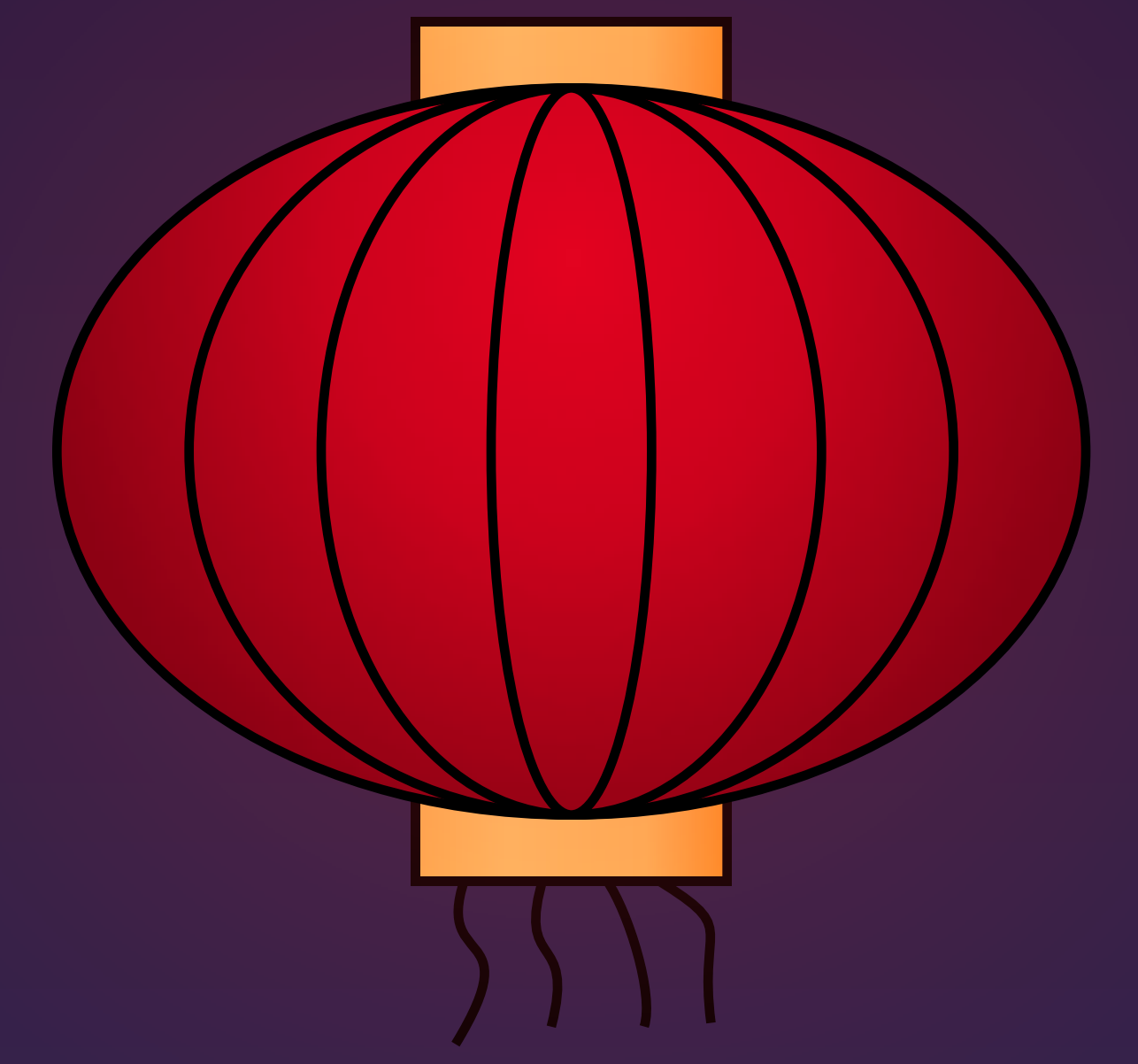


# 1ST ANNUAL KEITH WEST MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT



Dear Coach,

The Boston Latin School Speech & Debate Team cordially invites you and your team to the 2023 Keith West Memorial Tournament to be held at Boston Latin School on Saturday, January 21st, 2023. This tournament is a qualifier for the championship tournaments offered at the end of the season by the Massachusetts Speech & Debate League, and it is open to all MSDL member schools (including middle school age students), MMSSL member schools, and BUDL member schools.

