**Part-Time Upper School Debate Coach**

**About The Birch Wathen Lenox School**

Since 1916, BWL, a K-12, coeducational, college preparatory independent school, has stood out on the Upper East Side of Manhattan as one of the most close-knit institutions the big city has to offer its most promising young people. Inside our unassuming brownstone building is a beyond-supportive community of experienced educators and devoted families who are committed to a mission of fostering growth and celebrating the individual differences of every student. To find out more, visit www.bwl.org.

**Position Description**

The Upper School Debate Coach will play a pivotal role in shaping the next generation of eloquent, well-informed, and confident young debaters. This role will include supervising the Upper School Debate Team, coaching and mentoring students in various debate formats, preparing them for competitive debate tournaments, and instilling in them the skills necessary for successful public speaking and argumentation. There are typically two meeting periods per week, with additional practices added prior to competitions. This role also requires attendance at debate competitions, which can take place on weekends.

**Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Develop and implement a comprehensive debate program that encompasses various debate formats, including Policy, Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum, and Extemporaneous speaking.
- Provide hands-on training and guidance to debate team members, ensuring their understanding of debate rules, research methods, and speaking techniques.
- Organize and conduct regular debate team practices, mock debates, and research sessions to enhance students' skills and knowledge.
- Collaborate with other teachers and staff to integrate debate into the school's curriculum and extracurricular activities.
- Coordinate debate team participation in local, regional, and national tournaments, including registration, logistics, and supervision during events.
- Foster a positive and inclusive team environment, promoting teamwork, sportsmanship, and mutual respect among debate team members.
- Assist students in researching and preparing cases, analyzing opponents' arguments, and refining speaking skills.
- Provide constructive feedback and coaching to help students improve their debate performance and public speaking abilities.

- Encourage critical thinking, research, and argumentation skills both inside and outside the classroom.
- Keep abreast of current events, debate trends, and developments in the field of debate education.

**Qualifications**
Applicants should have strong knowledge of various debate forms, rules, and techniques, along with experience as an upper school debate coach with a record of successful debate teams. The candidate should have excellent communication and interpersonal skills, as well as enthusiasm for the craft and the ability to inspire and motivate students. Strong organizational and time management skills are a must. There must also be a willingness to work flexible hours, including weekends and evenings during debate tournaments. A Bachelor's degree in a relevant field is required; advanced degrees are preferred.

The Birch Wathen Lenox School is an equal-opportunity employer committed to excellence through diversity and inclusion. The School does not discriminate on the basis of age, immigration or citizenship status, race or color, disability, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, national origin, pregnancy, religion or creed, height and weight, military or veteran status, predisposing genetic characteristics, marital status, sexual or reproductive health decisions, employment status, credit history, caregiver/parent status, or status as a victim or survivor of domestic violence, sex offenses, or stalking. All employment decisions are made on the individual merits of each applicant.

**Salary Range: $75.00-$100/hour**
The salary range reflects an hourly rate dependent on the number of students enrolled in the club. There are also additional stipends for in-city and out-of-state tournaments, all payable in regular installments in accordance with the payroll practices of the School.

This is a part-time position, so there are no additional benefits offered.

**Please send your resume and cover letter to:**

Colm MacMahon, Interim Director of Upper School: colm.macmahon@gbwl.org