Speech Scholarship Competition | March 5, 2022

Please read all the information below carefully. If you have any questions, please call Mr. Chuck Ehrman at 240-283-3207 or email him at cehrman@olgchs.org.

When is the competition? Saturday, March 5, 2022
8:00-8:20 a.m. Registration in the school’s Dining Hall.
(Complimentary juice, water, coffee, donuts, fruit will be available.)
8:20-8:30 a.m. Welcome & Information
8:45–11:45 a.m. Preliminary Rounds of Competition
• Students will be divided into small groups of 5 or 6 and will deliver their performance pieces in classrooms. Each room will have two judges.
• Students deliver their pieces in the “open space” in the front of the classroom.
• Students will have three chances to give their performance pieces, each time with a different subset of fellow competitors and each time with different judges.
12:00–12:45 p.m. Final Round of Competition & Awards
• The top six speakers will be invited to compete a fourth time. These students are the ones who qualify for the scholarships.

What do student competitors need to do to participate?
Students need to prepare ONE of the following PERFORMANCE PIECES:

Option A: SPEECH:
Students can compose one 4-6 minute original speech on any topic of their choosing. The purpose of the speech can be to persuade, inform, inspire, and/or entertain.
OR
Students can prepare one 4-6 minute cutting of someone else’s speech (a political speech, a eulogy, a commencement address, etc.).

While memorization is not required, great familiarity with the speech is.

Option B: DRAMATIC PERFORMANCE:
Students can prepare one (or more) monologue(s) from a published play(s) in order to fill 4-6 minutes of performance time. The monologue should allow the student to showcase his/her ability to embody a character and to convey the appropriate emotion. Scripts from tv shows/movies are acceptable.

While memorization is not required, great familiarity with the monologue is.

Option C: DRAMATIC READING:
Students can prepare one 4-6 minute dramatic reading from a piece of prose (cutting from a novel, a short story, or a children’s story).
OR
Students can prepare one (or more) piece(s) of poetry in order to fill 4-6 minutes of performance time.

While memorization is not required, great familiarity with the piece(s) is.

What are the judges looking for? Familiarity | Eye Contact | Expressiveness | Pacing | Poise

What are the scholarship amounts? All scholarships are four year renewable scholarships.
1st place: $4,000 | 2nd place: $3,500 | 3rd place: $3,000 | 4th place: $2,750 | 5th place: $2,500 | 6th place: $2,250

If a student accepts a scholarship, what are the requirements?
• Students must be eighth graders and must be accepted by and then enroll in Good Counsel.
• Students must be participating members on the school’s Speech and Debate team (minimum of six Saturday league tournaments and the necessary practice time).

What is high school Speech & Debate like?
• Check out the National Speech and Debate Association website (NSDA) speechanddebate.org