn Flood is a seasoned HR professional and is passionate about helping organizations create a positive and engaging work environment that promotes productivity and employee satisfaction. Taryn is also an advocate for diversity, equity, and inclusion in the workplace. She has developed and implemented successful DEI initiatives and is committed to ensuring that all employees feel valued and included. Her ability to build strong relationships with employees at all levels of an organization has earned her a reputation as a trusted advisor and advocate. When she's not working, Taryn enjoys audio books, sewing, cooking, and spending time with her family and friends.

Thank You

The Black History Oratorical Committee would like to thank Pennedale's own Voices of Empowerment, under the leadership of Mrs. Brooke Bernardini, for serving as ushers tonight and for providing the decorations in the lobby. Special thanks to our Staff, Student and Family Engagement Goal Four Committee members, and P.I.E. parents for volunteering, the League of Employees of African Descent at Merck, NPHS Navy Jazz Combo Band, and all North Penn leaders for their continual support. Also thanks to Bob Gillmer, Maureen King, and Erika Shaedle for their behind-the-scenes assistance.