## SPEECH

*Children's Literature*

*Declamation*

*Dramatic Performance*

*Duo Interpretation*

*Extemporaneous Speaking*

*Novice Extemporaneous Speaking*

*Forensic Critique\* (Special event)*

*Group Discussion*

*Impromptu Speaking*

*Improv Duo\* (Special event)*

*Informative Speaking*

*Original Oratory*

*Play Reading*

*Poetry Reading*

*Program Oral Interpretation*

*Prose Reading*

*Radio Broadcasting*

## DEBATE

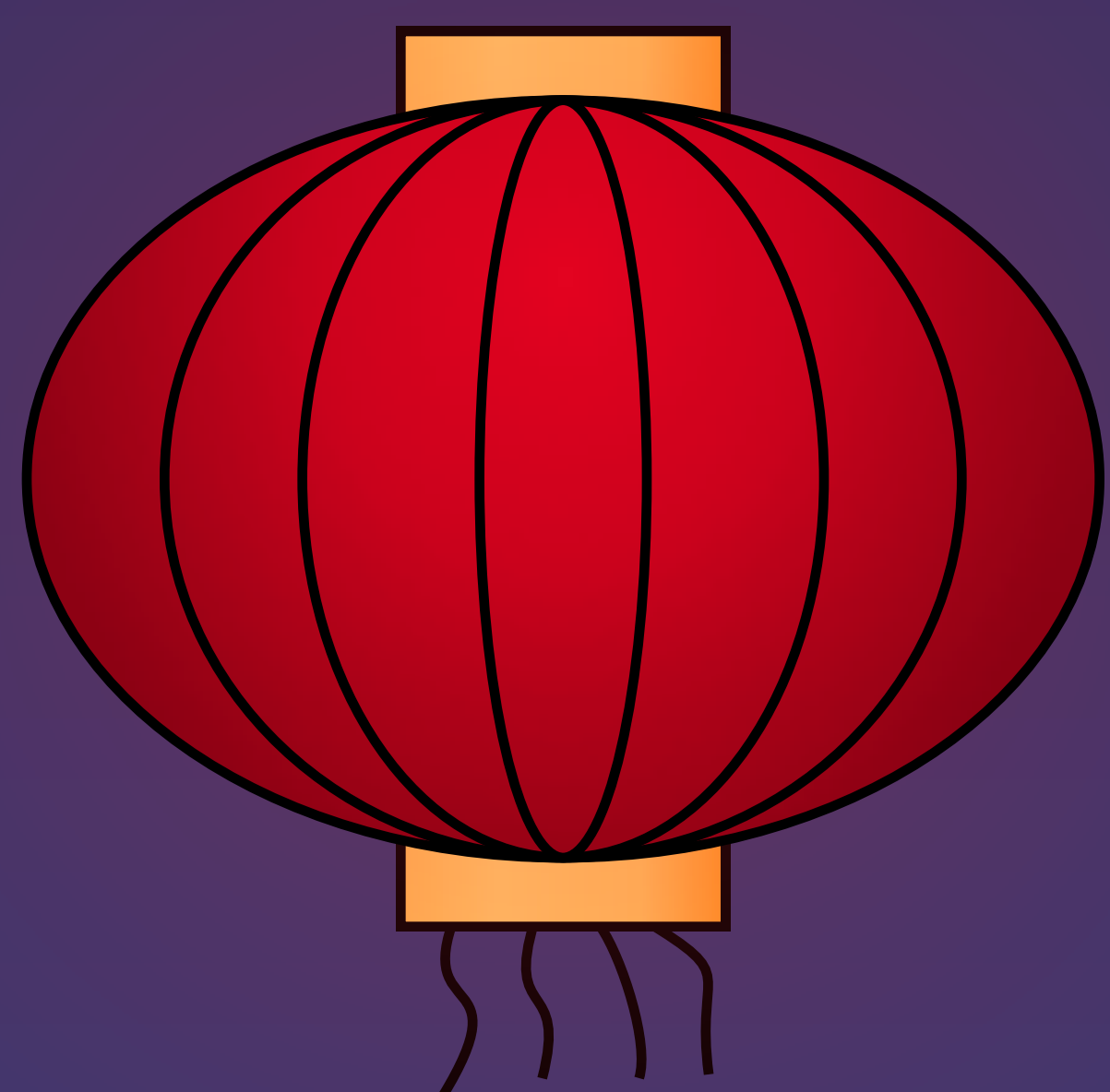
*Public Forum - Novice and Varsity divisions*

