

February 26, 2020

Dear Forensics Coaches:

On behalf of Sister Lillian Harrington, President, and Sister Lesley Draper, Principal, you are cordially invited to the 2020 Villa Victoria Academy Middle School Forensics Invitational on **Saturday, April 4, 2020** at Villa Victoria Academy in Ewing, NJ. This tournament is open to boys and girls in grades 6 through 8.

### **Event Format**

We will feature three rounds of speech events (Declamation, Duo Interpretation, Impromptu, Poetry, and Prose). There is no double entry at this tournament. We will follow the National Speech and Debate Association (NSDA) rules for all events. For more information regarding these events and NSDA rules, please consult the [Middle School Competition Events Guide](#) and check the tournament page for sample ballots.

**Please be sure that the pieces your students select adhere to NSDA rules and are appropriate for middle school students.** If you have any questions about the appropriateness of a piece or the requirements for a specific event, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are happy to help!

### **Tournament Registration**

Tournament registration will open on [Tabroom](#) on Sunday, March 1. Registration will close and the names of all judges are due on **Wednesday, April 1 at 7:00 p.m.** with fees frozen on Thursday, April 2 at 7:00 p.m. Registration is \$10 per entry.

**Every school must have one adult in charge on site for the duration of the tournament.** Tabroom will prompt you for the adult's name, email address, and phone number upon registration. We must have the adult's contact information on file in case we need to reach that individual for any reason during the tournament.

Each school may enter up to five competitors in each speech event. You may request additional slots in each event by emailing Dr. Colleen Mooney ([moonco@centennialsd.org](mailto:moonco@centennialsd.org)). We will do our best to accommodate your requests. We request that all schools provide **two judges for every five competitors (or fraction thereof)** registered. Please be sure that your judges are familiar with the speech event offerings and have created Tabroom accounts prior to the day of the tournament. High school students with experience competing and/or judging speech events are welcome to serve as judges. There will be two judges per room in all preliminary rounds. A Villa Victoria Academy student will serve as the timekeeper in each room.

### **Concessions**

Judges and coaches are welcome to enjoy a complimentary light breakfast and complimentary lunch in the faculty room. Schools have the option to pre-order pizza (\$12 each) for their students for lunch. Please

enter your school's pizza order on Tabroom by **Thursday, April 2 at noon**. Students are also welcome to bring their own lunch. There are some vending machines on site. Water bottles will be sold in the cafeteria for \$1 each at lunch.

### **On-Site Tournament Registration**

On-site registration will open in Villa Victoria's lobby on Saturday, April 4 at 8:15 a.m. and close at 8:45 a.m. **All coaches/advisors must check in and confirm that all competitors and all judges are present upon arrival.** Please bring cash or a check to cover your team's registration and concession fees. Please make all checks payable to Villa Victoria Academy. Students and judges should gather downstairs in our cafeteria upon arrival. The cafeteria will serve as the tournament hub for announcements and lunch.

### **Awards**

The top three competitors in each event will receive awards. School sweepstakes awards will be presented to the top three schools.

### **Tournament Schedule**

8:15 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.	Registration in Villa Victoria Academy's Lobby
8:45 a.m.	General Announcements and Judge Training/Tabroom Orientation
9:15 a.m.	Round 1
10:30 a.m.	Round 2
11:45 a.m.	Round 3
12:45 p.m.	Lunch
1:15 p.m.	Speech Finals
2:30 p.m.	Awards

### **Online Balloting**

We will be using electronic ballots in all speech events. Please be sure that your judges bring their own devices (and chargers) and have linked Tabroom accounts. If you need any assistance with creating and/or linking Tabroom accounts, please refer to the information on the tournament page or contact Dr. Colleen Mooney (moonco@centennialsd.org).

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to seeing you in April!

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