



Welcome to the **Young Patriot Challenge** Constitution Week Speech Contest, a district wide contest open to all Merced County High School Students.

To compete, the contest invites 9-12 grade entrants (including home school students) to celebrate Constitution Day (Sept. 17th) by preparing and presenting a short video speech, uploaded to **youtube.com** on this year's Constitution related theme. (**youtube link**)

The winners will be honored at the **Young Patriot Challenge** Award Ceremony to be held on October 24, 2018. **The first place winner will be asked to give the speech again to the Award Ceremony guests.** Please consider your attire.



Entries are submitted online and the judges will be reviewing the videos.

Speech Contest theme for this year: Is the U. S. a Constitutional Republic or a Democracy? In your opinion, what is the difference? Are they being misunderstood by the courts and the Government? Explain your findings.

Speech Contest General Rules

- Merced County students Grades 9-12 are eligible for the Speech Contest.
- The speech is to be **4-6 minutes in length**.
- The speech is to be video recorded and uploaded to youtube.com. You must setup in a text file format that can be e-mailed. You must put a tag on each video, **#YPCUSAMERCED**. Webcams and cell phone video is fine as long as you can be seen and heard clearly. **NOTE: Videos taken out doors have too much back ground noise and are hard to hear. In order for the judges to find your video, you must follow these instructions to the letter.**
- **ALL ENTRIES MUST BE PLACED INTO YOU TUBE BY SEPTEMBER 28, 2018.**

The Speech will be judged according to the following criteria:

- Comprehension and knowledge of the subject (this year's theme).
- Organization of presentation.
- Speaking skills such as, voice and diction.

Online submission of the speech

Once the speech is recorded and uploaded to youtube.com, the student should enter the contest by filling out the speech submission form that can be found on the web page www.ypcusa.net and send it to the following e-mail address. 44magman@att.net

Judging and Awards

Students that win second and third place in the countywide competition will receive awards consisting of a medal with ribbon, a certificate and a gift card. The first place winner will receive a medal with ribbon, certificate and a computer tablet. Winners will be honored along with their parents at a special Award Ceremony to be held on October 24, 2018.