*Lincoln Douglas - Novice and Varsity divisions*

*Policy - Novice and Varsity divisions*

*Congressional Debate*

*IPDA Debate\* (Special Event)*





## ROUNDS

**Speech competitions** will have 3 preliminary rounds (potentially scheduled in four time blocks) and one final round

**Congressional debate** will have 2 preliminary sessions and one final session

**Lincoln Douglas Debate, IPDA debate and Public Forum Debate** will have 5 preliminary rounds and a final round

**Policy Debate** will have 3 preliminary rounds and a final round

All entries will initially be placed on a waitlist, and we will accommodate as many entries as our space allows. Double entry is permitted with certain restrictions:

1. Students competing in any debate event (including congressional debate) or group discussion may not double enter.
2. Students may not do both extemporaneous speaking and radio broadcasting

## AWARDS

**The Wolfpack Spirit Award:** Top finishing school (weighted by entries) in Speech and Debate Events

**The Rolo & Mycroft Award:** Top finishing school (weighted by entries) in Novice Events

**The Keith West Adjudication Award:** Given to the judge that writes the most helpful and concise ballots

## REGISTRATION

Registration is online at [tabroom.com](http://tabroom.com) and will be available through 5:00 PM on Tuesday, January 17th. Please e-mail any drops to [melissa\\_swauncy@uml.edu](mailto:melissa_swauncy@uml.edu) on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday. Drops called in after 5:00 PM on Thursday will incur a \$5.00 fee.

**Registration fee:** \$7 per entry in speech events (except Duo), congressional debate, IPDA debate and Lincoln Douglass. \$14 per entry in Duo, Policy and Public Forum Debate.

**EVERY TEAM MUST TEXT OR CALL 901-319-3360 BY 7:45 AM ON THE DAY OF THE TOURNAMENT TO CONFIRM THEIR REGISTRATION; THIS ASSISTS US IN GETTING THE TOURNAMENT STARTED ON TIME.** When texting, please remember to identify your school. Please include the coach's emergency contact phone number (cell or home) with your initial online registration, should tournament staff need to contact you outside school hours or while you are en route to the tournament.



## JUDGING REQUIREMENT

In speech events and Congressional Debate, one judge for every five entries (or fraction thereof), based on the total number of entries when registration closes on January 17th.

In debate events, one judge for every two entries (or fraction thereof) in each division, based on the total number of entries when registration closes on January 17th.

Experienced varsity debaters are welcome to judge in the novice division.  
Extra judges are welcome!

WE WILL BE USING ELECTRONIC BALLOTING. All judges will need an electronic device, preferably a laptop, and will need to register for a free account at [Tabroom.com](https://www.tabroom.com).

Please note that all judges are expected to be present at the judges' briefing at 8:30 and must be available to adjudicate rounds for the tournament's duration.

A variety of complementary foods will be available for judges throughout the day; and a variety of foods, including bagels, sandwiches, pizza, salads, sodas, juice, snacks and candy will be available for sale for competitors.

