

## Top Tips by Contest Coordinators for Contest Coordinators

- Be persistent.
- Build relationships with local teachers, schools, and students.
- Invite past contest winners to speak to other students to encourage participation.
- Use your personal connections in local schools to find the best contact for contest information.
- Ask people to work with you and delegate tasks.
- Attend open houses at schools to invite students and teachers to participate and thank teachers that have previously been involved.
- Organize a local award ceremony inviting all participants to be recognized for their efforts. This can be done before or after the state finals.
- Stay organized. Purchase color-coded pocket folders for each contest prizes: certificates, medals, ribbons, pins i.e. green for oratory, blue for essay, white for drawing, (this can be counted as a tax-deductible donation to ORTLEF. Just provide receipts and request documentation).
- Post student artwork in the community. One group used the artwork to produce magnets that were sold by a local right to life chapter at a fair booth.
- Use multiple forms of communication such as letters, social media posts, calls and emails.