

**1st Annual
Flight of Eagles Middle School Speech Invitational Tournament**

Hosted by Cedar Park Christian Schools Bothell Campus
16300 112th Ave NE, Bothell, WA

November 27, 2013

Dear Coach:

Enclosed you will find information on the first annual Flight of Eagles Middle School Speech Invitational Tournament. We are offering eight speech events. Please be careful to read the conflict patterns and division requirements. The tournament allows large individual event entries which may force us to limit the number of schools attending, **so we recommend registering early**. If there are any questions or concerns, please contact me at the number listed below.

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Some important reminders: This is a non-smoking campus and food/drink (other than water) is not allowed outside the commons area or judges' lounge. We would like to have this tournament on an ongoing basis - please show respect for the campus. Thank you.

TOURNAMENT INFORMATION:

We are using ForensicsTournament.net to register for the tournament. There are several advantages to this system:

- 1) It is entirely online
- 2) You can easily revise your entry / judges right up until cut-off
- 3) You have immediate verification that we've received the registration (you can see that your school is registered on the website)
- 4) It gives us one place to post update messages, results sheets, etc.
- 5) It saves us a ton of time doing data entry as it downloads all entries directly into the software that we use to run the tournament.

You'll need to do the following:

- 1) Register your school at ForensicsTournament.net
- 2) Find our tournament: <http://www.forensicstournament.net/FlightofEagles/14>
- 3) Click on the "Register" tab.
- 4) Click "Competitors" to enter competitors. You will need to add each competitor individually the first time, but this information (if you remember / save your log-in info) will be retained by the website from year to year.
- 5) Click on "Judges" to enter judges. Use the check-boxes to indicate which rounds the judge is available. Use the text-box for additional comments / information, but please keep text comments brief.

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- 6) You're all set! You can come back to this page at any time to see which other schools have entered, to modify your entry (including judges), to check for updates from the tournament, or to contact the tournament director.

LIMITATIONS:

Forty individual events slots per school. No maximum entry per individual event.

DIVISIONS:

There will be two levels for individual events. Novice division is for all contestants in the sixth and seventh grades. Open division is for sixth to eighth graders. You can have sixth and seventh graders compete up in Open division if you feel that they are ready.

Conflict Pattern for Individual Events:

Pattern A (morning)

Duo Interpretation
Dramatic Interpretation
Editorial Commentary
Children's Story Book

Pattern B (afternoon)

Humorous Interpretation
Impromptu
Expository
Original Oratory

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE TOURNAMENT MAY COLLAPSE DIVISIONS IF ENTRY NUMBERS ARE LOW
STUDENTS MAY ENTER CONFLICTING EVENTS IN THE SAME PATTERN. WE ENCOURAGE COMPETING IN
EACH PATTERN AS WELL**

JUDGING:

Each COMPLETE Individual Events Judge covers 1-5 spots. Each event a speaker enters is considered a spot. Thus a speaker doing two events counts as 2 spots for judging. Thus four speakers doing two speeches each equal 8 spots and two judges. Please do not show up at the tournament without the required number of judges because it will force us to drop your contestants from competition. If you have 3 spots in Pattern A and 3 spots in Pattern B that = one judge. This is to give judges some rounds off. Judges need to understand that, even if they are parents, we cannot make dozens of special arrangements for rounds off. We'll try to give a judge a round off per pattern, but we need our judges to be available in order for us to run the tournament. **The SINGLE most common reason that tournaments run late is that judges fail to pick up the ballots assigned to them or fail to return ballots in a timely fashion.**

FEES:

There will be a \$50.00 school fee and each entry is \$10.00. **Each event counts for one entry, thus a speaker doing two speeches costs \$20.00. A school with 6 entries would have a total fee of \$110.**

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Please note that there is a \$100 charge for each uncovered entry. We don't want to charge this fee, so please cover your entries.

AWARDS:

Individual Events will be awarded 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

CONFLICTING EVENTS:

Students **CAN** enter conflicting events in speech. (We will allow double-entering, but it is done at the student's risk.)

