

# 2023 Oratorical Contest for 5<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> Graders



## **Purpose**

The 'Bring Harriet Home' Oratorical Contest allows local high school and middle school students to develop a deeper understanding of the contributions of Harriet Tubman to Georgetown, South Carolina. It also allows students to improve their writing, communication, public speaking, and leadership skills. Oratory allows students to showcase their voice and passion for their topic.

## **Contest Requirements and submission deadlines**

Speeches must respond to the prompt. Applicants will submit an original written and recorded speech discussing one of the provided prompt/ question by Thursday, June 1, 2023, at 11:59 PM. No copyrighted speeches shall be used in this contest. A release form will be required.

## **Speech Format**

- The speech does **not** need to be memorized
- The assigned topic runs no fewer than two minutes and no more than four minutes

**The speech will be judged based on the following criteria:**

### **Points for Documented Sources (10 points maximum)**

- . 1 Point for 1-2 quality sources
- . 2 Points for two or more quality source

### **Uniqueness (10 points maximum)**

- . The uniqueness of the contributions to Georgetown
- . Diction, tone, pronunciation, and creativity
- . Does the essay clearly address the assigned topic?
- . Does the essay that the student researched their category and specific area of concern?
- . Has the writer used relevant facts, details, or other information to develop their ideas?

**\* A list of supplemental / recommended books and materials will be provided,**

## **Contest Prizes**

Winners will be divided into two categories - high school and middle school. Each category will have three winners (first, second, and third.) Winners will be publicly recognized via newspapers and other media. They will also have an opportunity to have their speeches displayed in their respective district offices and schools. Certificates and monetary prizes will be awarded to each winner. Applicants will submit their recorded speech, sources, and release form to [bringharriethome2023@gmail.com](mailto:bringharriethome2023@gmail.com).

## Prompt / Questions

(choose one)



1. Harriet Tubman never visited Georgetown, South Carolina, but through her relative, she played a significant role in the education of students in Georgetown after the Civil War.

**Write an essay explaining why the upcoming celebration in Georgetown this summer is called the 'Bring Harriet Home' exhibit.**

or

2. In 1850, six-year-old James Bowley was one of the first persons Harriet Tubman rescued on her famous Underground Railroad. After rescuing James, Harriet kept little James in Philadelphia with her so he could receive a formal education. After coming to Georgetown in 1866, James became a teacher, lawyer, school commissioner, state legislator, college trustee, newspaper publisher, and probate judge.

**Write an essay explaining what his life may have been like if he had not received a formal education in the 1850s.**

## Awards Ceremony

An awards ceremony is scheduled for **August 5, 2023**, at the sculpture unveiling in the Joseph Haynes Rainey Park.

### Release Statement

Please type or print the following information.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Speech \_\_\_\_\_

School Name \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher Name (Optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Address \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's/Student's Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

### Harriet Tubman Oratory Contest Release Statement

I declare and affirm that I am the person who created the work submitted and that I consent to my work being entered in the Oratory Contest and for it to be displayed/published, should it win an award.

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

I affirm and declare as set forth above that I am the student's parent or legal guardian and that I consent to their work being entered in the Oratory Contest and for it to be displayed, should it win an award. I further consent to my student's name, picture, and work being included in media releases related to the Harriet Tubman "Journey to Freedom" sculpture.

Parent/Guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## List of supplemental source materials

### ONLINE SOURCES

<https://discovergeorgetownsc.com/bowley-house-gets-marker/>

<https://www.counton2.com/news/local-news/georgetown-county-news/georgetown-honors-james-bowley-grand-nephew-of-harriet-tubman/>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James\\_A.\\_Bowley](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_A._Bowley)

Armenti, David. "James Alfred Bowley." Archives of Maryland (Biographical Series). 2012. Accessed March 29, 2023. <https://msa.maryland.gov/megafile/msa/speccol/sc5400/sc5496/051300/051330/html/51330bio.html>

Crawford, Kaley. "James A Bowley." National Park Service. Accessed March 29, 2023. <https://www.nps.gov/people/james-a-bowley.htm>

Gunter, Joel. "Harriet Tubman: Former slave who risked all to save others." BBC News. April 21, 2016. <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-36099791>

Stairs, Clayton. "Bowley House Gets Marker." Discover Georgetown South Carolina. Accessed March 29, 2023. <http://discovergeorgetownsc.com/bowley-house-gets-marker/>

[https://www.postandcourier.com/georgetown/opinion/steve-williams-column-11-things-you-didn-t-know-about-harriet-tubman/article\\_240610a5-a1fd-5e41-bdb7-7ab86a0f2365.html](https://www.postandcourier.com/georgetown/opinion/steve-williams-column-11-things-you-didn-t-know-about-harriet-tubman/article_240610a5-a1fd-5e41-bdb7-7ab86a0f2365.html)