## OPEN DOOR POLICY

The Keith West Tournament promotes an open-door policy in speech events. This means, competitors need to issue trigger warnings if their piece involves issues such as suicide, sexual violence, child abuse, etc. Competitors/spectators who are uncomfortable can leave before the piece starts and come back at the completion. Students who choose to excuse themselves must do so before the piece begins and may not re-enter the room until after its completion. Judges may not penalize a competitor for opting to step out after a trigger warning.

## DIVERSITY OFFICER

The Massachusetts Speech & Debate League offers a Diversity Officer at tournaments. Students who have a diversity, equity or inclusion concern should speak to the designated MSDL board member (to be announced at tournament) and they will contact her in order to work with the student(s) involved and work towards a resolution.





# REGULAR EVENT INFO

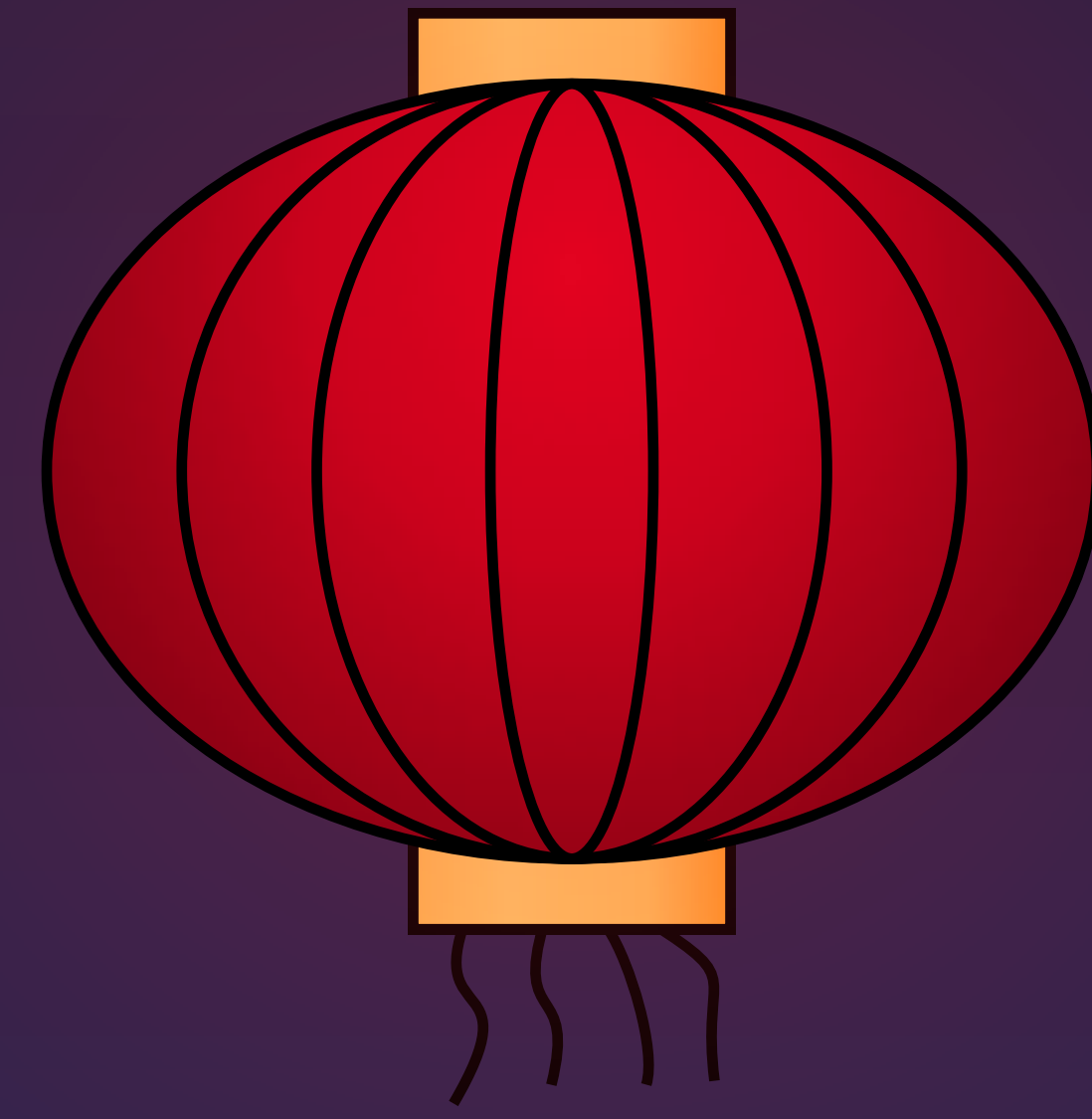
## EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING

