**Tornado Alley Invitational Speech Tournament**

Please join us on January 13, 2018 for the 12th annual Tornado Alley Speech Invitational Tournament at Paducah Tilghman High School in Paducah, KY. This is Martin Luther King weekend, so you can enjoy Saturday with us and still have a two-day weekend.

**ENTRIES:** Register an unlimited number of contestants in each category. The top three will count toward sweepstakes. Students may **triple** in all events. However, a tornado waits for no one. Rounds will start on time, and students arriving after the round ends will become storm casualties.

**REGISTRATION:** You can register through [www.tabroom.com](http://www.tabroom.com). The tournament website is <https://www.tabroom.com/index/tourn/index.mhtml?tourn_id=8685>. Registration closes at 5 PM CST on Wednesday, January 10.

**CATEGORIES**: Broadcast Announcing, Declamation, Dramatic Interpretation, Duo Interpretation, Extemporaneous Speaking, Humorous Interpretation, Impromptu Speaking, Informational Speaking, Improvisational Duo, Oratory, Poetry, Program Oral Interpretation, Prose, and Storytelling. Event descriptions and rules may be located at http://www.khssl.org.

**GREAT VALUE:** If your team is short on judges, never fear! Hiring a judge costs only **$25**, so you can let your regular volunteers have the weekend off. Event fees are $6 per individual entry and $12 per duo. Teams are responsible for hiring or bringing one judge per 6 entries or fraction thereof. There is a $5 fine for dropped entries after 5 PM CST on Wednesday, January 10 and a $40 fine for each “day of tournament” judge drop.

**PAYMENT:** Please make checks payable to Paducah Tilghman Speech Team.

**SMALL TOURNAMENT WITH NEW COMPETITION: Because our event is fairly small, it's a great opportunity for your team members to final!  Plus, Tornado Alley’s** intimate atmosphere encourages participants to meet and make friends with kids from other teams. Since Tornado Alley has hosted teams from Kentucky, Tennessee, Illinois, and Missouri, your students will have the opportunity of competing against new people.
 **TEAM** **FOOD:** Food concessions will be open from the time your team arrives until finals get underway. Your competitors will be able to choose from a wide range of delicious breakfast, lunch, and snack items.
 **UNIQUE AWARDS**: The top six finishers in each category earn an award. It is tradition for Tornado Alley awards to change every year, so your students won’t go home with a trophy that does nothing but blend in and collect dust. Some past prizes have been boxer shorts, engraved mirrors, movie clapboards, and glassware.

**DOOR PRIZES:** Another Tornado difference are door prizes. (Whatever the Tornado blows in!) These are “luck of the draw.” It’s nice to see some kids who always compete but never place actually win something!

**HOTELS:** If you are coming from out of the area, there is an ample supply of hotels within a five-mile radius of Paducah Tilghman including the Drury Inn, the Days Inn, Holiday Inn Express, and many more. If you struggle to find lodging, please do not hesitate to contact us for assistance.

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (CST):**

7:30-8:00 AM Registration (Front Lobby)

8:00-8:30 AM Extemp Draw (Library) and Judges Meeting (Hospitality Room)

8:30-10:00 AM Round 1

10:00 AM Extemp Draw (Library)

10:15-11:45 AM Round 2

11:45 AM Extemp Draw & Broadcasting Prep (Library)

12:00-1:30 PM Round 3

2:15 PM Final Extemp Draw & Broadcasting Prep (Library)

2:30 PM Finals

4:30 PM Awards (Auditorium)

We hope to see you and your team on January 13, 2018. If you have questions or concerns, feel free to call or email me.

Best wishes,

Rachael Castillo