

November 11th, 2016

On behalf of Los Medanos College we would like to invite you to the **2017 Steeltown Invitational Worlds Debate Tournament** in Pittsburg, CA on January 28th and 29th, 2017. Come enjoy our beautiful campus, our warm hospitality and a weekend of Worlds Style Debate competition in Northern California.

2017 Staff and Improvements

We've secured John Patrick from Cal Poly SLO to serve as our Chief Adjudicator, and Will Reilly from San Diego State will be leading tournament Tabulation. We will again provide all-day coffee, a continental breakfast each morning, and snacks throughout the day! We also will have a sponsored pizza lunch on Saturday on behalf of the LMC Debate Society. The schedule will accommodate 6 (six) preliminary rounds and appropriate elimination rounds over a compact two-day schedule.

Recognition for Novices

The tournament offers WUDC style debate in one open division; however, please indicate at the time of registration which teams are novice teams so we can acknowledge them at the awards ceremony. For the purpose of the tournament, a "novice" is a student in their first year of intercollegiate academic debate, with no high school experience, who has not advanced to an elimination round in open division this year. If you're new to Worlds Debate, this is the perfect chance to give your team a taste of this popular new format. Please reach out to our tournament staff: We can supply resources and materials to help you prepare.

Registration and Fees

Registration for the event will begin on *forensicstournament.net* on December 5th, 2016. Registration will close online on January 25th, 2017 at 5:00pm. At this time we anticipate no need for a team cap—register with impunity. Registration fees will be assessed at \$60 per team. An uncovered team entered in the tournament will be charged \$100 per uncovered team. A school fee of \$20 will also be charged. We can only accept cash or a check; please make checks payable to "Los Medanos College Foundation." We don't believe that financial considerations should restrict access to debate, so please reach out to our staff as soon as possible if these fees represent a burden to your squad.

Judging and Hired Judges

Each school must bring at least one judge to meet its judging requirement. For schools with more than one team entered, use the "**N-1 formula**" as indicated below. Schools with four or more teams entered may use the "N-2 formula."

Examples:

School A: One Team Entered, One Judge Needed

School B: Three Teams Entered, Two Judges Needed

School C: Five Teams Entered, Three Judges Needed

We anticipate the need to hire judges for the tournament. If you'd like to be hired to judge at the tournament, or if you can connect us with others who are interested in being hired to judge get in touch with us at kgardner@losmedanos.edu or marcidiacono@losmedanos.edu. We will pay \$20 a round for qualified judges, and may be able to offer housing if you're traveling from outside the area.

Lodging

There is no specific hotel block for the tournament this year. January offers competitive pricing for hotel rooms in the East Bay. Below is a short list of suggested hotels; feel free to stay where you like:

Hampton Inn Pittsburg – 1201 California Avenue, Pittsburg, CA

Crowne Plaza Walnut Creek/Concord – 45 John Glenn Drive, Concord, CA

Hilton Concord – 1970 Diamond Drive, Concord, CA

Premier Inn Concord – 1581 Concord Avenue, Concord, CA

Clarion Inn Concord – 1050 Burnett Road, Concord, CA

Directions & Parking

Our campus is located at 2700 East Leland Road, Pittsburg, CA. We are most easily accessible through the Loveridge Ave. exit off CA-4, about 40 miles east of San Francisco. Please note: Los Medanos College has a satellite campus in Brentwood, but the tournament will be at the **PITTSBURG campus only**. The College website has detailed maps and directions:

<http://www.losmedanos.edu/maps/>

Parking is available in Lot 1A (right in front the Los Medanos College Library)

Parking is free on Saturday and Sunday at Los Medanos College.

Food and Awards

We will be providing a continental breakfast on both Saturday and Sunday with many options and beverages. During the day we will provide snacks and on Saturday will provide a pizza lunch sponsored by the LMC Debate Society. On Sunday you will be on your own for lunch. We've scheduled a healthy lunch break to encourage teams to find food off campus; Enjoy!

We'll have awards for the top novices, finalists and top speakers in the tournament!

Tournament Schedule

Saturday January 28th

8:30 Breakfast and Registration in Library 109 (Accessible from the front of the college, Lot 1A)

9:00 Judge and Competitor Briefing

9:30 WUDC Topic Round One, Debate

11:30 WUDC Topic Round Two, Debate

1:30 Lunch Break

3:00 WUDC Topic Round Three, Debate

5:00 WUDC Topic Round Four, Debate

Sunday January 29th

8:45 Breakfast is Served in Library 109

9:30 WUDC Topic Round Five, Debate

11:30 WUDC Topic Round Six, Debate

1:30 Lunch Break

3:00 WUDC Elimination Round One, Debate

5:00 WUDC Elimination Round Two, Debate

7:00 WUDC Elimination Round Three, Debate (If necessary)