



Dear Colleagues,

The Durham Academy Speech & Debate team cordially invites you to attend the 12th Annual Cavalier Invitational on January 16th through 18th of 2026.

We will try to offer you and your students not only an outstanding academic competition, but also a pleasant tournament experience. Rest assured the 12th edition of the Cavalier Invitational will be the best installment yet.

Please note the tournament schedule:

- The 12th Annual Cavalier Invitational will be an **in-person tournament**.
- We will continue to offer in-person **World Schools Debate** that is open to school-based and hybrid (by school) teams.
- For this year, the tournament runs **Friday through Sunday**. Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum and World Schools Debate will be Friday through Sunday. Speech & Congress will be Saturday & Sunday only.
- The tournament offers **six preliminary rounds in all LD, PF, and World Schools divisions, Semifinals in Congressional Debate and four preliminary rounds in all speech events**. In debate, we will strive to break all winning records. In speech, we will advance the greatest number of students reasonable.
- **The introduction of Middle School Congressional Debate & Middle School Public Forum Debate**. As well as the continuation of **Novice divisions in Lincoln-Douglas Debate & Public Forum Debate**.
- Designated as a University of Kentucky **Tournament of Champions qualifying tournaments** at the following levels:
 - o Public Forum Debate – Quarterfinals
 - o Lincoln Douglas Debate – Semifinals
 - o Congressional Debate – All Students in Finals
 - o World Schools Debate - Finalists
 - o Speech Events

Please read the invitation carefully in that it contains new and important information that will affect all of those attending the tournament.

A common theme of this invitation, based on the language and implicit assumptions therein, is that you are a guest of Durham Academy and its coaching staff and, by attending the tournament, you are agreeing to adhere to our guidelines as a condition of participation in the Cavalier Invitational.

We look forward to welcoming you to our beautiful campus!

Crawford Leavoy
Director

Rachel Mauchline
Assistant Director

Justin Spitzer ('26) & Ethan Asnani ('27)
Student Tournament Co-Directors

PRESCHOOL & LOWER SCHOOL
3601 Ridge Road
Durham, NC 27705
919-489-3400

MIDDLE SCHOOL
3116 Academy Road
Durham, NC 27707
919-489-9110

UPPER SCHOOL
3601 Ridge Road
Durham, NC 27705
919-489-6569



Web-Based Registration: All registration must be done through the tournament website on Tabroom.com. No fax, email or phone entries will be accepted at any time.

Chaperones: An adult who is an employee of the school or school district the student(s) represent must accompany students competing in the tournament. An acceptable alternative is an adult who has been background checked by the school, and has been approved to take full responsibility for the care of students of that school while at a tournament. This responsible adult should be available at all times throughout the tournament. Schools will be asked to list who that adult will be as a condition of final registration. **Teams who violate this policy will be disqualified from the tournament and will not be issued a refund.**

Independent Entries: We do not accept independent entries, camp entries or for-profit entries. All students must represent a diploma-granting secondary school and have their school administration's or school-approved coach's permission to attend the tournament. If students compete in a partnered-event (DUO or PF) both partners must compete for and be from the same diploma-granting school. If you have questions about this policy, please ask. We will not be entertaining questions from "word smiths." Our intent is clear, and the spirit of this rule will be enforced, even if you find a creative interpretation to the letter of this rule.

Violating Chaperone or Independent Entry Rules: If at any time the tournament discovers a student or school does not meet the aforementioned criteria, the student and/or school will be disqualified from the tournament and lose their entry fees. If this is discovered after the tournament, any TOC qualification will be revoked, and we will do our best to contact other tournament directors to prevent a student in violation from this policy from being able to enter other tournaments.

Caps and Limits: In order to keep the tournament manageable, we will impose limits on registration. All entries will be added to a waitlist. We will begin to clear the waitlist on November 10th. We will give preference to equal number of students from schools in order to make sure we can accommodate the most diverse pool possible. We will follow the following entry caps:

- HS Lincoln-Douglas Debate & Public Forum Debate (per division): 184 entries
- MS Public Forum Debate: 30 entries
- World Schools Debate: 32 entries
- HS Congressional Debate: 144 entries
- MS Congressional Debate: 60 entries
- All Speech Events: 120 entries

Registration: Registration will open on October 17th at 8:00AM. At this time, schools will be able to enter students or reserve "TBA" slots. We will begin to clear the waitlist on November 10th. All entries must be made by January 9th at 12:00PM.

