

State Ritual Contest

(Oregon Contest) Notify by June 18th

Our Grange ritual contains important lessons and advice for members, but many Granges no longer use the Opening and Closing Ceremonies let alone exemplify the degrees. The purpose of this contest is to encourage youth to read the manual, identify a favorite passage, memorize it, and deliver it with expression to communicate its meaning to their fellow members.

Expression: Communicated the meaning of the passage to listeners, held their attention by appropriately varying rate or vocal range	25
Difficulty: Met the challenge of difficult wording, pronounced words correctly	10

- 1st place: \$30, 2nd place: \$20, 3rd place: \$10 in each category (plus ribbons).

Age categories (as of January 1)

- Youth 14-21 years of age
- Young Adult 22-35 years of age

Rules

- Select a favorite passage to memorize and recite from these parts of the Manual:
 - Chaplain's prayer from Opening the Grange.
 - Master's charge from Closing the Grange.
 - An officer's part in the First, Second, Third, or Fourth Degrees. The passage should be 100 words or more in length. However, if your favorite passage is Flora's part in the First Degree, you could add Flora's charge in the Fourth Degree after an appropriate transition.
 - The Installing Officer's part in the Installation of Officers: the opening, obligation, or the charge for any of the officers.
- The contestant should begin by identifying the passage (officer, which degree or opening, closing, or installation), and explain why they selected it. Be sure to include anything listeners should know that happened prior to this passage that could affect their understanding of it. This introduction should be less than two minutes in length.
- The competition will be held during the State Grange Convention. Those planning to enter must notify the State Youth Director by first day of State Session so that judges can be provided with copies of the passage.
- Delivery is to be from memory. The contestant cannot have a copy of the Manual or any papers to aid them but can designate a prompter.

Judging Criteria

Judging Criteria	Points
Introduction: Appropriately set the scene	10
Memorization: Accurately delivered the written words without hesitation or prompting	25
Voice: Spoken clearly, easy to understand	10
Stage Presence: Posture and gestures appropriate, nervousness controlled	20