



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Isabella DoCabo

South Carolina Citizens for Life

Phone: (803) 252-5433 ext. 104

Email: isabella@sclife.org

Website: www.sclife.org

South Carolina Citizens for Life Invites Schools to Host 2027 Student Oratory Contests

Qualified high school juniors and seniors can develop public-speaking skills and advance to statewide and national competitions.

COLUMBIA, S.C. (September 9, 2026) South Carolina Citizens for Life is inviting high schools, homeschool groups and other educational institutions across the state to host their own local competitions for the 2027 South Carolina Citizens for Life Student Oratory Contest.

Students who are eligible high school juniors and seniors will research, write, and deliver an original speech discussing abortion, infanticide, euthanasia or stem-cell research. By taking part, students will strengthen their public speaking, persuasive communication and critical thinking skills while presenting an important human-life issue.

The winners of approved local contests will advance to the 2027 South Carolina Citizens for Life Statewide Oratory Contest. This will be held on February 20, 2027, in Columbia, South Carolina. The statewide winner will be representing South Carolina at the National Right to Life Oratory Contest, held during the National Right to Life Conference on June 11-12, 2027, in Providence, Rhode Island.

Lisa Van Riper, president of South Carolina Citizens for Life, emphasized the importance of encouraging student participation in the contest. She says, "I know we have outstanding young people in the state of South Carolina who care deeply about the culture in which they currently live, and the culture that they will have a hand in forming in the near future. I look forward to having a student from South Carolina showcased at the national level."

Joshua K. of Rhode Island, the first-place winner of the 2025 National Right to Life Oratory Contest, described the contest as an opportunity to present an issue in a way that touches people deeply. "I really love it in a particular way because it gives me a chance to really present it, and present it with conviction and touch people's hearts in that way," he said.

By hosting a local competition, schools and educational organizations can provide students with valuable speaking experience while creating a pathway for them to enter state and national competition levels. These opportunities give students the chance to build confidence and grow their understanding of serious life issues.

(More on page 2)

Saving lives in South Carolina since 1974

Mailing address: P.O. Box 5865, Columbia SC 29250-5865

Phone: 803.252.LIFE (5433) ♥ Fax: 803.252.3118 ♥ e-mail: sccl@sclife.org ♥ web: www.sclife.org

(Continued from page 1)

South Carolina Citizens for Life will provide participating schools and groups with eligibility requirements, contest rules, judging criteria, instructions, and deadlines for advancing local winners to the statewide competition.

Schools, other educational organizations and homeschool groups interested in hosting a local contest or learning more about participation should contact Isabella DoCabo at isabella@sclife.org or by calling (803) 252-5433 ext. 104. Additional information can be found at www.sclife.org/get-involved.

About South Carolina Citizens for Life

South Carolina Citizens for Life, Inc., is devoted to building a culture of life by advocating for the protection of vulnerable members of the human family. SCCL works to protect unborn children and their mothers, as well as frail elderly people, chronically and mentally ill individuals, and persons with disabilities.

###