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**Entry Fees:**

- HS Congressional Debate Entry - \$50.00
- MS Congressional Debate Entry - \$30.00
- Lincoln-Douglas Debate Entry - \$60.00
- World Schools Debate Entry - \$75.00
- Varsity Public Forum Debate Team Entry - \$80.00
- Novice & Middle School Public Forum Debate Entry - \$40.00
- Individual Event (Speech) Entry - \$35.00
- Duo Interpretation Entry - \$70.00

Speech Entry Limits: Speech students may enter up to 4 speech events. The speech events are patterned (each student may enter 2 events from Pattern A and 2 events from Pattern B)

Pattern A

Duo Interpretation
Impromptu Speaking
Informative Speaking
Oral Interpretation of Literature
Oratorical Declamation

Pattern B

Dramatic Interpretation
Extemporaneous Speaking
Humorous Interpretation
Original Oratory
Program Oral Interpretation

Waitlisted Entries

We cannot stress the importance of registering for the Cavalier Invitational as soon as possible. Once our events reach their cap, we will not take more entries off the waitlist unless room opens.

It is especially important to highlight that your registration on Tabroom.com is only to put you on the waitlist. Entries are official only once we receive your entry fee check and send you a confirmation email. Being the first to submit your registration online does not guarantee your slot - mailing us your check promptly does.

Make checks payable to:

Durham Academy Speech & Debate
c/o Crawford Leavoy
3601 Ridge Road
Durham, NC 27705

Drop Fees:

All drops made after January 5th at 5:00PM will forfeit their entry fees. Although your entry may change, this will not change your judge obligation. You will still be responsible to fill your original commitment. All drops must be made by January 16th at 2:00PM. Drops after that time will result in a nuisance fee of \$20 per change. If drops are not reported by the start of Round 1 and found in the pairing, they will result in a \$200 hidden drop fee.

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Judging: We know that you value having qualified judges in all events; please help us ensure the quality of our judging pool by bringing only trained judges to the tournament. Please to not enter any judges who are unsure of how to judge events or are not qualified. **The tab room reserves the right to fine your school if a judge has to be removed from the pool because they are uncomfortable, unable and/or unwilling to judge.**

Judging Requirements:

- 1 Judge per 8 Congressional Debate **Entries**
- 1 Judge per 2 World School **Teams**
- 1 Judge per 5 Speech **Entries**

In LD & PF, judges are obligated on a “per preliminary round” obligation. This means that each entry in these events generates a round obligation. One judge can cover a maximum of 6 preliminary rounds. This means that a judge can cover a maximum of two entries if they are available for all three days. Please remember that changes to availability may affect a judges ability to count towards a full obligation.

- 3 **Rounds** per 1 Lincoln-Douglas **Entry**
- 3 **Rounds** per 1 Public Forum **Entry**

Definition of a Novice: Novice is defined as being in the first year of any forensic competition event or not having had more than two high school tournaments in a previous academic year. Middle Schoolers are welcome in Novice Division. Previous forensic competition in Middle School tournaments do not count towards this, but if a student went to a high school tournament while in Middle School, that does count. Novice divisions are learning divisions; they are not a chance for experienced students to win trophies while skirting our rules and definitions. The Tournament Directors are happy to address clarifications of this policy prior to the start of the tournament.

Hired Judges: A limited number of judges are available for hire. You must request those hired judges through Tabroom. Schools who fail to make proper requests will be at risk of forfeiture from the pool. Requests for Hired Judges must be made by Friday, January 2nd at 5:00PM but we foresee running out of hired judges in advance of that date.

Final Registration: Final registration will take place electronically beginning on Friday morning. Please continue to login and change Tabroom in order for your entry to stay up-to-date until we turn off your privileges. After that, we appreciate text messages letting us know that changes need be to made.



Protests:

Although we never hope for protests, we do plan accordingly.

- For **evidence and ethics challenges** in Debate Events, all protests are handled in round and are not appealable to the Tournament Director. The Tournament Director can only help the judge in understanding the process, not in making a decision.
- For **harassment or discrimination complaints**, are to be brought to the Equity Advocate(s). If needed, they will be handled by a collaboration between the Tournament Director and the Durham Academy administration.
- For **procedures for all other complaints or challenges**, may be handled by the Tournament Director.

The Tournament Director reserves the right to appoint an Ombudsperson for the tournament to handle complaints and protests.

Protests are filed with the Tournament Director or official ombudsperson on duty. The tournament will provide a form via Tabroom.com where protests are to be filed. Protests may only be filed by a coach of record for the school, and must be filed in a timely manner. No protests will be accepted after the next round is paired, released, and started.

