

New Careerist Resource Manual and Speech Competition Guidelines
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Overview

The New York State New Careerist Program Speech Competitions should be fun for participants, organizers and spectators. The Candidates should understand that they are not expected to perform at an expert level but that the experience should be a learning experience which helps the Candidates to grow personally and professionally. By their participation over the weekend, and through the Local and District process, the Candidates will have interacted with peers as well as have the opportunity to practice their networking and interpersonal relationship skills, interviewing skills, and public speaking skills. At each level of competition, their mentors should critique their skills, offer constructive criticism, nurture their strengths and guide them so that the learning experience helps their individual personal and professional growth.

New York State Women, Inc. New Careerist Program Speech Competition provides for opportunities in networking, personal and professional development, educational programs, increased visibility and opportunities to learn about issues of concern to working women. New York State Women, Inc. New Careerist Program Speech Competition introduces candidates to the Mission and Vision of New York State Women, Inc. to build powerful women, personally, professionally and politically.

New York State Women, Inc. New Careerist Program Speech Competition recognizes the accomplishments of women between the ages of 21 and 32 who have been employed full time for a minimum of one year in their career area and provides them with professional development skills and opportunities. New York State Women, Inc. New Careerist Program Speech Competition involves a competitive selection process within Local organizations, Districts and the State competition. Selection is based on written and biographical information, judge's interviews, group interaction, the Candidates ability to help others achieve and prepared speech competition on specifically chosen topics.

Competition Guidelines

Eligibility

All New Careerist Program Speech Competition Candidates must meet the following criteria to be eligible:

1. Membership in good standing of a Local Chapter of New York State Women, Inc. is required prior to competing at the State Level.
2. Be between the ages of 21 and 32, inclusive, by the State Conference in the year she/he participates.
3. Have a minimum of one (1) year of full-time work experience. Each New Careerist Candidate once selected at the District Level is responsible for forwarding the following information for the State competition.
4. Submit a completed and signed New York State Women, Inc. New Careerist Biographical Information form.
5. Submit a signed copy of the New York State Women, Inc. Legislative Platform confirming that the candidate understands and supports the New York State Women, Inc. mission, vision and legislative platform and she/he will not speak against the platform issues in her/his capacity as a New Careerist Representative.
6. Submit a copy of your letter to the Legislator.
7. Submit a typed copy of your Four-Minute Speech
8. Submit your photo (maximum size 5 X 7).

New York State Women, Inc.
New Careerist Program Speech Competition

SPEECH TOPICS

CHOOSE ONE

1. Women have made historic changes to society. Give one example and discuss how this change has worked to the betterment of women and how it has worked detrimentally for other women.
2. What 21st Century issue do you feel remains a roadblock for women in the business environment and what would you do to resolve it?
3. Name three (3) changes for the betterment of women in the workplace and explain how you have personally benefited from them.
4. Tell us about one woman in your personal life that inspires you and explain why she is a role model for you.
5. Politics – why should women become involved and what is it about politics that would prevent you from pursuing it as a career?
6. If you were chosen to speak to a group of younger women, what personal experience would you share and why?
7. As a younger woman in a business environment, what would you consider as the most important dos and don'ts to advance your career?

Financial Responsibility

A.) Local Level

The Local Chapter is responsible to pay the candidate expenses to the District Competition. It is suggested, but not mandated, that the Local Chapter pay dinner expenses for candidates at their Local Competition.

B.) District Level

The District is responsible to pay the candidates expenses to the State Competition.

C.) State Level

The State is responsible to award prizes to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in the amounts of \$500.00, \$300.00 and \$200.00 respectively.

Selection of Judges

A minimum of three (3) impartial judges must be present at all competitive events. The judges may be divided into two separate judging teams in order to facilitate time commitments. Judges should be familiar with the legislative platform, the mission and the objectives of New York State Women, Inc. To maintain impartiality, the State judges should not be a member of the same Local Chapter or District as the New Careerist Candidates.

Judges should be familiar with interviewing and presentation/public speaking. All judges should be briefed on all aspects of the competition in advance. If the New Careerist competition extends to more than one day, it is preferred – not mandatory – that one or more of the judges are present for the entire competition to provide consistency in the judging.

The same guidelines are required at every competition level - Local, District, and State. This will provide uniformity and a level playing field for the New Careerist Candidates.