DEADLINES:

Registration on Forensicstournament.net is due on or before TUESDAY, March 25th, by 4:00 P.M. Fees will be set at that time and registration will be "locked" from further editing. After that time, email all registration changes to brent.decracker@cedarpark.org. Drops will not be removed from registration fees if they are post-deadline.

DIRECTIONS:

REGISTRATION WILL BE OUTSIDE THE LIBRARY; STUDENTS CAN GO DIRECTLY TO THE COMMONS AREA.
A LUNCHEON WILL BE HELD FOR COACHES AND JUDGES IN THE LIBRARY TO WELCOME YOU TO OUR CAMPUS AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMITMENT TO THIS ACTIVITY.

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TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 29th

IE Registration 7:45 - 8:15

Inside Library for coaches, students can go directly to the Commons

Welcome in Commons for everyone at 8:30

Coaches and judges should report to the library for ballots and review of rules right after welcome

Postings for speech locations for students in the commons and auxiliary gym

Pattern A - Round I 9:00 - 10:00

Pattern A - Round II 10:00 - 11:00

Pattern A - Round III 11:00 - 12:00

Lunch Break 12:00 – 12:45 – Concessions for students; Catered for adults (Need to determine menu)

Pattern B - Round I 12:45-1:45

Pattern B - Round II 1:50 – 2:50

Pattern B - Round III 3:00 - 4:00

Awards 5:00 or earlier in the Main Sanctuary

Students should wait outside the contest room until the judge arrives. Students should not be in the contest rooms alone without a judge.

Conflict Pattern for Individual Events:

Pattern A (morning)

Duo Interpretation

Dramatic Interpretation

Editorial Commentary

Children's Story Book

Pattern B (afternoon)

Humorous Interpretation

Impromptu

Expository

Original Oratory

A concession stand will be open from 8:00 A.M. until awards for students and parents. Complimentary snacks will also be available for parents, coaches, and judges in the Library (the judges' lounge).

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Speech Event Rules

Children's Story Book:

- Students select a children's story book, and read it to the audience
- Props, dramatic make up, and costumes are not permitted.
- Expressions, gestures, body positions, and movement are allowed as a means of characterization
- There is no minimum time-limit, but the time maximum is 6 minutes with a 30 second grace period.
- There is NO penalty for not finishing the story in the allotted time.
- The speaker is seated and the story is read as if reading to a group of children.
- Showing the pictures in the book is encouraged.
- The speaker should have a brief introduction, which is included in the time-limit, and must provide the title, author, and illustrator (if applicable) during the introduction. The introduction may or may not be memorized.
- If memorized, the illusion of reading must be maintained

Speakers are rated on the following categories, according to the ballot:

- ✓ Introduction / Transition
- ✓ Suitable Material / Cutting
- ✓ Ability to Create / Maintain Character Use of Voice
- ✓ Poise / Physicalization
- ✓ Total Program

Impromptu

- Students receive 3 topics at the beginning of their time, and must select one to speak about in an improvised speech.
- Each contestant will have a different choice of topics
- Contestants have six total minutes to choose a topic, organize their thoughts, and speak on the chosen topic. There is a 30 second grace period. Contestants may use the time as they wish.
- I recommend 1:30 – 2:00 of thinking, 4:30 – 4:00 of talking.
- No notes may be prepared or used.
- Speaker must identify the topic as part of the introduction.
- Time signals are given by the judge

Speakers are rated on the following categories, according to the ballot:

- ✓ Adherence to Topics
- ✓ General Knowledge of Area
- ✓ Originality / Insight
- ✓ Clear / Coherent Organization Use of Voice
- ✓ Use of Voice

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Speech Event Rules

Interpretation (rules apply for Humorous, Dramatic, and Dual Interpretation)