**RD 1:** Domestic Issues

**RD 2:** Economics

**RD 3:** Foreign Policy

**Final Round:** Social Justice



In Novice Extemp only, a single note-card with no more than 50 written words is permitted. If a note-card is to be used, the judge must review it prior to the presentation. Any note-card violation should be brought to the attention of the prep room coordinator prior to the speech; or, the student may choose to proceed without the use of the note-card.

## GROUP DISCUSSION

Group Discussion will center on issues of inequality with rounds centering on inequality in healthcare, inequality in education, and inequality in the justice system. The final round will center on inequality in speech & debate.

## PUBLIC FORUM

We will be using the January NSDA Public Forum Resolution: “The United States Federal Government should increase its diplomatic efforts to peacefully resolve internal armed conflicts in West Asia.”

## LINCOLN DOUGLAS

We will be using the January/February NSDA Lincoln Douglas Resolution: “Justice requires open borders for human migration”

## POLICY

We will be using the 2022-2023 NSDA/NFHS Policy Resolution: “The United States federal government should substantially increase its security cooperation with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in one or more of the following areas: artificial intelligence, biotechnology, cybersecurity.”

## CONGRESS

Congress legislation for preliminary rounds is due to Joe Bowden at [joe.bowden@gmail.com](mailto:joe.bowden@gmail.com) by 5:00 PM on Friday, January 13th. All schools competing are asked to submit a bill if possible. Super session legislation will be written by the BLS Debate Team.



# SPECIAL EVENT INFO

## IPDA DEBATE: A GREATER EVENT FOR BEGINNER DEBATERS

IPDA is a one-on-one debate format in which one debater takes the side of the affirmative and the other debater takes the side of the negative. For each round, the two debaters are given five possible resolutions. The negative begins the topic selection by striking one resolution and proceeds in the back-and-forth fashion until one resolution is left. After the topic has been selected, both debaters have thirty minutes to prepare a case. IPDA debate encourages the use of lay judges and emphasizes conversational rhetoric. Visit [ipdadebate.info](http://ipdadebate.info) to learn more.

### Speech Times:

1st Affirmative – 5 minutes

Cross Examination – 2 minutes

1st Negative – 6 minutes

Cross Examination – 2 minutes

Affirmative Rebuttal – 3 minutes

Negative Rebuttal – 5 minutes

Affirmative Summary – 3 minutes



### Topic Draw & Strike Procedure:

During the “draw” time that has been assigned, competitors will meet in the area assigned. Pairs of competitors are called to the front and given a slip of paper with the five topics to choose from for that round. Once competitors receive the topics, the negative will strike one topic. The process of striking continues by alternating strikes (affirmative, negative and finally affirmative again) until one topic remains. That will be the topic for the round. It is important to note that the 30 minutes of preparation time begins at the start of the topic draw period (meaning that any time that is used deliberating on “strikes” comes at the expense of preparation time). We offer a 5 minute grace period for competitors to arrive to the topic draw. If one competitor has not yet arrived at the conclusion of that 5 minute grace period, the competitor who is present will choose which topic they wish to debate without having to complete the alternating strike process. A tournament official will then make an effort to inform the late competitor of the topic that has been selected for that round. It is important to note that preparation time is running during this process, including the 5 minute grace period which is included in the total of 30 minutes preparation time.