Decisions of the Ombudsperson or Tournament Director are final and are not appealable.

Event rules are listed in this manual for convenience. However, for all events except Oratorical Declamation & Oral Interpretation of Literature, the NSDA rules will be the final authority on a matter. For Oratorical Declamation & Oral Interpretation of Literature, the NCFL rules concerning OI will have final authority in the matter.

Event Rules

Debate Divisions: We will be again using a 30-point scale that allows for tenth points for speaker points. Both low-point wins and ties are permitted. We encourage disclosure of decisions and discussion of all debates within reason (we must keep the tournament on time). All debates must have one winner and one loser. Tiebreakers will be Win/Loss, Points (H/L), Points (2H/2L), Total Points, Judge Variance, Random.

Use of Technology in Debate Rounds: For Public Forum and Lincoln Douglas Debate, use of laptop computers, tablet computers, smart phones and other electronic devices able to access the internet are permitted during events. The use of computers during debates is permitted for both flowing and research purposes including retrieval of evidence stored on hard drives and accessing resources via the internet. Students should not attempt to use electronic devices to initiate or respond to contact with outside parties during a debate. The penalty for violation of this rule is disqualification from the tournament. This rule recommends, but does not require, that all text messaging devices and cell phones be turned off during debates. It is meant to restrict the debaters from initiating or responding



to any outside contact during a debate round. While all rounds are open to observers, observers do not have an inherent right to utilize an electronic device during a round. Those need an accommodation to use an electronic device as an observer should speak with the Tournament Directors. All observers are permitted to flow on paper. Observers cannot be barred from a room.

Definition of a Novice: Novice is defined as being in the first year of any forensic competition event or not having had more than two high school tournaments in a previous academic year. The Tournament Directors are happy to address clarifications of this policy prior to the start of the tournament.

Lincoln-Douglas Debate: This is an open division for your debaters. Lincoln-Douglas debaters will be allowed four minutes of preparation time. Six preliminary rounds with two presets and four power-matched rounds will be held. All power-matched rounds will be high/low within brackets. This division will break all winning records. The resolution will be the January/February topic from the National Speech and Debate Association. *For further clarification, see the National Speech and Debate Association rules for Lincoln-Douglas debate.*

Novice Lincoln-Douglas Debate: This is a novice-only division for your debaters. Lincoln-Douglas debaters will be allowed four minutes of preparation time. Six preliminary rounds with two presets and four power-matched rounds will be held. All power-matched rounds will be high/low within brackets. This division will break all winning records. The resolution will be the January/February topic from the National Speech and Debate Association. *For further clarification, see the National Speech and Debate Association rules for Lincoln-Douglas debate.*

Public Forum Debate: This is an open division for your debaters. Public Forum debaters will be allowed 3 minutes for preparation time. Six preliminary rounds with two presets and four power-matched rounds will be held. All power-matched rounds will be high/low within brackets. This division will break all winning records. The resolution will be the January topic from the National Speech and Debate Association. *For further clarification, see the National Speech and Debate Association rules for Public Forum Debate.*

Novice Public Forum Debate: This is a novice-only division for your debaters. Public Forum debaters will be allowed 3 minutes for preparation time. Six preliminary rounds with two presets and four power-matched rounds will be held. All power-matched rounds will be high/low within brackets. This division will break all winning records. The resolution will be the January topic from the National Speech and Debate Association. *For further clarification, see the National Speech and Debate Association rules for Public Forum Debate.*

Middle School Public Forum Debate: This is a Middle School division for your debaters; all students must be enrolled in 5th, 6th, 7th or 8th grades at the time of the tournament. Public Forum debaters will be allowed 3 minutes for preparation time. Six preliminary rounds with two presets and four power-matched rounds will be held. All power-matched rounds will be high/low within brackets. This division will break all winning records. The resolution will be the January topic from the National



Speech and Debate Association. *For further clarification, see the National Speech and Debate Association rules for Public Forum Debate.*

Congressional Debate: This is an open division for your debaters. Three preliminary sessions will be held with chambers of 12-18 students. Approximately one-third of students will advance to the Semifinal Session with chambers of 12-18 students. We will advance 16 students to the Final Session of Congressional Debate. No legislation will be submitted by participating schools. The tournament will provide legislation one month prior to the tournament. *For further clarification, see the National Speech and Debate Association rules for Congressional Debate.*

