

WOODCREEK SPEECH & DEBATE

BROUGHT TO YOU BY WHS SPEECH & DEBATE LEADERSHIP AND BOOSTERS



Our Season Has Kicked Off!

The month of October has been packed for our team— opening with our first debate *and* speech tournament of the season. Our team members have been working incredibly hard, pouring in hours of work into cultivating their debate cases and speeches, on top of even more hours of work practicing and memorizing. Their hard work most certainly paid off, with a total of **51 awards** earned just after two tournaments! A big thank you to our parents for sticking out right alongside their children throughout these incredibly busy few weeks, and we hope that these resources have made this season easier to tackle.

This newsletter details the results of both the October 10th Debate Tournament and October 24th Speech Tournament, including the recognition of our Speakers of the Tournament, some team updates, and resources for the upcoming tournament. Please note the Google Form linked under the 'Useful Resources' page. We would love your input!

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October 10th Debate Tournament Results

On Saturday, October 10, Woodcreek's Speech & Debate team competed at our first debate tournament of the season. Debating on Zoom was, as many students can attest to, a unique experience, but our team overcame the technology issues that was thrown their way, and prevailed with 19 awards. In order to earn an award, students must either win 3 of their 4 rounds, or win all of their rounds. Congratulations to the following award recipients:

NOVICE PUBLIC FORUM DEBATE

Gavin Watson & Lauren Palmer **3W-1L**

Ella Bredwell & Abby Botwinik **3W-1L**

VARSITY PUBLIC FORUM DEBATE

Abby Schwartz & Max Korablev **3W-1L**

Frances Van Slyke & Feizah Teope **3W-1L**

Dana Hall & Riya Tapadiya **3W-1L**

Sophia Strohmeier & Brooke Catich **3W-1L**

NOVICE LINCOLN DOUGLAS DEBATE

Doina Midrigan **Undefeated, 4W-0L**

Ella Johnson **3W-1L**

Jacob Betgeorge **3W-1L**

VARSITY LINCOLN DOUGLAS DEBATE

Nathan Solano **3W-1L**

Erik Bowen **3W-1L**

NOVICE PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE

Mandi Carlsen & Josie DeMartino **3W-1L**

CONGRESS

Bhoojaa Jawahar, **Finalist**

October 24th Speech Tournament Results (1/3)

Two weeks after the Debate Opener, our team competed at our league's Speech Opener. We were met with the new challenge of having to submit pre-recorded videos the night before tournament. We accepted this challenge and dove in headfirst, and came out with 32 awards! All of these students continue to impress, not only in round, but also in the classroom— serving as role models and teachers for their fellow teammates. Congratulations to the following reward recipients:

EXPOSITORY SPEAKING

Coached by Josie DeMartino, Frances Van Slyke, and Bhoojaa Jawahar

VARSITY

Nathan Solano, **1st Place**

Frances Van Slyke, **2nd**

La'a Nishihara, **3rd**

Josie DeMartino, **4th**

Dana Hall, **5th**

NOVICE

Ella Bredwell, **2nd**

Emilee Rosenbaum, **3rd**

Jacob Betgeorge, **4th**

Ella Johnson, **5th**

Andrew Gordon, **7th**

ORIGINAL PROSE AND POETRY

Coached by Feizah Teope, Riya Tapadiya, and Kaci Thornton

VARSITY

Feizah Teope, **1st Place**

Riya Tapadiya, **2nd**

Kaci Thornton, **3rd**

Alina Yakovenko, **4th**

October 24th Speech Tournament Results (2/3)

NATIONAL EXTEMPERANEOUS

Coached by Gregory Crawford & Dylan Hall

Varsity

Corey Wilson, **2nd**

Dylan Hall, **3rd**

Gregory Crawford, **4th**

IMPROMPTU

Coached by Corey Wilson, Gregory Crawford, and Dylan Hall

Varsity

Nia Sanders, **2nd**

Abbie Goetzel, **5th**

Corey Wilson, **6th**

ORATORICAL INTERPRETATION

Coached by Nathan Solano and Bhoojaa Jawahar

Julia Most, **4th**

Mandi Carlsen, **7th**

ORIGINAL ADVOCACY

Coached by Brooke Catich, Gregory Crawford, and Abby Schwartz

Varsity

Riya Tapadiya, **1st Place**

Abby Schwartz, **4th**

Novice

Chloe Van Leerdam, **1st Place**

October 24th Speech Tournament Results (3/3)

ORIGINAL ORATORY

Coached by Sophia Strohmeier, Frances Van Slyke, and Julia Most

VARSITY

Julia Most, **4th**

Abby Botwinik, **6th**

NOVICE

Bekah Brown, **2nd**

Trinity McEwen, **3rd**

Doina Midrigan, **4th**

DUO INTERPRETATION

Coached by Feizah Teope and Riya Tapadiya

Sophia Strohmeier and Kate Seivert, **4th**

AND A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR JUDGES:

