Concern for Covid-19 that resulted in closing schools and canceling our New Jersey Orators’ weekly practices and competitions. In an effort to recognize and reward our Orators’ work effort throughout this 2019-2020 year, the New Jersey Orators Board chose the ClassDoJo application as a means to showcase student presentations. Three chapters participated: Orange Chapter, Plainfield Chapter, Willingboro/Burlington Chapter.

The Willingboro/Burlington Chapter of the New Jersey Orators, Inc. held its NJO Virtual Competition Awards Ceremony, by way of a “drive-line” in the parking lot of Wesley A.M.E. Zion Church in Burlington Township. The event took place Tuesday, June, 8th.

Given the constraints imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, this NJO Chapter maintained connections with students while the coaches conducted group virtual practices using Facetime.

They encouraged students to submit videos of Orators’ oral performances utilizing ClassDoJo, an teacher/student support application for communication that the New Jersey Orators Board implemented as a temporary replacement for the NJO spring statewide competitions.

The Willingboro/ Burlington Chapter was given the 2020 Chapter of Excellence Award. The Chapter will be recognized formally at the 35th Anniversary Scholarship and Awards Luncheon in the fall. (Visit www.oratorsinc.org)