

17th Greater Houston Area Chinese Speech Contest

Language is the tool for communication with each other. The Greater Houston Area Chinese Speech Contest aims to enhance students' interest in studying Chinese, improve Chinese verbal ability, and promote Sino-US cultural exchanges. Thanks to the utmost effort and support from all parents and Chinese schools involved, contest participants have continuously improved their speech ability in Chinese.

Our thanks will go to the education section of the Chinese Consulate General in Houston, our sponsor Chinese Civic Center, and our facilitators Mandarin Immersion Magnet School, Houston Independent School District Confucius Institute, Hua Xia Chinese School, and The Houston Chapter of China General Chamber of Commerce-USA, and US-CHINA CULTURAL & EDUCATION FOUNDATION.

Requirements and Rules:

All participants will use Mandarin Chinese in this contest.

Participants are divided into the following groups:

5—7 years old group

8—11 years old group

12—18 years old group

Advanced Group: Students who have finished 4th grade in China

Non-Chinese into 3 Groups:

Elementary Group

Middle-School /High-School group

Adult Group

Time: Sunday, Nov. 4th, 2018

1:30 PM—Sign In

2:00 PM—Contest Starts

Award Ceremony: 4:00 PM (on the same day, Nov. 4th, 2018)

Contest Location: Mandarin Immersion Magnet School

5445 W Alabama St. Houston, TX 77056

Registration period: From now until Oct. 28th

Registration through: Houston Area Chinese Schools, Chinese Instructors, or you may bring registration form and fee to: Chinese Civic Center

5905 Sovereign Dr. Houston, TX 77036

Contact: 713.772.1133 or 713.870.5288 **Email:** ghcspc@gmail.com

Registration Fee: \$20.00 per person.

Time Limit: Speeches must not exceed 3 minutes (About 500 words)

Preschool Group will focus on storytelling (About 1-2 minutes)

Topics (suggestions): *"Be a better self"* Your past does not define you. Be confident, diligent, and hardworking; learn to discipline yourself, but don't forget to cheer yourself up. Improvements are made up of small changes towards the good. When placing ourselves in order, we can then change the world.

"Artificial Intelligence" - In the summer of 1956, a few visionaries gathered together to study and explore simulated intelligence; coined the term "Artificial Intelligence". Since then, scientists from all over the world have been pressing on to make "A.I." a reality. Discuss what you know on the topic of "A.I."

"No longer far away" - China is thousands of miles away. However, learning Chinese will instantly shorten the distance. China is no longer far away.

You may also create your own topic, make your message is clear and convincing.

We have assembled our judges from of language experts and artists. None of them teaches in any Chinese Schools to ensure no bias. Judges will grade on pronunciation, usage of words, clarity of main idea, expression and overall presentation (appropriate clothing, body language and effectiveness of speech). First, Second and Third place winners will receive trophies, certificates, and monetary rewards. Honorable mentions will receive trophies, certificates.

Please share this message with friends and invite them to join.

We appreciate all sorts of sponsorship from organizations, businesses, associations, and individuals.