Laina Bredwell
Hal Bredwell
Shelly Brown
Jennifer DeMartino
Mike Gordon
Lisa Hall
Keri Johnson
Peggy Larson
Mark McEwen

Denis Nishihara
Ushadevi Radhamony
D'Ana Seivert
Lynette Strohmeier
Jason Thornton
Joey Van Slyke
Lisa Botwinik
Jason Thornton
Tanya Konrad

Aaron Johnson
Christi Diaz
Paul Rosenbaum
Randy Hall
Pradeep Tapadiya

SPEAKERS OF THE TOURNAMENT

Speaker of the Tournament is a special award presented to the competitor that demonstrated incredible work ethic during practice/after school, maintained a positive attitude, was helpful to others, coachable, and showed perseverance. This year, due to the special circumstances that COVID-19 has created for us, this award was given to one competitor from each style of debate and speech.

LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATE

"This person has made astounding improvements along their way to success. Despite not knowing much about what exactly Lincoln Douglas is, they still managed to find their way through and become a fantastic debater and speaker. They've persevered with their case as well as proved to be remarkably confident in mocks. It's always a joy to have them on the team because they have a fun personality. The amount of work they put into their case and performance demonstrates just how dedicated they are to the team and their personal growth. Their positivity has never waived, and they are always open to constructive criticism and helpful comments. I look forward to working alongside this fantastic person and watching them grow as the season progresses. I want to congratulate **Doina Midrigan** for achieving the speaker of the tournament in **Lincoln-Douglas debate**."

Submitted by Nathan Solano

PUBLIC FORUM DEBATE

"This person has been incredible on all fronts. Their passion for debate showed through in the weeks leading up to this past tournament, and I couldn't be prouder to be presenting them with this award. Their positivity and eagerness to help others made them an absolute joy to work with, and I think it is fair to say that many of us **Public Forum** kids wouldn't have gotten to where we are now without their help. Their dedication and work ethic is unmatched, and they went above and beyond as an Event Guide. Congratulations to **Abby Schwartz!**"

Submitted by Frances Van Slyke

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE

"Branching out and trying new speaking styles can always be a difficult obstacle to overcome, especially within a debate. But the resilience from this debater in and outside of speech and debate never goes unnoticed. Working hands-on with this speaker, I have received the opportunity to see how this person is never afraid to go out of their comfort zone. This speaker's attitude on a tournament day was nothing but encouraging to others, while her behavior before the tournament showed her team and me her eagerness to learn as much as she can. Seeing as this person and her partner went three and one on the October 10th tournament shows this debater's hard work through times of uncertainty seen within this year's virtual competitions this year. I am so proud to announce the speaker of the tournament within **Parliamentary debate** is **Josie DeMartino**."

Submitted by Abbie Goetzel

"This competitor has continuously proven repeatedly to be a loyal, hard-working teammate who doesn't give up when she puts her mind to something. She's never been afraid to jump into new things head first, not to mention pulling me into it with her just for the fun of it. This competitor has been someone who continues to inspire me and keep me afloat when I couldn't keep my head up. She never fails to make me laugh or brighten my day just by being herself. She is a force to be reckoned with and an incredible teammate. For these reasons, I'm happy to announce that our Speaker of the Tournament in

Parliamentary debate is **Mandi Carlsen!**"

Submitted by Josie DeMartino

SPEAKERS OF THE TOURNAMENT

ORIGINAL EVENTS

"Our team was overwhelmingly successful at our league's Speech Opener, earning an outstanding 32 awards. Every competitor poured in hours and hours of effort into their pieces, but this competitor especially stood out in the eyes of their teammates. Being new to the team, they dove headfirst into the chaos of it all, demonstrating an incredibly strong work ethic and a willingness to learn and improve. This individual took critiques exceptionally well and demonstrated the application of those critiques by their next mock. They were never hesitant to ask questions and gave incredibly good feedback to their fellow teammates, sharing and applying what they learned as well to ensure everyone's improvement. This competitor truly demonstrates the values our team tries to uphold. Above all, this person is one of the most genuine and hardworking people I know, and they have already overcome the ultimate challenge of figuring all of this during their freshman year. I am beyond honored to say that our Speaker of the Tournament for **Originals** is **Chloe Van Leerdam!**"