**Preparation Time:**

IPDA discourages the usage of “canned” cases (cases that have been researched and written before a tournament begins) and instead provides 30 minutes for individual competitors to prepare and receive advice for the development of their advocacy. To that extent, the tournament will provide wireless internet access and competitors are encouraged to bring laptop computers

**Disclosure:**

For the purpose of making the debate both fair and educational, it is common practice for the affirmative side to disclose to the negative side if they will be interpreting the resolution in any way not obvious from its wording. This is particularly significant for abstract resolutions, resolutions which do not specify a topic area (for example, “We should close the door.”)

**Topic Areas:**

RD 1: Domestic Issues

RD 2: Pop Culture

RD 3: World Issues

RD 4: Philosophy

RD 5: Misc Fun Topics

Final Round: Social Justice

**FORENSIC CRITIQUE**

Are you tired of a certain aspect of speech and/or debate (Judging inconsistency, progressive arguments, spreading, etc etc)? Would you like to advocate to change something in speech and/or debate (better accessibility, more diversity, etc etc)? THIS is your time to shine!

Forensic Critique requires competitors to put together and present a 7 minute prepared speech that outlines a problem in the speech/debate community and presents a solution to the problem. (Think of it as a speech and debate oriented Oratory). Your critique could be about any aspect of speech and/or debate, including issues in the community as a whole and not just what happens during competition. No props will be allowed and students must memorize their speech.

## IMPROV DUO

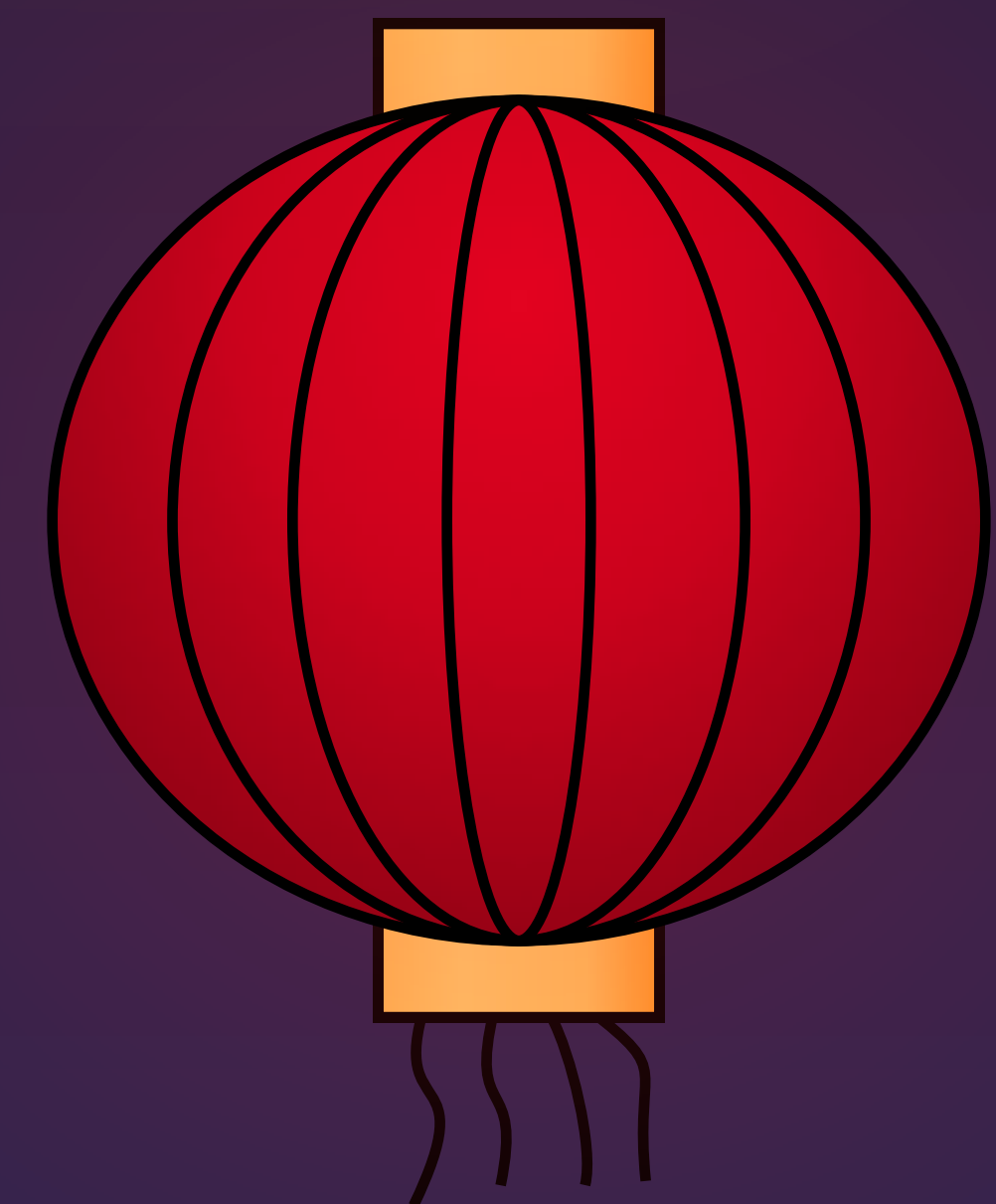
Impromptu, Duo style!