[https://www.postandcourier.com/georgetown/news/this-saturday-is-james-bowley-day/article\\_f4dd24e2-3528-558d-8ec7-0d73c98a83c8.html](https://www.postandcourier.com/georgetown/news/this-saturday-is-james-bowley-day/article_f4dd24e2-3528-558d-8ec7-0d73c98a83c8.html)

<https://gabnewsonline.com/historic-marker-to-recognize-harriet-tubman-relative-in-georgetown-p2917-90.htm>

<https://msa.maryland.gov/megafile/msa/speccol/sc5400/sc5496/051300/051330/html/51330bio.html>

<https://coastalobserver.com/exhibit-on-harriet-tubman-coming-to-county/>

[https://www.postandcourier.com/georgetown/opinion/steve-williams-column-he-ain-t-heavy-he-s-my-nephew/article\\_9bfcfb4d-da37-5697-925d-c4b228463d76.html](https://www.postandcourier.com/georgetown/opinion/steve-williams-column-he-ain-t-heavy-he-s-my-nephew/article_9bfcfb4d-da37-5697-925d-c4b228463d76.html)

<https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=184592>

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/journey-to-freedom-georgetown-community-honors-its-historical-connection-to-abolitionist-harriet-tubman/ar-AA16FmJJ>

<https://www.wbtw.com/news/grand-strand/historical-marker-unveiled-at-harriet-tubmans-great/>

<https://www.bbc.com/news/business-36099791>

<https://msa.maryland.gov/megafile/msa/speccol/sc3500/sc3520/013500/013562/html/13562bio.html>

### PRINT SOURCES

*Print Sources: Most of these sources are available from the Georgetown County Library.*

Larson, Kate Clifford. *Bound for the Promised Land: Harriet Tubman, Portrait of an American Hero*. New York: Ballantine, 2004. pp 89-90, 92, 106-7

Jean M. Humez. *Harriet Tubman: The life and the Life Stories*. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2003, pp 80, 218.

Williams, Steve. *As I Travel Along: The Story of Harriet Tubman and James Bowley. In English and Gullah*. Illustrated by Allen Dennison. Translated by Gloria Barr Ford. Myrtle Beach: Waccamaw Press, 2019.

———. *As I Travel Along: **Work Book***. Illustrated by Allen Dennison. Translated by Gloria Barr Ford. Myrtle Beach: Waccamaw Press, 2021.

Williams, Steve. *24 Extraordinary People Who Made A Difference*. Myrtle Beach: Waccamaw Press, 2021. pp 28-33

Williams, Steve. *The Lost History of the Howard School*. Myrtle Beach: Waccamaw Press, 2021. pp 36-38.

Garrison Family Papers, Sophia Smith collection, Smith College, Northampton, Massachusetts. (Martha Coffin Wright to Anna and Patty Lord, September 11, 1868).

Garrison Family Papers, Sophia Smith collection, Smith College, Northampton, Massachusetts. (Martha Coffin Wright to Ellen Wright Garrison, December 16, 1868).

George C. Rogers, Jr. *The History of Georgetown County, South Carolina*. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1970, p. 459.

“An Act to Charter the Union Savings Bank of Georgetown, S.C.” The Daily Phoenix. 4 April 1872.

Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers. “The Georgetown Planet,” (Georgetown, S.C.) 1873-1875. Library of Congress.

1.

The Georgetown Times (Georgetown, SC), Saturday, May 2, 1891: To the Commissionaires of Elections for the County of Georgetown (SC).

Daniel Walker Hollis. University of South Carolina. Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina, 1956.

## **ONLINE VIDEO / AUDIO SOURCES**

Larson, Kate Clifford. “Bound for the Promised Land: The Life and Legacy of Harriet Tubman.” Georgetown County Library YouTube. October 1, 2019. 01:01:59. <https://youtu.be/pkiyFEW0Fh4>

Williams, Steve. “Steve Williams Interview.” *Plantersville Oral Histories, 2019-2021*. The Athenaeum Press at Coastal Carolina University. 2021. 01:09:43. <https://digitalcommons.coastal.edu/plantersville-oral-histories/12/>

Bonds, Leona Joy, and Ernestine Wyatt. “The Life and Times of James Bowley.” Georgetown County Library YouTube. February 16, 2022. 01:08:13. <https://youtu.be/0C-roJJ2HHM>

<https://www.live5news.com/2023/01/23/georgetown-host-sculpture-american-icon-harriet-tubman/>

<https://soundcloud.com/radiobahai/james-bowley-harriet-tubman-historical-marker>