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**District Student of the Year Nomination [Austin Wang]**

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**National Speech & Debate Association** <info@speechanddebate.org>

Fri, Jan 26, 2018 at 9:39 AM

Reply-To: info@speechanddebate.org

To: jrankin@bettendorf.k12.ia.us

Hi Joe,

Below is a nomination for District Student of the Year submitted by Joe Rankin for consideration by your District Committee. A copy of this form has also been sent to the national office.

If you have any questions about the nomination process, please email [info@speechanddebate.org](mailto:info@speechanddebate.org).

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**Coach Information**

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**Nominating Coach**

Joe Rankin

**Nominating Coach Email**[jrankin@bettendorf.k12.ia.us](mailto:jrankin@bettendorf.k12.ia.us)**School**

Bettendorf HS

**State**

Iowa

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**District Information**

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**District**

East Iowa (IA)

**District Chair Name**

Joe Rankin

**District Chair Email**[jrankin@bettendorf.k12.ia.us](mailto:jrankin@bettendorf.k12.ia.us)

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**Student Information**

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**Student Name**

Austin Wang

**Grad Year**

2018

**Academic Achievements**

GPA	/ out of (scale)	Weighted (Yes/No)	AP (Yes/No)	IB Certificate(s) (Yes/No)	IB Diploma (Yes/No)	Cambridge (Yes/No)
3.691	4.0	No	No	No	No	No

**Merit Points**

Total years of speech/debate experience (include this school year)	Debate Points	Speech Points	Congress Points	Service Points	District Points	National Points
4	843	69	0	179	105	125

List the top three speech and debate achievements of which this student is most proud.

Year	Tournament/Organization and Event	Place/Honor
2014	Simpson Storm - LD	Quarterfinalist - 1st HS tournament
2017	Mid-America Cup - PF	Octafinalist - ToC bid tournament
2016 - 2017	East Iowa Districts - LD	2x National Qualifier

## Essay from Nominating Coach

### Student's Disposition Toward Speech/Debate and Exhibition of Code of Honor Tenets

Austin Wang is the second member of the Wang family to be on the Bettendorf Speech and Debate Team, continuing the legacy of his older brother, Honda Wang. Austin somewhat lives in Honda's shadow, including the very first tournament he went to where Dave McGinnis called out his name...looked up...and said, "Oh my god, you're like a little Honda!" Needless to say, Austin has had to carve his own path and it has been a privilege seeing him develop over the last 4+ years.

Austin is a 2-time qualifying National qualifier in Lincoln-Douglas Debate. He has done his part to keep LD alive in East Iowa through helping novices on our team, coaching MS students, judging MS students, and just always being willing to help in any way possible. He would have been a 3-time qualifier to Nationals, but his Freshmen year he had a tough choice: compete in World Schools Debate OR go to Italy for an art internship program. He wanted to go to World Schools. He was told, "don't be an idiot" and went to Italy.

In addition to Speech and Debate activities, Austin is an active artist. He has worked on art with Pat Bereskin for over a decade. He has participated in Surround Sound and Choir throughout HS and is the Secretary of the Gay-Straight Alliance. He has done all of this while being an AP Scholar, an NHS member, an Academic All-American, and maintaining honor roll status for all four years of HS. Meanwhile, he also works at his parents' restaurant after school.

Austin would be an excellent candidate for District Senior of the Year. He has been one of the most active members on my team and has always been willing to help with the next generation of students. Austin may be "Honda's little brother" to many, but he stands on his own and has carved his own legacy for the Bettendorf program.