



November 19, 2020

Dear Speech and Debate Colleagues,

We are pleased to invite you to the **Grey Matter Invitational**, to be held virtually Saturday, December 19 and Sunday, December 20, 2020. All competition in Speech events and Congressional Debate will be held on Saturday, as well as the preliminary and early elimination rounds of Lincoln Douglas and Public Forum Debate. If entry numbers warrant, the late elimination rounds of LD and PF will be held on Sunday.

We selected the name of our tournament because Grey Matter refers to the part of the brain responsible for processing information and involved in sensory perception such as seeing, hearing, and speech all of which are absolutely essential to participation in competitive speech and debate, as well as a way to honor the memory of Grey Spector, a 2016 graduate of Cary Academy and former member of the Cary Academy speech and debate team. All proceeds from this tournament will go to support the Spector Family Fund. "Established in memory of Grey Spector ('16), and in honor of the entire Spector family's impact on Cary Academy, the Spector Family Fund is a merit-based award given annually to an upper school student who exemplifies Grey's spirit—his individuality and an unwavering commitment to the pursuit of passions."

[\(https://www.caryacademy.org/get-involved/support-ca/restricted-giving/spector-family-fund/\)](https://www.caryacademy.org/get-involved/support-ca/restricted-giving/spector-family-fund/)

Events to be offered: Novice and Varsity Lincoln-Douglas Debate, using the November/December resolution. Novice and Varsity Public Forum using the November/December topic. Congressional Debate using legislation written by the tournament. Declamation, Dramatic Interpretation, Extemporaneous Speaking, Humorous Interpretation, Impromptu Speaking, Informative Speaking, Oral Interpretation, Original Oratory, and Program of Oral Interpretation.

Speech events will have four preliminary rounds breaking to a final round and next-in final round depending on entries. Congressional Debate will have two preliminary sessions breaking to a final session. All divisions of LD and PF will have four preliminary rounds and will clear all entries with winning records to the elimination rounds.

All students reaching the elimination rounds will receive awards, as well as the top speakers in all divisions of LD and PF; the Best Presiding Officers in each preliminary chamber of Congressional Debate; and the top Novices in each speech event and preliminary Congress chamber. We will also recognize the top three schools with sweepstakes awards.

Judging obligations will be 1 per every three LD or PF entries, 1 for every 8 students entered in Congressional Debate, and 1 per every four entries in the Speech events.

All new entries are due by Monday December 14th at 5 PM when fees and obligations will be frozen.

Our administrators, speech and debate students, and parent community are delighted to be able to host you and your students. We hope you can attend!

Shawn Nix

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Cary Academy Co-Director of Speech & Debate

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