



DELBERT HOSEMANN  
*Secretary of State*



## 2016 Persuasion Contests Grades 7-12

***Please attach the entry form securely to the back of the entry.***

The Persuasion Contests provide Mississippi students a chance to express their views on important issues facing the State of Mississippi and our Nation. The three contests allow students to express their creativity in real-life applications involving public speaking, media/marketing and political campaign development.

First, second, and third place winners will be selected in each contest. Judges may also choose to bestow Honorable Mention honors. Professionals in the appropriate fields will be selected by the Secretary of State's Office as judges.

### **Oratory: If I Were Elected as President, I Would...**

Write and videotape an oral presentation of a 10-minute campaign speech about what you would work to accomplish if you were elected as President of the United States of America.

### **Advertising: Vote for Me**

Write and digitally record a 60-second television commercial and a 30-second radio spot to persuade voters to elect you as President of the United States of America.

### **Political Campaign: Vote for Me**

Design a package of campaign materials (posters, brochure, advertisements, radio/TV commercials, push cards) for your own political campaign for President. Identify your key issues, your stance on current events, your suggestions for improving government, etc. Discuss what characteristics and background you have that qualify you to hold office. Choose your campaign colors and symbols. Write a brief description of how your print media campaign would help inform and persuade potential supporters to vote for you.

### PERSUASION CONTESTS JUDGING PROCESS

- Student names and school affiliation will be kept secret from the judges.
- Entries not conforming to the Official Rules of the Contest will be ineligible for competition.
- Entries will be judged for content, original thought, power of expression, creativity and effectiveness.

### PERSUASION CONTESTS OFFICIAL RULES

1. All entries must be received by the Secretary of State's office in Jackson no later than Monday, Dec. 5, 2016.
2. Entries may be mailed to the Promote the Vote Writing Contests, Secretary of State's Office, Post Office Box 136, Jackson, MS 39205 or hand-delivered to the first floor receptionist at 401 Mississippi Street, Jackson.
3. Entries must be packaged appropriate to the contest description.
4. Contestants must be in Grades 7-12 in a school registered for Promote the Vote 2016.
5. The entry must be the original thought and composition of the contestant alone.
6. Only one entry per contest may be submitted by each contestant. Students may enter multiple contests.
7. Each entry must be accompanied by the entry application.
8. Failure to comply with any rule will result in disqualification.