

 Dear Colleague,

Damien High School takes pride in extending this invitation to your team for our **Second Annual Middle School Only Debate tournament**. This tournament will take place on Saturday, December 14, 2019. We will offer Policy, Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum, and WSDC format. We will offer 4 rounds of debate and appropriate awards. Our goal is to provide capable judging, competent tournament administration, and an enjoyable experience for those who attend.

**Tab Room:** We will have an experienced and fair tab room staff.

**Learn about Damien High School** For debaters interested in attending Damien High School, we will have materials and representatives available to discuss the admission process.

**Independent Entries:** Given the current trends in participation by students who are not representing their high school, we need to make it clear that while we will accept independent entries, all students MUST be accompanied by an adult chaperone, who is present on campus at all times with the students they are chaperoning. A chaperone form is included in this invitation and MUST be filled out by any and all students who are not accompanied by an authorized chaperone from the school the students attend. It is recommended that this form be turned in in advance of the tournament, because we will not allow any student without a chaperone to compete in the tournament.

Additionally, we expect all entries to complete preliminary rounds unless extreme conditions occur. We expect all entries to respect the integrity of the tournament.

The details and tournament rules follow. If we can be of any help or answer any questions, please feel free to e-mail me at peters@damien-hs.edu. We hope to see all of you here in November!

Sincerely,

Donny Peters

Director of Debate

**Divisions and eligibility**

If a participant violates this rule they will be removed from the tournament

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**Event rules**

Policy teams will debate the national resolution: Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially reduce Direct Commercial Sales and/or Foreign Military Sales of arms from the United States.

Public Forum teams will debate the November/December resolution Resolved: The benefits of the United States federal government’s use of offensive cyber operations outweigh the harms.

Lincoln-Douglas debaters will debate the November/December resolution: Resolved: The United States ought to eliminate subsidies for fossil fuels.

**Adult supervision and judges**

Each school must be accompanied by a qualified adult supervisor. No unaffiliated or unaccompanied entries will be permitted. **A judge must be provided for every two debate entries or fraction thereof for policy debate. Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum will require one judge per four entries. For WSDC 1 judge per entry (full commitment)** All judges must be qualified to judge the division which they are covering. **Subject to our prior approval,** senior varsity debaters may be allowed to judge the novice division.

Hired judges will be available at $100 per uncovered team or $75 per uncovered Lincoln-Douglas entry.

**Fees**

Fees may be paid by mail or at registration. **All fees should be in the form of cash or a check made out to Damien High School.** School checks and cash are the only acceptable forms of payment without prior approval. Personal checks may be accepted under special circumstances. If need to play by personal check please contact peters@damien-hs.edu as soon as possible. Purchase orders will not be accepted as payment.

Policy team $40

Public Forum team $40

WSDC $50

Lincoln-Douglas entry $30

Policy/Public Forum/WSDC judges $100 per uncovered team

Lincoln-Douglas judges $75 per uncovered debater

Entry fees on drops will be refunded fully as long as drops are made by Thursday, December 13.

**Entry deadline**

All entries and requests for hired judges must be received by 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 10. Entries or hired judge requests after that deadline will be admitted or approved if possible. Drops in hired judges after Wednesday will not be refunded. Entry drops are due by 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 12.

Entries should be made through the online entry system at [www.tabroom.com](http://www.tabroom.com).

Mailing address: Donny Peters

Damien High School

2280 Damien Avenue

La Verne, CA, 91750

E-mail: peters@damien-hs.edu

**Independent Entries**

An independent entry is defined as any entry which is not authorized by the school the students attend. This definition includes students who debate under the name of afterschool programs or academies. To be accepted as an independent entry the attending group must include an authorization letter from each set of parents or guardians. This letter is at the end of this invitation and is also posted on the tabroom.com website. It is strongly suggested that these letters be turned in BEFORE the day of the tournament, but they MUST be turned in at registration. Any student lacking such permission will NOT be allowed to compete.

**Protests**: All protests should be communicated to the tournament director as soon as possible. We will give all protests careful attention. Please use you best judgement on deciding whether to submit a protest.

**TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE (TENTATIVE)**

**Saturday, December 14**

7:00 – 7:30 A.M. Registration (all events)

8:30 A.M. Round One, All events (PF an LD will be double flighted)

10:30 A.M. Round Two, All events

12:30 P.M. Lunch-for sale (free for coaches and judges)

2:00 P.M. Round Three, All Events

4:00 P.M. Round Four, All Events

Approximately 6:30 p.m.

We will attempt to begin debates (and awards) earlier if possible. Please keep checking tabroom.com for updates

**Parent Letter authorizing participation by independent entries**

**(template--copy/paste the text and fill in the blanks as appropriate):**

Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dear Damien High School:

This letter is to inform you that we would like our child, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, to attend The Damien Debates from December 15, 2018 and that she / he does so with our full consent and permission. We have arranged for our child to be fully chaperoned and for transportation to our satisfaction, and accept full responsibility and liability for our child during the entire course of the event. We understand and agree that Damien High School, its employees, and its agents provide no chaperones for the event, and further agree that Damien High School, its employees, and its agents are hereby relieved of any responsibility or liability of any sort for the supervision of our child.

The following person will be chaperoning our child:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to our child: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

By signing this we are certifying that we are in fact the legal guardians of the listed child, and have full legal authority to act on the listed child's behalf.

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Parent Name Parent Signature Date

Parents’ contact information:

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Cell phone Email