Middle School Congressional Debate: This is a Middle School division for your debaters; all students must be enrolled in 5th, 6th, 7th or 8th grades at the time of the tournament. Two preliminary sessions will be held with chambers of 12-18 students. We will advance up to 16 students to the Final Session of MS Congressional Debate. No legislation will be submitted by participating schools. The tournament will provide legislation one month prior to the tournament. *For further clarification, see the National Speech and Debate Association rules for Congressional Debate.*

World Schools Debate: World Schools Debate (WSD) is a dynamic and inclusive format where teams of three to five debaters represent their side on a prepared or impromptu motion. The format fosters global perspectives, combining prepared motions, which allow for thorough research, with impromptu motions that test adaptability and critical thinking. Debaters must construct logical, evidence-based arguments and effectively refute opposing viewpoints while adhering to a structure that includes constructive positions, refutation, and crystallization. Points of information (POIs) may be offered between the first and seventh minutes to challenge or clarify statements made by the speaker in the first three speeches for each side. Judges evaluate based on argumentation, style, and strategy, emphasizing clarity, logic, and teamwork. *For further clarification, see the National Speech and Debate Association's 2025 USA World Schools Debate Invitational Manual*

Evidence & Ethics Challenges: This year, in order to help preserve the integrity of debate rounds, we will be utilizing the evidence and ethics challenges starting to be found around the National circuit. All teams, coaches and judges are responsible for understanding these procedures. **Evidence rules follow the current 2025-2026 Evidence Standards published by the NSDA published here: [2025-2026 HS Unified Manual](#)**

In the case where a team believes their opponent to have committed an evidence or other ethics violation, the accusing team should stop the debate, and ask the judge to adjudicate the challenge. This includes the following situations: 1) a team reads evidence that is fabricated, 2) a team reads evidence that is meaningfully altered to change the author's original meaning, 3) a team misrepresents how much evidence they have read in a debate, such as misrepresenting their highlighting of the evidence, "clipping cards" (the team says they read more than they actually did by clipping a card short of the indicated end), or "cross reading" (the team skips words or sentences in the middle of the text, but indicates they read all the words), 4) a team receives argument assistance



from a coach or other person after the debate has commenced, whether verbal or electronic, including the transfer of evidence after the round starts.

The accusing team will explain to the judge what the alleged violation is, and the judge will evaluate the violation based on the evidence available to them. The judge should establish prior to evaluating the challenge whether or not the round will continue after the challenge if the accusation is found to be false or impossible to determine either way. If the judge does in fact find an ethics or evidence violation, the offending team will be assigned a loss. In the case where a single team member committed the violation, they will receive zero speaker points. The judge may assign speaker points to the non-offending team member. If the violation occurs prior to the non-offending team member delivering a speech, they may award their points based off of their assessment of their cross-examination, if applicable. If the non-offending team member has not delivered either a speech or participated in cross-ex, the tab room will assign the average of their speaker points from prior debates. If this is not possible because its round 1, the tab room will assign zero speaker points to that debater. Any decision to challenge evidence or ethical behavior must be made during the round where the infraction occurred, or before the judge submits their decision to the Tabroom. No challenge can be made to a previous round after the next round has commenced.

Debaters should request evidence immediately following the speech in which it was read. Debaters reading evidence must present full carded evidence with full citations immediately to the requesting team. In instances where evidence is stored on an electronic device, students must hand over the electronic device to the requesting team and cannot try to withhold the electronic device for purposes of personal preparation. Prep time for the requesting team will not start until evidence has been handed over to the debater requesting said cards. We recommend as a best practice that all evidence be cited using one of the prominent citation styles (MLA, Chicago, APA or standard Policy debate citation style). Failure to do so isn't a violation of the rules set forth in this document.

Speech Divisions: Final placement will be cumulative. Thus, tiebreakers throughout elimination rounds will be ranks from elimination rounds with ranks from prelims (dropping the lowest rank), reciprocals from all rounds (dropping the lowest in preliminary rounds), ranks from previous rounds, reciprocals from previous round and then judge preference from previous rounds. Preliminary rounds will be broken on ranks and reciprocals from all rounds.