- Students select a cutting from a play, book (poetry or prose), or movie and interpret it using voice acting and physicalization.
- Props, dramatic make up, and costumes are not permitted
- Interpretation events are unique as follows:
 - Humorous interpretation ought to be a selection intended to be funny performed by an individual student.
 - Dramatic interpretation ought to be a selection intended to be serious (even if it uses humor to set up the serious content, or to make a serious point) performed by an individual student.
 - Dual interpretation involves two students and can be either funny or serious. Students are NOT allowed to make physical contact with one another during a Dual Interp.
- Students must include an introduction (they may perform a portion of the script before providing that introduction, though). In the intro, they must provide the title of the piece and its author.
- The time limit for the event is 10 minutes with a 30 second grace period, which will include audience reaction time and the introduction.
- Memorization is expected. Students in the Novice division should NOT be penalized for using a script.

Speakers are rated on the following categories, according to the ballot:

- ✓ Introduction and Transition
- ✓ Suitable Material
- ✓ Ability to Keep Character
- ✓ Creation of Mood / Characters
- ✓ Voice Volume and Rate
- ✓ Poise and Physicalization
- ✓ Total Program

Editorial Commentary:

- Students perform a scripted (unmemorized) speech, which is intended to be an opinionated analysis of a news event or contemporary issue (much like an editorial piece on the evening news or in the newspaper).
- Speakers read the manuscript from a seated position.
- The script must be timed precisely (as this is a requirement for news pieces). It must end between 1 minute 45 seconds and 2 minutes total. Any speaker ending before 1:45 or after 2:00 shall be ranked one score lower.

Speakers are rated on the following categories, according to the ballot:

- ✓ Strong thesis
- ✓ Rhetoric and diction
- ✓ Persuasiveness
- ✓ Clear / Coherent Organization
- ✓ Effective use of voice
- ✓ Directness

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Speech Event Rules

Oratory:

- Students present a stylized, memorized persuasive speech.
- Oratories may:
 - Deal with a current problem and offer a solution
 - Alert the audience to a threatening danger
 - Strengthen audience devotion to an accepted cause
 - Eulogize a person (though this is an uncommon topic for competitive oratory)
- The use of appropriate figures of speech, similes and metaphors, balanced sentences, allusions, and other rhetorical devices should be noted if they enhance the speech.
- The presentation must be memorized
- The speech must be the original work of the speaker. No more than 150 words of quoted and / or paraphrased material may be included in the oration.
- A copy of the oration should be available from the student upon the judge's request
- The time limit for Original Oratory is 10 minutes, with a 30 second grace period.
- There is NO minimum time limit. Students should not be penalized for having a shorter speech – rather the quality of that speech should be evaluated.
- NO props or visual aids may be used during the oratory.

Students are rated on the following:

- ✓ Sincerity / Directness
- ✓ Rhetoric / Diction
- ✓ Persuasiveness
- ✓ Clear / Coherent Organization
- ✓ Effective use of voice
- ✓ Use of body action

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Speech Event Rules

Expository:

- Students present an informative speech designed to teach the audience about a topic. The speech should describe, clarify, explain, and / or define an object, idea, concept, social institution, or process.
- The speech must be the original work of the speaker. No more than 150 words may be quoted / paraphrased.
- The use of humor should not be penalized, though the worthiness of the topic matters. Students ought to have a visual aid accompanying the speech. There is no limit to the number of visual aids, though students may not utilize computers (i.e. no power point).
- The speech must be delivered extemporaneously, with or without the use of notes. The contestant should not be penalized for use of notes, or for having notes on the visual aid, though the student should avoid reading from their script (and this can be penalized). If notes or visual aids interfere with the student's ability to communicate to the audience, the judge may factor this into his / her decision.
- A script for the speech should be available on request from the student for the judge.
- The time limit for the event is 8 minutes, with a 30 second grace period. There is no minimum time limit, and students should not be penalized for having a shorter speech.

Students are rated on each of the following:

- ✓ Worthwhile topic
- ✓ Original approach
- ✓ Clear / Coherent organization
- ✓ Use of language
- ✓ Use of body
- ✓ Use of voice