



**THE BRONX HIGH SCHOOL OF SCIENCE
SPEECH & DEBATE TEAM
75 BRONX SCIENCE BOULEVARD, BRONX, NY 10468**

Dear Participants at the NYC Invitational,

The Bronx High School of Science Speech & Debate Team is delighted to welcome you to the Forty-Sixth New York City Invitational Tournament. We are proud to continue our longstanding tradition of offering a challenging and competitive tournament early in the Speech & Debate season calendar. The New York City Invitational features varsity competition in Public Forum Debate, Policy Debate, Lincoln-Douglas Debate, Congressional Debate, and, Dramatic Interpretation of Literature, Duo Interpretation of Literature, Extemporaneous Speaking, Humorous Interpretation of Literature, Original Oratory and Prose & Poetry.

We wanted to share some key information as you prepare to visit Bronx Science.

Dates & Time

The tournament is from Friday, October 14th through October 16th. A complete schedule has been posted to tabroom.com. We will begin on Friday, October 14th at 3pm for Policy Debate, Lincoln-Douglas Debate and Public Forum debate. Speech and Congress will begin on Saturday, October 15th at 8:00 a.m. We anticipate the entire tournament concluding on Sunday, October 16th by 8:00 p.m., with different events ending at earlier times.

Tournament Locations

The tournament will be held at The Bronx High School of Science on Friday, Saturday and Sunday located at:

The Bronx High School of Science
75 Bronx Science Boulevard
Bronx, NY 10468

Public Transportation: Take the #4 or D/B train to the Bedford Park Blvd stop. Walk west on Bedford Park Boulevard and turn right on Paul Avenue. The school is about a 10 minute walk from the train station.

For Saturday only, the Speech and Congress divisions will be held at PS/MS 95 conveniently located near Bronx Science at:

PS/MS 95
3961 Hillman Avenue
Bronx, NY 10463

PS/MS 95 is a 15 minute walk from Bronx Science. Make a right out the main entrance and then a right on Goulden Avenue. Walk straight for about 5 minutes, then make a left on Sedgwick Avenue and a right on Hillman Avenue.

Public Transportation: Take the #4 train to either the Bedford Park Blvd and walk from Bronx Science or take the 4 train to Mosholu Parkway.

From Mosholu, walk along until it turns into Sedgwick Avenue and then make a right on Hillman Avenue.

Registration & Payment

Registration will begin at Bronx Science on Friday, October 16th at 10:00 a.m. on the stage in the main auditorium of the school and, for Speech and Congress, will continue on Saturday at PS/MS 95 beginning at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday. For Speech, you may register in person or by phone by 5pm on Friday. Even though Congress does not begin until Saturday, if you are prepared, you may register them on Friday at Bronx Science or at PS/MS 95 on Saturday. Look out for more information on registration by email.

All invoices will be produced within tabroom. All judging obligations are due by October 2, 2016 by 9:00 p.m. All name changes must be complete by October 13th at 9:00 p.m.

If you pay in full with a credit card by October 9th, we will waive your school fee. We are unable to waive the school fee for schools paying by checks or not paying in full. goo.gl/PY4qDT

Please bring your check to registration. Payment must be received when you register – there are no exceptions to this rule. Please make checks payable to The Bronx High School of Science.

Parking

There is ample street parking around Bronx Science. Beginning on Friday after 3pm, you will be able to park in the Bronx Science faculty parking lot located behind the school, the entrance is on Paul Avenue. The parking lot will be open and available for parking all day on Saturday and Sunday as well.

Note: There is extremely limited parking available in the faculty parking lot on Friday before 3pm. Please do not count on availability in the lot if you arrive early.

PS/MS 95 has a modest parking lot behind the school and there is street parking as well.

Food & Beverage

At Bronx Science, we will provide participants with dinner on Friday, lunch and dinner on Saturday and lunch on Sunday. Once again, our volunteer parents are working hard to prepare a delicious feast for these days. At PS/MS 95, only lunch will also be served on Saturday. Speech and Congress participants will be able to have dinner at Bronx Science. As in the past, all meals at the NYC Invitational will represent a wide range of cuisines and the culinary talents of our team parents.

Concessions, including snacks and beverages, will be available for purchase at both Bronx Science and PS/MS 95.

The judges lounge will be well stocked at both schools with delicious food and a lovely variety of snacks for the duration of the tournament.

Classrooms and Offices

All rounds will be held in classrooms and offices at Bronx Science and PS/MS 95. We ask that participants not to bring any food into rooms and only eat in the cafeteria. Please also be mindful to return the classrooms and offices to the way you found them. Both schools and their school yards are a no smoking environment.

Electronic Devices

WiFi information for both schools will be provided at the tournament. Coaches, judges and competitors should all have their own wireless compatible device for easy access to tabroom. For Policy, Lincoln-Douglas and Public Forum, the tournament will be entirely electronic. For Speech and Congress, we strongly recommend that all coaches, judges and competitors also have electronic access.