Humorous & Dramatic Interpretation: This includes categories of individual (solo) performance of dramatic (serious) and humorous literature with selections drawn from published, printed: novels, short stories, plays, poetry, or other printed, published works as well as limited online works as provided for in the rules below. The time limit for all interpretation events is 10 minutes with a 30 second "grace period." If the judge finds that the student has gone beyond the grace, the student may not be ranked 1st, but need not be ranked last based on time. Selections used in these contests must be cuttings from a single work of literature – from one short story or one play, or one novel, or one or more poems. Selections must include either 1) novels, short stories, plays or poetry, published in print, or 2) online publications from pre-approved online publishing sources listed by the National



Speech and Debate Association. Materials not published in print, from unapproved websites, recorded material (videotape, DVDs, audio tape, CDs, MP3s or phonographs), original material published in high school publications such as a newspaper, literary magazine or yearbook are prohibited. It is the affirmative duty of each coach and each student entered in Interpretation contests to determine absolutely that the cutting being preformed meets all rules for material; if requested by the tournament director, coaches and/or students must provide a manuscript of the cutting used with words being used highlighted or underlined and any word changes for transition or profane language indicated clearly in ink. The same selection used in the first round of competition in any interpretation event must be used throughout the entirety of the tournament in that event. The presentation may not use physical objects or costuming. During the presentation, the contestant/team must name the author and the book or magazine from which the cutting was made. The selections must be presented from memory. A student entered in two events may not use the same selection of literature in both events. *For further clarification, see the National Speech and Debate Association rules for Interpretation Events*

Duo Interpretation: Duo Interpretation is a two-person event where the contestants perform a published work of literature, such as a play, novel, or short story. The piece may be humorous or dramatic, and the performance should emphasize both effective teamwork and character interaction. Contestants must convey multiple characters and settings using vocal variation, physicality, and limited pantomime without props or costumes. The performance should remain within the boundaries of the "off-stage focus" rule, meaning contestants cannot look at or directly interact with each other during the performance. The time limit is 10 minutes, with a 30-second grace period. If a judge believes the performance exceeds the grace period, the duo may not be ranked first, but need not be ranked last. The goal is to creatively and accurately portray the characters, storyline, and emotional depth of the selected piece while maintaining clear and engaging communication. *For further clarification, see the National Speech and Debate Association rules for Interpretation Events*

Programmed Oral Interpretation: This is a mixed division of students who have constructed a program of prose, poetry and/or drama using at least two out of the three genres. The time limit for this interpretation event is 10 minutes with a 30 second "grace period." If the judge finds that the student has gone beyond the grace, the student may not be ranked 1st, but need not be ranked last based on time. Selections used in this contest must meet the publication rules established by the NSDA. It is the affirmative duty of each coach and each student entered in Interpretation contests to determine absolutely that the cutting being preformed meets all rules for material; if requested by the tournament director, coaches and/or students must provide a manuscript of the cutting used with words being used highlighted or underlined and any word changes for transition or profane language indicated clearly in ink. The same selection used in the first round of competition in any interpretation event must be used throughout the entirety of the tournament in that event. *For further clarification, see the National Speech and Debate Association rules for Programmed Oral Interpretation*

Oral Interpretation of Literature: Students present selections in two categories – prose and poetry. Each selection must be a maximum of ten minutes in length. There is a 30 second grace period. If the



student violates the grace, the student cannot be ranked 1st, but need not be ranked last. The student must hold a manuscript and appear to be reading. The students alternate between rounds of prose and rounds of poetry. *For further clarification, see the National Catholic Forensic League rules for Oral Interpretation of Literature.*

Extemporaneous Speaking: This is a mixed division of both United States and International topic areas. We will procure topics phrased for contest use and based on subjects discussed in standard periodicals during the current school year. Each topic will be in the form of a question. The contents of the list shall not be disclosed except as contestants draw topics therefrom; although the tournament director may publish topic areas in advance. There shall be a new subject area for each round. Thirty minutes before the contest is to begin, the first speaker draws three questions, choose one, and return the other two. The other contestants draw in like manner, in the order of speaking, at intervals of seven minutes. Students may consult published books, magazines, newspapers and journals or articles provided 1) they are originals or copies of whole pages, 2) provided those originals or copies are uncut, 3) there is no written material on that original or copy other than the citation information, and 4) topical index without annotation may be present. Extemp speeches, handbooks, briefs, and outlines are prohibited from the prep room. Underlining and highlighting in Extemp will be allowed if done in only one color on each article or copy. Contestants may make notes during the preparation time, but the use of notes, cards, briefs or other aids is prohibited during the speech. In other words, students may not remove any notes from the prep room to take to their contest rooms. The time limit is 7 minutes with a 30 second “grace period,” If the judge in the round finds that the student has gone beyond the grace, the student may not be ranked 1st, but need not be ranked last based on time. The ranking is up to the individual judge’s discretion. No minimum time is mandated. In the final round, each speaker shall be assigned a speaker order position. Drawing shall take place in 12-minute intervals. Thirty minutes after speaker first has drawn, speakers first and last shall enter the contest room. Speaker first shall give a speech and speaker last shall listen and may take notes. At the conclusion of speaker first’s speech, speaker last shall question speaker first for two minutes. Speaker last shall return to the prep room and speaker first shall stay and question speaker second. Speaker second will question speaker third, etc. Unless it is unavoidable, students from the same school shall not cross-examine one another. Speaker order should be adjusted accordingly. *For further clarification, see the National Speech and Debate Association rules for Extemporaneous Speaking.*

