This is a program for the W. B. Wilson Medal Essay Contest held at Normal Chapel in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, on 8 June 1896. The subject of the contest was “The Poetry of Edgar Allen Poe.”

Normal Chapel was located in Normal Hall, the main building of the Third District Normal School (now Southeast Missouri State University) at Cape Girardeau in Cape Girardeau County, Missouri. W. B. Wilson, for whom the medal and contest were named, was a prominent local physician and druggist.

The participants in the contest were student members of the Clio and Sorosis literary societies, which were housed in rooms adjacent to the chapel. The contest, which was held on Monday evening, 8 June 1896, included musical interludes and concluded with the awarding of the medal.