

Speech Scholarship Competition | February 22, 2025

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, February 22, 2025

8:00-8:20 a.m. Registration in the school's Library.

(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** 3-5 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** 3-5 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 of a SCRIPT:

Students can prepare **one (or more)** monologue(s) from a published play/script(s) in order to fill 3-5 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 of PROSE or POETRY:

Students can prepare **one** 3-5 minute cutting from a piece of prose (excerpt 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 3-5 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: \$4,250 | 2nd place: \$4,000 | 3rd place: \$3,750 | 4th place: \$3,500 | 5th place: \$3,250 | 6th place: \$3,000

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

Questions? Contact Chuck Ehrman at cehrman@olgchs.org



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