Use of Technology in Extemporaneous Speaking: For Extemporaneous Speaking, use of laptop computers, tablet computers, smart phones and other electronic devices is allowed during the preparation time. Students may access the internet during the preparation time. The use of computers during preparation time is permitted for retrieval of evidence stored on hard drives and the internet. Students should not attempt to use electronic devices to initiate or respond to contact with outside parties during preparation time. The penalty for violation of this rule is the assessment of disqualification from the tournament.



Informative Speaking: An informative speech is an original speech designed to explain, define, describe or illustrate a particular subject. The general purpose of the speech is for the audience to gain understanding and/or knowledge on the topic. This contest comprises only memorized speeches composed by the contestants and not used by them during a previous contest season. Audio/visual aids may or may not be used. No electronic equipment is permitted. The use of live animals or any additional people is not allowed during the speech. The time limit is 10 minutes with a 30 second grace period. If, in the opinion of the judge, the contestant violates the grace period, they may not be ranked 1st, but need not be ranked last. Not more than 150 words of the speech may be direct quotation.

Original Oratory: The contest comprises only memorized orations actually composed by the contestants and no used by them during a previous season. No visual aids are permitted. Any appropriate subject may be used, but the orator must be truthful. Any non-factual reference, especially a personal one, must be so identified. The time limit is 10 minutes with a 30 second “grace period.” If the judge finds the student has gone beyond the grace, the student may not be ranked 1st, but need not be ranked last based on time. The ranking is up to the individual judge’s discretion. No minimum time is mandated. Not more than 150 words of the oration may be direct quotation from any other speech or writing and such quotations must be identified in a printed copy of the oration supplied upon request of the tournament director. Extensive paraphrasing from other sources is prohibited.

Impromptu Speaking: Procedures about draw will be released closer to the tournament. Topics will include proverbs, abstract words, events, quotations, and famous people. The speaker has seven minutes in which to prepare a response and present a speech without consultation of prepared notes. Students may consult published books, magazines, newspapers, and journals or articles therefore, provided 1) they are originals or photocopies of originals, 2) that original article or copy is intact and uncut, 3) there is no written material on original or copy, 4) topical index without annotation is allowed. No other material shall be allowed in the room other than state above. Speeches, handbooks, briefs, and outlines shall be barred. Underlining or highlighting in materials will be allowed if done in one color on each article or copy. No electronic retrieval device may be used, but printed materials from online computer services may be used. The maximum time limit is 7 minutes with a 30-second “grace period,” which includes both preparation and speaking. If the judge finds the student has gone beyond the grace, the student may not be ranked 1st, but need not be ranked last based on time. The ranking is up to the individual judge’s discretion. No minimum time is mandated.

Oratorical Declamation: A selection must have been originally delivered in the form a speech by its author, a person other than the present speaker. The speaker should have an introduction which is at most one minute and names the work, author, and describes the circumstances under which the speech was originally presented. The original speaker’s words must not be altered for the presentation with the exception that cutting is permitted. Selections may include professional speeches, public orations, eulogies, and sermons. Any non-speaking expressions such as singing or dancing should not be excessive or dominate the performance. Judges ranks may reflect if



nonspeaking expressions have dominated the performance. The selection must be memorized. If the speaker refers to prepared notes of any kind or a script during the presentation, the speaker will be disqualified. The speaker should develop the ability to convey the message in a sincere, honest, and realistic style. The mechanics of speech must be observed faithfully: poise, quality of voice, effectiveness and ease of gesture, emphasis, variety, and enunciation. In addition, the speaker must be able to interpret the meaning of the speech and be able to carry the interpretation over to the minds of the listeners. The speaker must be able to interest the listeners and to hold their attention. Positions other than standing should not be excessive in length or dominate the performance. No particular style should be demanded of the speaker; rather, the contestant should be free to select and to develop a personal style and be judged according to the degree of perfection attained and the effectiveness in influencing the listeners. While the specifics of the speech and any style of delivery which the speaker adopts should be judged in light of the purpose of the speech, artificiality is to be discredited. This event is an interpretation, not an impersonation. This event is limited to freshman and sophomore students. Time limits: Maximum - 10 minutes, including at most a 60 second introduction to the selection. If the speaker goes over a 30 second grace period, that contestant may not be awarded first place. No minimum time. No properties or costumes of any kind may be used. Using “properties” means manipulating articles of clothing or objects to enhance the performance. Speakers using properties and/or wearing costumes will be disqualified.