Two students per entry. Each duo will need to pick a character out of a hat/bucket and, without telling each other what character they have, begin to act out their character and create a scene. The scene must have a beginning, middle and end. Judges should take into consideration if one of the Duo partners can guess their partner's character and say it in round (IE: if your partner is Sherlock Holmes and you realize it you can say: “That’s a good idea SHERLOCK”) or if both partners guess and say the characters. Improvs should not exceed 7 minutes.





# TENTATIVE TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE



**Mandatory Call-in Confirmation of Entry By 07:45**

**Registration: 08:00-08:30**

**Judges' Briefing (all judges except IPDA): 08:30**

**IPDA Competitors & Judges Meeting: 08:30**

**Ballot Distribution, Student Assembly (Minus IPDA Students) and Postings: 08:45**

## **PUBLIC FORUM DEBATE, LINCOLN DOUGLAS DEBATE, AND IPDA**

Round 1: 09:00 AM

Round 2: 10:30 AM

Round 3: 12:30 PM

Round 4: 02:00 PM

Round 5: 03:30 PM

Final round: 05:00 PM

## **POLICY DEBATE**

Round 1: 09:00 AM

Round 2: 11:00 AM

Round 3: 01:30 PM

Final Round: 05:00 PM

## **SPEECH**

Round 1: 09:30 AM

Round 2: 11:00 AM

Round 3: 12:30 PM

Round 4: 02:00 PM

Final round: 04:00 PM

## **CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE**

Session 1: 09:00 AM

Session 2: 12:15 PM

Final/Super Session: 03:30 PM

**Awards: 06:15**

**Departure: 07:15**

All students and judges should plan to be in attendance for the duration of the tournament.



# THANKS!

This tournament is the first tournament hosted by BLS since the loss of our coach, mentor, and friend Keith West. In keeping with his legacy, the goal of our tournament is to increase accessibility, diversity and inclusion in speech and debate, promote the educational value of speech and debate, and HAVE FUN. We ask that all judges, coaches and competitors come to our tournament with this in mind. 😊

**SINCERELY,**

Melissa E. Swauncy-Coleman (Tournament Director/Head Coach)

901-319-3360 (Cell)

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Muxi Lemuel Yu (Assistant Coach of PF)

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yyoruk@bostonpublicschools.org

Jason Gallagher (Principal)

jgallagher@bostonpublicschools.org

Selina Tang, Cinly Mo, Maya Nelson, Marcus Burkes-Nossiter, Michelle Zhang, Mira Yu  
(Student Hosts & Team Captains)