Judging and Scoring

Judge # _____ Initials _____

1.) Biographical Information

Maximum 15 points

Each New Careerist Candidate will complete and provide biographical information highlighting her/his personal and professional accomplishments, her/his career goals, and response to the essay question. Judges will use the following criteria to score biographical information:

<u>SCORING</u>	<u>POINTS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Personal and Professional Accomplishments	1-5	_____
Written Ability to Express Thoughts and Beliefs	1-5	_____
Career Goals	1-5	_____

GRAND TOTAL _____

2.) Individual Interview

Maximum 25 points

Each New Careerist Candidate will be interviewed for a minimum of ten (10) to a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes. The focus of the interview shall be the Candidates knowledge of work life/family balance issues, her/his knowledge of New York State Women, Inc. and its mission, vision and Legislative Platform or other advocacy issues. The goal of the interview is to assess how the New Careerist Candidate interacts and responds to impromptu questions. Judges will use the following criteria to score the interview:

<u>SCORING</u>	<u>POINTS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Ability to verbally express thoughts and beliefs	1-5	_____
Poise/Self-Confidence	1-5	_____
Familiarity with and knowledge of New York State Women, Inc.	1-5	_____
Innovation and Creativity in Ideas	1-5	_____
Sincerity/Genuineness	1-5	_____

GRAND TOTAL _____

3.) Impromptu or Group Interaction

Maximum 25 points

Each New Careerist Candidate will participate in a group interaction opportunity. Evaluation will be based on the candidates' ability to participate and express her/his ideas while interacting with peers. Judges will assess each candidate's potential mentoring ability and efforts to help others succeed as well as a demonstration of leadership skills.

SCORING	POINTS	TOTAL
Interaction with peers	1-5	_____
Participation	1-5	_____
Organization of Thought/Expression of Ideas	1-5	_____
Mentoring Skills	1-5	_____
Leadership Skills	1-5	_____
GRAND TOTAL _____		

4. **Four-Minute Prepared Speech**

Maximum 35 points

Each New Careerist Candidate will give a four-minute prepared speech. Speech topics are attached hereto. The Candidate will select their question in advance and submit a written copy of their response with their application.

Timing will begin when the New Careerist Candidate begins speaking. The Candidate shall remain at the podium during their speech. No props are allowed.

Speeches within +/- 15 seconds receive no deductions in points; 16 seconds or more over or under 4 minutes will be a 5- point deduction.

SCORING	POINTS	EXAMPLES	TOTAL
Preparation & Content	1-10	Good opening, logical, knowledge of subject	_____
Poise/Self-Confidence	1-10	Confident, relaxed manner, voice, posture	_____
Clarity	1-5	Word choices, ease of understanding	_____
Expression	1-5	Facial expression, gestures, eye contact, "speaking" versus "reading" to audience	_____
Adherence to Topic	1-5	Relevance, audience attention, creativity of the presentation, familiarity with the subject matter	_____

GRAND TOTAL _____ MINUS TIMING _____ TOTAL SPEECH _____

Judges Comments:

GRAND TOTAL SCORE _____

JUDGES INITIALS _____

TIE BREAKER, IF NECESSARY, please score

Candidate understands the mission, vision, legislative platform to build powerful women personally, professionally and politically.

Minimally 1

Somewhat 2

Strongly 3

Judges Score _____

Grand Total Score Including Tie Breaker Score _____ Judges Initials _____

NEW YORK STATE WOMEN, INC.

NEW CAREERIST BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

This biographical information will be used in the judging process for the New Careerist Program Competition.

You may attach additional sheets as necessary.

PERSONAL DATA

Name: _____ Date of Birth _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ Work Phone: (____) _____ Cell Phone: (____) _____

Email address: _____

New York State Women, Inc. Local Chapter _____

Renewal date: _____

EMPLOYMENT

Present Position: _____ from _____ to _____

(If not presently employed, please describe last employment)

Employer: _____

Address: _____

Job Title: _____

Job Description: _____

Second Position: _____ from _____ to _____

(If you are presently employed with two different employers, please list the second position in this space. If you have only one position, leave this area blank.)

Employer: _____

Address: _____

Job Title: _____

Job Description: _____

EDUCATION

Please note all educational degrees/diplomas and major areas of study after high school.

SCHOLASTIC HONORS/PROFESSIONAL OR PERSONAL AWARDS

PRESENTATIONS, PUBLICATIONS, PAPERS PRESENTED, SPEECHES

New York State Women, Inc. Legislative Platform

.New Careerist Candidates must read and sign the following Legislative Platform document and submit it with their application.

PREAMBLE

- The New York State Women, Inc. pledge their support of specific legislation and policy that addresses civil rights, health and economic opportunity for all women.
- Establish a pro-active position by identifying and supporting issues selected by members of New York State Women, Inc. Notify candidates of these issues that we feel will advance our New York State Legislative Platform

CIVIL RIGHTS

- Work to bring NYS Laws into conformity with the Equal Rights Amendment of the New York State Constitution (which was ratified in 1972).
- Support educational and training programs that develop protocols for the protection of victims of domestic violence, and support strong penalties for abusers.

HEALTH

- Actively support reproductive choice and full access to health care services; ensure funding for research and developments of programs which benefit the welfare of women of all ages.

ECONOMIC EQUITY

- Work for and support legislation that promotes economic equality, financial security, including pension reform, retirement benefits, pay equity and credit accessibility.

I _____, a 20____ New Careerist Candidate have read the above
Legislative Platform and hereby agree to not speak against the platform and pledge my
support to the Legislative Goals of New York State Women, Inc.

Signature

Date