Awards: Durham Academy will recognize students with the following awards:

- The competitors in the Final Rounds of speech events
- Participants in elimination rounds of speech events
- The competitors in the Final Round of Congressional Debate
- Participants in Semifinals of Congressional Debate
- Participants in all elimination rounds of debate events

Special Awards: Each event champion will receive a full replica calvary sword.

Sweepstakes: We present a championship cup to the Top 3 schools placing in the Cavalier Invitational.

Sweepstakes Calculation

For All Speech Events:

- First place is awarded 12 points
- Second place is awarded 10 points
- Third place is awarded 8 points
- Fourth place is awarded 6 points
- Fifth place is awarded 4 points
- Sixth place is awarded 2 points
- Seventh place is awarded 2 points
- Non-advancing Semifinalists are awarded 1 point

For Congressional Debate:

- First place is awarded 12 points
- Second place is awarded 10 points
- Third place is awarded 8 points
- Fourth place is awarded 6 points
- Fifth place is awarded 4 points
- Sixth place is awarded 3 points
- Non-placing Finalists are awarded 2 point
- Non-advancing Semifinalists are awarded 1 point

For All Debate Events:

- First place is awarded 12 points
- Second place is awarded 10 points
- Advance to Semifinal is awarded 8 points
- Advance to Quarterfinal is awarded 6 points
- Advance to Octafinal is awarded 4 points
- Advance to Double-Octafinal is awarded 2 points



Varsity & Novice Public Forum Debate

Durham Academy Middle School Campus

Date	Round	Round Posted	Start Time	Decision Time
Friday	Round 1	4:30 PM	5:00 PM	7:30 PM
	Round 2	7:30 PM	8:00 PM	10:30 PM
Saturday	Round 3	8:00 AM	8:30 AM	10:30 AM
	Round 4	11:00 AM	11:30 AM	1:30 PM
	Round 5	2:15 PM	2:45 PM	4:45 PM
	Round 6	5:15 PM	5:45 PM	7:45 PM
	Elim 1	8:15 PM	8:30 PM	9:45 PM
Sunday	Elim 2	8:30 AM	9:00 AM	10:15 AM
	Elim 3	10:30 AM	11:00 AM	12:15 PM
	Elim 4	1:00 PM	1:30 PM	2:45 PM
	Elim 5	3:00 PM	3:30 PM	4:45 PM

Middle School Public Forum Debate

Durham Academy Middle School Campus

Date	Round	Round Posted	Start Time	Decision Time
Friday	Round 1	4:30 PM	5:00 PM	7:30 PM
	Round 2	7:30 PM	8:00 PM	10:30 PM
Saturday	Round 3	8:00 AM	8:30 AM	10:30 AM
	Round 4	11:00 AM	11:30 AM	1:30 PM
	Round 5	2:15 PM	2:45 PM	4:45 PM
	Round 6	5:15 PM	5:45 PM	7:45 PM
	Elim 1	8:15 PM	8:30 PM	9:45 PM
Sunday	Elim 2	8:30 AM	9:00 AM	10:15 AM
	Elim 3	10:30 AM	11:00 AM	12:15 PM
	Elim 4	1:00 PM	1:30 PM	2:45 PM

PRESCHOOL & LOWER SCHOOL
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MIDDLE SCHOOL
3116 Academy Road
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919-489-9110

UPPER SCHOOL
3601 Ridge Road
Durham, NC 27705
919-489-6569



Varsity Lincoln-Douglas Debate

Durham Academy Upper School Campus

Date	Round	Round Posted	Start Time	Decision Time
Friday	Round 1	4:30 PM	5:00 PM	7:30 PM
	Round 2	7:30 PM	8:00 PM	10:30 PM
Saturday	Round 3	8:00 AM	8:30 AM	10:30 AM
	Round 4	11:00 AM	11:30 AM	1:30 PM
	Round 5	2:15 PM	2:45 PM	4:45 PM
	Round 6	5:15 PM	5:45 PM	7:45 PM
	Elim 1	8:15 PM	8:30 PM	9:45 PM
Sunday	Elim 2	8:30 AM	9:00 AM	10:15 AM
	Elim 3	10:30 AM	11:00 AM	12:15 PM
	Elim 4	1:00 PM	1:30 PM	2:45 PM