Bids

Bronx Science remains a qualifying competition for the National High School Tournament of Champions (TOC) in all four debate events: octofinalists in Lincoln-Douglas Debate, octofinalists in Public Forum Debate, quarterfinalists in Policy Debate and finalists in Congressional Debate. The NYC Invitational is a bid tournament for the TOC in all speech categories. Additionally, we expect finalists in certain speech categories to qualify to compete at the NIETOC.

We anticipate that the New York City Invitational will be a maximum-points qualifier to the National Debate Coaches Association (NDCA) National Championships in both Lincoln-Douglas Debate and Public Forum Debate.

Tournament Rules & Procedures

As this is an invitational tournament, the final interpretation of all rules and procedures will be at the sole discretion of the tournament hosts, with all competitors hereby agreeing to such interpretations with their attendance at the tournament.

Policy Debate: Policy debate teams will debate the 2016-17 National high school topic on China. The resolution to be debated is – Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase its economic and/or diplomatic engagement with the People’s Republic of China.

Policy debate will feature 6 prelim rounds (powered paired after round 2) and a clear to octofinals. We expect to hold a partial sextodecimofinals as circumstances dictate. Awards will be given to all teams that reach elimination rounds. Speaker awards will be given to the top 15 speakers.

Lincoln-Douglas Debate: Lincoln-Douglas debaters will debate the September/October 2016 National Speech & Debate Association (formerly the NFL) LD topic. Resolved: Countries ought to prohibit the production of nuclear power.

Lincoln-Douglas debate will feature seven preliminary rounds (power paired after round 2). The division will clear to a partial triple-octo to ensure that debaters with a preliminary record of 5-2 or better will have an opportunity to participate in an elimination round. Awards will be given to all debaters that reach the partial triple-octo and speaker awards will be given to the top 20 speakers.

Public Forum Debate: Public Forum debaters will debate the September/October 2016 Public Forum Debate topic. Resolved: In United States public K-12 schools, the probable cause standard ought to apply to searches of students.

Public Forum debate will feature seven preliminary rounds (power paired after round 2) and the division will clear to a partial triple-octo to ensure that teams with a preliminary record of 5-2 or better will have an opportunity to participate in an elimination round. Awards will be given to all teams that reach the partial triple-octo and speaker awards will be given to the top 20 speakers.

For the three above debate events, there can only be one win and one loss in each round. Speaker points are on a 30-point scale with tenth point increments. Unless otherwise stated, NSDA rules apply to the tournament.

Congressional Debate: Congressional debaters must provide their legislation by Saturday, October 1st and by emailing Willie Warren at wewsss@gmail.com. Please use the standard NSDA format for legislation.

Congressional Debate will feature three preliminary sessions and then clear to semifinals. Each Congressional Debate session is allotted 2.5 hours. Awards will be given to all finalists and semifinalists. Unless otherwise stated, NSDA rules apply to the tournament. Only the semifinal and final session will feature Direct Questioning as the format for Cross Examination.

In addition to the NSDA rules, we would like to highlight the following: We expect limited recesses during each session and certainly no more than 15 minutes in total. Chambers should use the maximum amount of time to debate and certainly not adjourn more than five minutes prior to the allotted session time. In general, a session ends after the earlier of a minimum of two cycles of debate and the official session closing time. Additionally, in order to maximize the time for debate, when ranking competitors judges and parliamentarians will be instructed to consider a penalty to any competitor who uses the point of privilege to address the chamber.

Speech: Individual events will feature Dramatic Interpretation of Literature, Duo Interpretation of Literature, Extemporaneous Speaking, Humorous Interpretation of Literature, Original Oratory and Prose & Poetry.

Speech will feature five preliminary rounds and clear semis or quarters as the circumstances dictate. Awards will be all participants in the elimination rounds. Unless otherwise stated, NCFL rules apply to the Prose & Poetry division and NSDA rules apply to other divisions.

Judges

There is a limited pool of hired judges available at \$300 per judge for the Policy, Lincoln-Douglas and Public Forum; \$200 for Congress and \$150 for speech events. Failure to fulfill a judging obligation may result in the inability of students to compete at the tournament. Any school-affiliated judge that misses a round will be assessed \$50 per missed round. There are no half-judge commitments permitted nor are schools allowed to share a judge.

All Policy and LD judges MUST have judging philosophies posted by October 2nd.

Separate documents will be sent on the issue of conflicts for both teams and for judges.

Other announcements will be forthcoming via email so be sure to check your email. We can't wait to see everyone and we look forward to an excellent tournament. If you have any questions, please contact us at 718-817-7700 or speechanddebate@bxscience.edu.

Sincerely,

Jean M. Donahue '77, Ph.D.
Principal
The Bronx High School of Science

Kirby Chin '88
Co-Tournament Host
Bronx Science Speech & Debate

Robert Levinson '80
Co-Tournament Host
Bronx Science Speech & Debate