



**Date:** April 16, 2020

**Press Release:** Madison Consolidated High School  
**109<sup>th</sup> Annual Custer Oratorical Contest**

**Contact:** MCHS Senior Class Sponsors: Carrie Dickerson, Jennifer Hensler, Shareen Kring, Janelle Smith

Madison Consolidated High School has had to cancel the presentation of the 109<sup>th</sup> Annual Custer Oratorical Contest for Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. Instead of a public performance and judging, this year, the students have been given the option to record their recitation for social media. All contestants will receive an equal portion of the award money. Mr. Custer began the Custer Oratorical Contest in 1912 for students who attended all four years at MCHS and rank in the very top of their class; there are six contestants for the class of 2020, as there was a 5th place tie.

This year's contestants include:



**Contestant #1:** **Lyca Bishop**, daughter of Fely Bishop

Activities: marching band, NHS, Academic Super Bowl

Intended College: Undecided

Major: Psychology

Selection Title: *The Great Gatsby*

Author: F. Scott Fitzgerald

Coached by: Lee Strassell



**Contestant #2:** **Isaac Boone**, son of Ann Kirkland and Steve Boone

Activities: marching band, Academic Bowl, Madison Performing Arts  
Foundation artist and Cincinnati Youth Wind Ensemble member

Intended College: Undecided

Major: Saxophone Performance and Music Education

Selection Title: *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*

Author: Mark Twain

Coached by: Jill Koren



**Contestant #3: Jessie Dyer**, daughter of Sandi Dyer

Activities: basketball, soccer, NHS, Student Athletic Council  
Intended College: Indiana University  
Major: Business Management  
Selection Title: *Where the Heart Is*  
Author: Billie Letts  
Coached by: Amanda Harsin



**Contestant #4: Bailey Hankins**, daughter of Beth Hankins and Mark Hankins

Activities: archery, HOSA, NHS, Ivy Tech Medical Assisting Certificate graduate  
Intended College: Galen College of Nursing  
Major: Nursing  
Selection Title: *To Kill a Mockingbird*  
Author: Harper Lee  
Coached by: Jill Koren



**Contestant #5: Elias Hanson**, son of Jon and Lisa Hanson

Activities: soccer, Math Bowl, Student Athletic Council  
Intended College: Southern Adventist University  
Major: Chemistry  
Selection Title: *A Literary Nightmare*  
Author: Mark Twain  
Coached by: Susan Olendorf



**Contestant #6:**    **Jonah Nichols**, son of Jim and Tracey Nichols

Activities:            NHS, football, wrestling

Intended College: Purdue University

Major:                Engineering

Selection Title:    *Fahrenheit 451*

Author:               Ray Bradbury

Coached by:        Krista Lee