

History of the Joseph Vaughn Oratorical Competition

This competition for local High School Students is co-sponsored by Furman University and Alpha Greenville Foundation with our four major sponsors Gamma Gamma Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., The Blood Connection, Vision Plus, and US&S, Inc.

The purpose of the competition is to encourage oratorical skills among students in the spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Mr. Joseph Vaughn, who was the first African-American student to attend Furman University.

Contestants are judged on Speech Development, Effectiveness, Correctness, and Speech Value. Final elements will add physical appearance, voice, mannerism, and appropriateness to the judging criteria. The contest was first held in 2008 at the Chapel on Furman University campus. MLK Planning Committee selects a theme each year.

Brief History of Joseph Vaughn's Enrollment at Furman University



On February 2, 1965, four African-Americans enrolled at Furman. Three were graduate students in education; the other was freshman Joe Vaughn. Mr. Vaughn's enrollment was the result of concerted effort to enroll him that started in 1963.

Vaughn proved to be a model student. An English major, he excelled in class, served as head cheerleader, coordinated important campus forums, and volunteered in the Service Corps. Witty and outgoing, he made friends quickly and easily. His smile was like a beam of sunlight;

it radiated warmth and joy.

After graduating from Furman, Vaughn went on to earn master's degrees from the University of South Carolina and the University of Georgia. From 1969 to 1982 he taught in the Greenville County schools, and in 1981 he was elected president of the South Carolina Education Association, a position he held for almost a decade. Joseph Vaughn passed away in 1991.

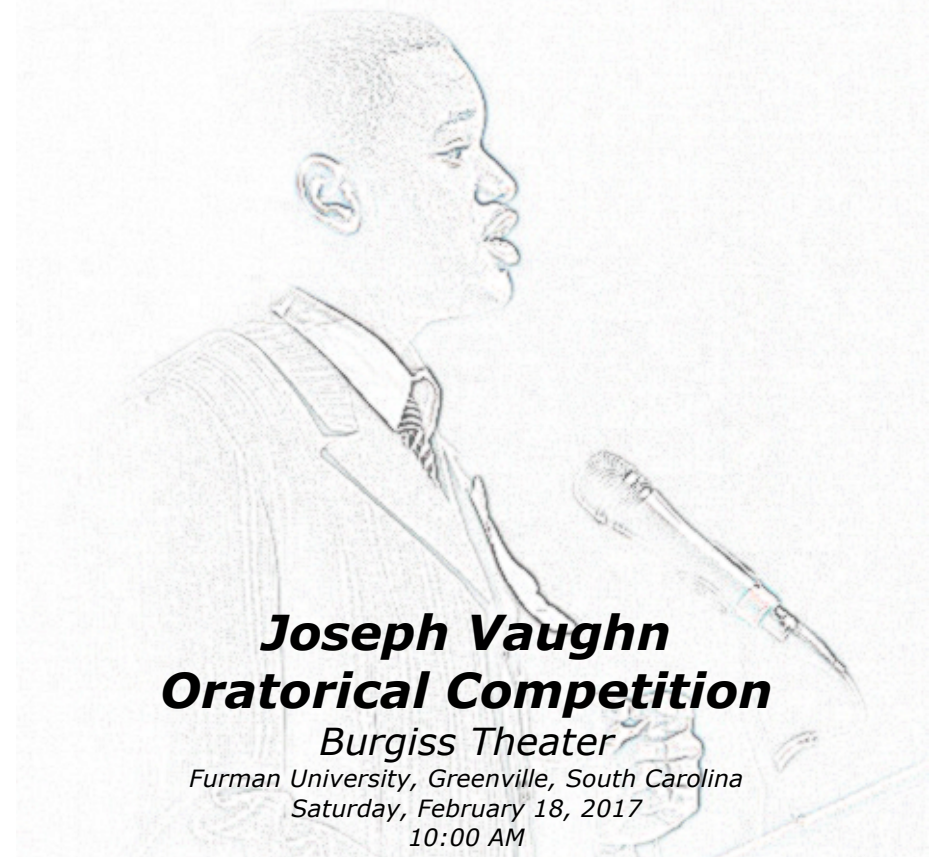


Alpha Phi Alpha Greenville Foundation, Inc.

(864) 735-0880 | www.alphagreenville.org

"Covering the Upstate with service, scholarship, and mentorship"

"Building the Beloved Community" Final Competition



Joseph Vaughn Oratorical Competition

Burgiss Theater

Furman University, Greenville, South Carolina

Saturday, February 18, 2017

10:00 AM



STAFF · SUPPORT · SUSTAIN



2017 Contestants

Zharia Anderson
Legacy Charter High School
9th Grade

Jana Kelly
Southside High School
12th Grade

Jenni Carpio
Legacy Charter High School
10th Grade

Faith Lomax
Legacy Charter High School
12th Grade

Jared Dawson
Riverside High School
12th Grade

D'Machia Milom
Legacy Charter High School
12th Grade

Shacolbea Hill
Southside High School
9th Grade

Kai Alexander Standifer
Mauldin High School
12th Grade

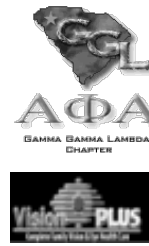
Eliza Jimenez
Legacy Charter High School
12th Grade

Selena Tynes
J.L. Mann High School Academy of
Mathematics, Science & Technology
10th Grade

Elena Jimenez
Legacy Charter High School
12th Grade

Javien Womack
Woodmont High School, International
Baccalaureate World School
11th Grade

Savannah Keating
Wade Hampton High School
10th Grade



2017 JOSEPH VAUGHN ORATORICAL COMPETITION

**Theme: " Hope, Harmony, Humanity:
Are They Still Relevant in Contemporary America?"**

Presiding

Mr. Joseph Ali-Cassim
Upsilon Alpha Chapter, Alpha Phi Alpha, USC Upstate

- Invocation Mr. Furman Jackson
Recording Secretary, Gamma Gamma Lambda Chapter of AΦA
- Welcome..... Ms. Laura Baker
Outreach Librarian, Furman University
- Overview of the Competition Rules Mr. Keith Barksdale
Chairman, Alpha Phi Alpha Greenville Foundation
- Introduction of Contestants Mr. Michael Chatman
Chair, Joseph Vaughn Oratorical Competition
- Introduction of the Judges Mr. Don R. Weston
Financial Secretary, Gamma Gamma Lambda Chapter of AΦA

Oratorical Competition

- Announcement of the Winners Mr. Jackson
- Closing Remarks Mr. Kevin Branch
President, Gamma Gamma Lambda Chapter of AΦA
- Acknowledgements Mr. Chatman

2017 Competition Judges

Mr. Carlos Littlejohn
Mr. Rodney Johnson

Mrs. Jennifer Clark
Ms. Bajeyah Eaddy

Tabulator -- Mrs. Jessica M. Wilder
Timekeeper -- Mr. Patrick Johnson