National Baptist Deacons’ Convention of America, Inc. And It’s Auxiliaries

Youth Department

**Rules for Oratorical Contest**

**Theme: “Getting Back To Basics: Blooming Where We Are Planted”**

**--- Matthew 13:23**

1. **Use only the topic assigned.**
2. **Each contestant must be a member of the youth group he or she represents.**
3. **Only one contestant from each state.**
4. **Age: 12 – 15**
5. **Each youth group should choose an alternate.**
6. **Each speech must begin by recognizing the convention presidents, ie.**

**(To Dea. John Marshall, president of the Parent Body,**

**To Deaconess Clarice Thompson, president of the Women’s Auxiliary,**

**To Brother Paul Jones, president of the Young Adult Department,**

**To Sister Imani Johnson-Young, president of the Youth Department )**

1. **Time Limit – not more than five (5) minutes. One point will be deducted for each minute over five (5) minutes. Timing will begin after acknowledgement of the presidents.**
2. **Each contestant may memorize or read their speech.**
3. **Three (3) judges will be selected from states that are not represented by a contestant. If possible, at least one judge will have a background in English education, debate or public speaking.**
4. **Each contestant will be judged on the following and may receive as many as ten (10) points for each category.**
5. **Originality**
6. **Delivery**
7. **Poise**
8. **Content**
9. **Each contestant must pass in a copy of their speech, typed and double spaced, no later than July 1st. The contestant will be penalized two (2) points for lateness.**
10. **Submit speeches to:**

**Patricia Williams**

[**Patnickc@yahoo.com**](mailto:Patnickc@yahoo.com)

**(813) 404-9524**