

Dear Colleague,

Damien High School and Young Genius, Bay Area Speech and Debate Academy extend this invitation to your team to the End of Semester Online Championship. The tournament will take place on Saturday, May 30, and Sunday May 31, 2020. Our events will include Big Questions, Lincoln-Douglas, Parliamentary, Policy and Public Forum Debate. We are offering 1 inclusive division of Big Questions debate and 3 divisions for the other events: Freshman, Middle School, and Open. Eligibility requirements are below.

**Disclaimer: Please follow the laws, regulations, rules and mandates that have been provided by city, federal, state and other local authorities to combat COVID-19. This tournament is designed for all aspects of a tournament; coaching, debating, judging etc. to happen without any in person meeting. We do not want this virus to spread any more than it already has.**

**Tab Room:** Damien and Young Genius Academy will coordinate the tab room.

**Fees:** Fees are:

Big Questions $30

Lincoln Douglas $25

Parliamentary Debate $40

Policy $50

Public Forum $50.

(we understand these are trying times, if tournament fees are a barrier to attending please contact Donny Peters [peters@damien-hs.edu](mailto:peters@damien-hs.edu) to discuss possible solutions)

Uncovered judging $100 per entry. With a short amount of time and anticipated difficulties finding hired judging is why I decided on this fee.

We are currently exploring ways to make electronic payment (Venmo/Apple Pay/Google Pay) possible. Please feel free to reach-out to Donny Peters (peters@damien-hs.edu) if you have any questions regarding this aspect.

Mailing address: Donny Peters

Damien High School

2280 Damien Avenue

La Verne, CA, 91750

E-mail: peters@damien-hs.edu

We also understand that school is not in session which may make it difficult to send payment by the start of the tournament. An e-mail with a promise of payment and an approximate date money may be sent will be sufficient in place of complete/full payment.

**Entry Deadline**: Wednesday May 27 at 5 p.m. for entries. I may be able to extend the deadline if needed, just contact peters@damien-hs.edu. Tabroom.com has all the other deadlines posted.

**Competitor Eligibility**:

Middle School: Students who currently are attending a middle school (6th, 7th and 8th grade) during the 2019-2020 academic year are eligible for the Middle School Division.

Freshman: Students who are currently a freshman in high school (9th grade) are eligible for the Freshman Championships division.

Open Division: Any student from elementary through high school is eligible to participate in the open division.

**Judge Eligibility**: High School students and above may judge the Middle School Divisions, Third and fourth year debaters may judge the Freshman Division. Coaches must make sure their student judges are trained and understand how to act appropriately as a judge including appropriate online behavior.

**Independent Entries:** Independent entries are acceptable. Please send an e-mail to [peters@damien-hs.edu](mailto:peters@damien-hs.edu) providing contact information of an adult that is responsible for your entry, payment, etc.

**Platform**: The tournament plans to use the Yaatly platform. Yaatly has been used for middle school, high school and college online tournaments. More information on the process of how to use Yaatly will be posted on our tabroom.com website.

**Online Decorum:** Students and judges must follow appropriate online behavior and should treat the online format as if they are in a classroom. In other words, if the behavior is not appropriate for a traditional classroom, then it is not appropriate online. Students or judges violating decorum may be removed from the tournament. Any concerns about decorum should be reported to the tabroom staff privately and these cases will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by the tournament staff.

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

**Recording:** Due to the nature of online debates, please note that the tournament cannot control audio and/or video recording of debates. Participation in this competition is consent to have the audio and video recorded during the competition.

**Awards**: We will provide an appropriate amount of awards. I anticipate top 5 speakers and semifinalist. If numbers justify more awards, I will announce via tabroom.com. Your awards will be mailed to you after the tournament. I ask for patience with this. I have a vendor available, but there may be a delay on receiving awards.

Sincerely,

Donny Peters

Director of Debate

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**Event rules**

Policy teams will debate the 2019-2020 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 April Resolution Resolved: The United States should remove nearly all of its military presence in the Arab States of the Persian Gulf.

Lincoln-Douglas debaters will debate the March/April Resolution Resolved: Predictive policing is unjust.

Big Questions resolutions is: Objective morality exists.

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**Independent Entries**

**TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE**

**Saturday, May 30 2020** (All Pacific Time Zone)

8:30am Online Check-in (all adult coaches, judges, and students must check-in online to Waiting Room)

9:30-11:45am Round 1

12:00noon Online Check-in (all adult coaches, judges, and students must check-in online to Waiting Room)

12:30-2:45pm Round 2

3pm Online Check-in (all adult coaches, judges, and students must check-in online to Waiting Room)

3:30 - 5:30pm Round 3

**Sunday, May 31, 2020** (All Pacific Time Zone)

8:30am Online Check-in (all adult coaches, judges, and students must check-in online to Waiting Room)

9:30am Round 4

12:00noon Online Check-in (Participating adult coaches/judges, student coaches/judges, and students must check-in online to Waiting Room)

12:30-3:00pm first elimination debate

3:30pm Online Check-in (Participating adult coaches/judges, student coaches/judges, and students must check-in online to Waiting Room)

4:30pm Second elimination debate

7:00pm More elimination rounds to follow as needed.

(elim schedule is tentative based on entries, we will do our best to speech up the tournament)