Submitted by Feizah Teope

INTERPRATIVE EVENTS

"Pursuing a new event is a hard enough task as it is, but tackling it online has proved to be even more difficult. But despite the challenges, this person never stopped trying to be better. Although enduring the difficult task of coordinating a split-screen performance, this person never stopped working hard to ensure the success and enjoyment of what they were doing. Along with dealing with their own speech's demanding nature, this competitor never strayed away from helping others. They brought out the best in those around them and stopped at nothing to ensure that the people they were teaching were reaching their full potential. Not only did they keep their spirits high, but they lifted the hearts of others. Practically running the student lounge, this competitor stepped up to make sure that even in the online format, we could have fun and bond with team members and competitors alike. They are a hardworking, kind, generous, extraordinary person that I am honored to call my teammate and friend, which is why I'm happy to announce that the Speaker of the Tournament for **Interpretive events** is **Sophia Strohmeyer!**"

Submitted by Josie DeMartino

LIMITED PREPERATION EVENTS

"This competitor is one whose dedication I admire and whose passion is unmatched. I've always been blown away by their consistently strong work ethic and their constant willingness to lend a hand - and an ear in my time working with them. They show initiative and enthusiasm for helping their teammates improve, in addition to striving for success themselves. Not only was this competitor successful, some of those they worked with beat them out, even though they were competing in their event for the first time, showing their consistent dedication to helping those around them improve and to sharing their experience without limit. They are an excellent role model, and they never fail to brighten my day whenever I get the chance to interact with them. I've never been more proud to call this person my Parli partner - and my dear friend. It is my honor to present our Speaker of the Tournament for **Limited Preparation events**, **Corey Wilson!**"

Submitted by Gregory Crawford

USEFUL RESOURCES

California High School Speech Association

<http://www.chssa.org/>



Woodcreek Speech and Debate

<https://www.rjuhsd.us/domain/363>



Speech and Debate Tabroom

<https://www.tabroom.com/index/index.mhtml>



Judging Speech and Debate

<https://nfhslearn.com/courses/adjudicating-speech-and-debate>



Guide to Virtual Tournaments

<https://bit.ly/2SugBhb>



Newsletter Suggestions Form

<https://bit.ly/3l4FcWj>



If you have any suggestions or comments for future editions of this newsletter, please fill out this Google Form!

UPCOMING TOURNAMENT INFORMATION (NOV. 7)

Tournament Schedule

Judges' training – **7:30 AM sharp** in Judges' Lounge

Round 1 – **8:30 AM**

Round 2 – **10:30 AM**

Round 3 – **12:30 PM**

Round 4 – **3:00 PM**

Awards – **5:30 PM**

Competitors and judges should enter their assigned rooms 30 minutes before the round begins.

Where To Go (Judges)

1. <https://tournaments.classrooms.cloud/wing/cvfl-rooms/>
2. Use your Tabroom credentials to log in.
3. Find the Judges' Lounge.
4. Please enter the lounge no later than 7:30 AM.
5. Wait for instructions.

TEAM UPDATES

Thank you to all who participated in our very successful fundraiser. After all Snap-Raise, sponsorships, and personal donations were counted, we grossed nearly \$19,000! That is **AMAZING!** SWAG prizes are on order and we are crossing fingers that they arrive before Thanksgiving.

Frances Van Slyke was our top earner, bringing in **\$1,360**. She will receive the top earner prize, a fancy new pair of AirPods!

Frances is the manager of the mentor group that earned the most. "The Frannie Franchise" earned a total of **\$4,215**. **Julia Most, Abbigail Schwartz, Dana Hall, Jacob Betgeorge, and Frances** will each receive a \$50 Amazon gift card. Great job, Franchise! A special shout-out goes to Abbigail – she was our second-highest earner with \$1,105 in donations.

The following 10 students have earned the exclusive S&D beanie for **reaching their initial \$300 goal**. Great job!

Riya Tapadiya
Lauren Palmer
Emilee Rosenbaum
Mandi Carlsen
Gavin Watson
Andrew Gordon
Doina Midrigan
Rebeka Brown
Jake Nishita
Jacob Betgeorge

These 10 students **surpassed the \$600 mark**, doubling their initial goal, and earning the S&D Fleece blanket (in addition to the beanie). Doubly awesome!

Abbie Goetzel
Ella Johnson
Feizah Teope
Nia Sanders
Kate Seivert
Ella Bredwell
Ellie Larsen
Abby Botwinik
Julia Most
Dana Hall

And finally, these 6 students **TRIPLED their goal, bringing in \$900 or more**. They will receive the beanie, the blanket, and the S&D weekend duffel bag. Above and beyond!

Dylan Hall
Josie DeMartino
Gregory Crawford

Kaci Thornton
Frances Van Slyke
Abbigail Schwartz

CONGRATS AND THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED MAKE THIS A SUCCESSFUL FUNDRAISER!