

**2019 Ronald Reagan Great Communicator Debate Series**

**Mid-Atlantic Qualifier @ Loyola Blakefield High School**

**4/13/19**

**Loyola Blakefield High School, in coordination with the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation & Institute, invites you to attend the 2019 Ronald Reagan Great Communicator Debate Series.**

**Overview and Scholarships**

Overview for the entire Great Communicator Debate Series can be found here: [www.reaganfoundation.org/ReaganDebates](http://www.reaganfoundation.org/ReaganDebates)

$50,000 in scholarship money is awarded each year.

**Topic**

The topic for the 2018-2019 Great Communicator Regional Qualifiers is:

**RESOLVED:** Convicted felons who have completed their sentence should be allowed to vote in the United States.

Additional resources to help get you started on your research can be found on the Great Communicator Debate Series website at: <https://www.reaganfoundation.org/education/scholarship-programs/great-communicator-debate-series/debate-resources/>

You are not limited to the resources provided but rather can use these as a starting point to get you started.

**Debate Format and Schedule**

Details for the Great Communicator Debate Series debate format can be found here: <https://www.reaganfoundation.org/media/129897/gcds-information-guide_final.pdf>

Our tentative schedule will be the following:

8:30-9:00 Registration

9:15-9:30 Instructions

9:30-10:15: Round 1

10:30-11:15: Round 2

11: 30-12:15 Round 3

12:15-12:45 Lunch

1:00-1:45 Round 4

2:00-2:45 Round 5 (If Numbers Warrant)

3:15-4:00 Octofinals (If Numbers Warrant)

4:15-5:00 Quarterfinals

5:15-6:00 Semifinals

6:15-7:00 Finals

7:15 Awards Ceremony

We may have to adjust the schedule if numbers require it.

Because we will have one judge for every debater, we will single flight the rounds.

**Competitor Rules and Eligibility**

A complete set of Rules and Eligibility can be found here: <https://www.reaganfoundation.org/education/scholarship-programs/great-communicator-debate-series/debate-resources/>

All students attending MUST have the approval of their school principal to attend and to participate under the school’s name. Debaters must be accompanied by a parent or pre-approved authorized adult FOR THE DURATION OF THE EVENT.  If a student is requested to present an adult, and the student cannot do so at that point of time, the student will be immediately withdrawn from the event.

Students who have competed in another regional qualifier may not participate in the Mid-Atlantic Regional Qualifier.

**Judging**

Each competitor must provide 1 judge for the competition. Judges must be at least 18 years old and have been out of high school for two years to be eligible to judge, meaning the person should have graduated in June 2016 or earlier. **NO HIRED JUDGING IS PROVIDED**.

Sample ballot can be found here: <https://www.reaganfoundation.org/media/129899/great-communicator-debate-ballot-2017.pdf>

Judge Training Video can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a4nlGuYILQ4>

**Fees/Deadlines**

The deadline to register competitors is Saturday April 6th at 5:00 PM . Entry fees will be also be final at that day and time.

Entry Fee: $10 per entry

Please make checks payable to Loyola Blakefield High School.

Entry fees must be brought to registration on 4/13 at 8am.

**Registration**

Final check-in starts on Saturday at Loyola Blakefield by 8:00 AM, and will conclude at 8:30. Registration will take place in Fr. George Lounge, on the basement level of Wheeler Hall. This will also be the location of the student and judge lounge. It is important that all contestants and judges are present by 8:30 so the tournament may start on time. There will be a short welcoming assembly at 8:45 am in the basement of Wheeler Hall for students, coaches, and judges. A judges’ meeting will be held shortly thereafter, with rounds to follow.

**Hospitality**

Breakfast, lunch, and snacks will be provided in Wheeler Lounge. We ask all competitors and judges to keep food and drinks out of the classrooms. We also ask that when you are finished your round, please return all desks and chairs to the original position. If you write on the blackboard, please erase it when you have completed the round. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Parking**

When you arrive, you may park in the lot next to the tennis court (closest to Wheeler Hall), or in the lots behind Sheridan Hall (adjacent to Charles Street). Please do not park in the loop alongside Burk and Wheeler Halls.

**National Competition**

The top two finishers from each regional competition are invited to attend the National Competition, which will take place at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library & Museum in July 2019.

Additional details may be found here: <https://www.reaganfoundation.org/education/scholarship-programs/great-communicator-debate-series/competition-information/>

**Directions to Loyola Blakefield**

*From the Baltimore Beltway (I-695):* Take the Charles Street exit and go south. At Chestnut, there is a light. Make a left and then make another left into the parking lot, next to the tennis courts. For additional parking or for bus parking, drive further down Chestnut Ave. and turn left into the main entrance. Keep driving past Knott Hall (the clock tower building). There are additional parking lots ahead, and down the hill.

*From Northbound on Charles Street:* Turn right onto Chestnut Ave. This is just north of the GBMC campus, and is the next light after the Towsontown Blvd. light.

*From I-95:*Take the I-695 exit towards Towson and follow the directions above.

We look forward to welcoming you and your team on April13th for a great day of competition!

Sincerely,

Charles Donovan

Head Coach, Loyola Blakefield Forensics