Novice Lincoln-Douglas Debate

Durham Academy Upper School Campus

Date	Round	Round Posted	Start Time	Decision Time
Friday	Round 1	4:30 PM	5:00 PM	7:30 PM
	Round 2	7:30 PM	8:00 PM	10:30 PM
Saturday	Round 3	8:00 AM	8:30 AM	10:30 AM
	Round 4	11:00 AM	11:30 AM	1:30 PM
	Round 5	2:15 PM	2:45 PM	4:45 PM
	Round 6	5:15 PM	5:45 PM	7:45 PM
	Elim 1	8:15 PM	8:30 PM	9:45 PM
Sunday	Elim 2	8:30 AM	9:00 AM	10:15 AM
	Elim 3	10:30 AM	11:00 AM	12:15 PM
	Elim 4	1:00 PM	1:30 PM	2:45 PM

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World Schools Debate

Durham Academy Middle School Campus

Mandatory WSD Judge Training: Friday 4:30PM to 5:30PM

Date	Round	Topic Posted	Round Posted	Start Time	Decision Time
Friday	Round 1	4:30 PM	4: 15 PM	5:30 PM	7:00 PM
	Round 2	N/A	7:00 PM	7:30 PM	9:00 PM
Saturday	Round 3	8:30 AM	8:00 AM	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
	Round 4	N/A	11:00 AM	11:30 AM	1:00 PM
	Round 5	1:45 PM	1:30 PM	2:45 PM	4:15 PM
	Round 6	N/A	4:30 PM	5:00 PM	6:30 PM
	Elim 1		7:00 PM	7:30 PM	9:00 PM
Sunday	Elim 2	8:30 AM	8:15 AM	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
	Elim 3	N/A	11:30 AM	12:00 PM	1:30 PM
	<i>If Needed</i>				

PRESCHOOL & LOWER SCHOOL

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Speech Events – Flight A Events

*Durham Academy Lower School Campus
HI, IMP, INF, OI, DUO*

Date	Round	Round Posted	Start Time	Ballot Due
Saturday	Round 1	8:30 AM	9:00 AM	10:15 AM
	Round 2	12:30 PM	1:00 PM	2:15 PM
	Round 3	4:30 PM	5:00 PM	6:15 PM
Sunday	Round 4	8:30AM	9:00 AM	10:15 AM
	Semifinals	12:45 PM	1:15 PM	2:45 PM
	Finals	3:30 PM	4:00 PM	5:15 PM

Speech Events – Flight B Events

*Durham Academy Lower School Campus
DEC, DI, OO, POI*

Date	Round	Round Posted	Start Time	Ballot Due
Saturday	Round 1	10:30 AM	11:00 AM	12:15 PM
	Round 2	2:30 PM	3:00 PM	4:15 PM
	Round 3	6:30 PM	7:00 PM	8:15 PM
Sunday	Round 4	10:30 AM	11:00 AM	12:15 PM
	Semifinals	12:45 PM	1:15 PM	2:45 PM
	Finals	3:30 PM	4:00 PM	5:15 PM

Speech Events – Extemporaneous Speaking

Durham Academy Lower School Campus

Date	Round	Round Posted	Prep Time	Start Time	Ballots Due
Saturday	Round 1	10:15 AM	10:30 AM	11:00 AM	12:15PM
	Round 2	2:15 PM	2:30 PM	3:00 PM	4:15 PM
	Round 3	6:15 PM	6:30 PM	7:00 PM	8:15 PM
Sunday	Round 4	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	11:00 AM	12:15 PM
	Semifinals	12:30 PM	12:45 PM	1:15 PM	2:45 PM
	Finals	3;15 PM	3:30 PM	4:00 PM	5:15 PM

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Congressional Debate

Durham Academy Upper School Campus

Date	Round	Round Posted	Start Time	Stop Time
Saturday	Session 1	9:15 AM	9:30 AM	12:30 PM
	Session 2		1:30 PM	4:30 PM
	Session 3		5:30 PM	8:30 PM
Sunday	Semifinals	9:15 AM	9:30 AM	12:00 PM
	Finals	1:30 PM	2:00 PM	5:00 PM

Middle School Congressional Debate

Durham Academy Upper School Campus

Date	Round	Round Posted	Start Time	Stop Time
Saturday	Session 1	9:15 AM	9:30 AM	12:30 PM
	Session 2		1:30 PM	4:30 PM
Sunday	Finals	9:15 AM	9:30 AM	12:00 PM

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