



THE BRONX HIGH SCHOOL OF SCIENCE
SPEECH & DEBATE TEAM
75 BRONX SCIENCE BOULEVARD, BRONX, NY 10468

Dear Participants at the NYC Invitational,

The Bronx High School of Science Speech & Debate Team is delighted to welcome you to the Forty-Fifth New York City Invitational Tournament. We are proud to continue our longstanding tradition of offering a challenging and competitive tournament early in the Speech & Debate season calendar. The New York City Invitational features varsity competition in Public Forum Debate, Policy Debate, Lincoln-Douglas Debate, Congressional Debate, and, Dramatic Interpretation of Literature, Duo Interpretation of Literature, Extemporaneous Speaking, Humorous Interpretation of Literature, Original Oratory and Prose & Poetry.

We wanted to share some key information as you prepare to visit Bronx Science.

Dates & Time

The tournament is from Friday, October 16th through October 18th. A complete schedule has been posted to tabroom.com. We will begin on Friday, October 16th at 3pm for Policy Debate, Lincoln-Douglas Debate and Public Forum debate. Speech and Congress will begin on Saturday, October 17th at 9:00 a.m. We anticipate the entire tournament concluding on Sunday, October 18th by 8:00 p.m., with different events ending at earlier times.

Tournament Locations

The tournament will be held at The Bronx High School of Science on Friday, Saturday and Sunday located at:

The Bronx High School of Science
75 Bronx Science Boulevard
Bronx, NY 10468

Public Transportation: Take the #4 or D/B train to the Bedford Park Blvd stop. Walk west on Bedford Park Boulevard and turn right on Paul Avenue. The school is about a 10 minute walk from the train station.

For Saturday only, the Speech and Congress divisions will be held at Walton High School conveniently located near Bronx Science at:

Walton High School
2780 Reservoir Avenue
Bronx, NY 10468

Walton is a 15 minute walk from Bronx Science. Make a right out the main entrance and then a left on Goulden Avenue (which becomes Reservoir Avenue). Walk straight for about 15 minutes and the entrance to Walton will be on your left.

Public Transportation: Take the #4 train to either the Bedford Park Blvd or the Kingsbridge stop.

From Bedford Park Blvd, walk northeast on Bedford Park Blvd, walk through Lehman College until you reach Goulden Avenue, make a left on Goulden Avenue (which turns into Reservoir Avenue). It is about a ten minute walk.

From Kingsbridge, head northeast on Jerome Avenue, turn left on 195th Street and then right on Reservoir Avenue. It is about a 7 minute walk.

Note: Due to an unavoidable scheduling conflict, the secondary location is not Dewitt Clinton High School as previously stated.

Registration & Payment

Registration will begin at Bronx Science on Friday, October 16th at 11:30 a.m. on the stage in the main auditorium of the school and will continue on Saturday [at both Bronx Science] and at Walton High School beginning at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday. For Speech, please register in person or by phone by 5pm on Friday. Even though Congress does not begin until Saturday, if you are prepared, you may register them on Friday at Bronx Science or at Walton on Saturday.

All invoices will be produced within tabroom. All judging obligations are due by September 30, 2015 by 6:00 p.m. All changes and fees will be frozen by October 9th, 2015 by 7:00 p.m.

Please bring your check to registration. Payment must be received when you register – there are no exceptions to this rule. Please make checks payable to The Bronx High School of Science.

Parking

There is ample street parking around Bronx Science. Beginning on Friday after 3pm, you will be able to park in the Bronx Science faculty parking lot located behind the school, the entrance is on Paul Avenue. The parking lot will be open and available for parking all day on Saturday and Sunday as well.

Note: There is extremely limited parking available in the faculty parking lot on Friday before 3pm. Please do not count on availability in the lot if you arrive early.

Walton High School has significant parking as well for both cars and buses. The entrances to the Walton parking lots are on both Reservoir Avenue and on Jerome Avenue. The parking lot accessed from Jerome Avenue has ample space for bus parking.

Shuttle Bus

Shuttle bus service will be available on a loop from Walton High School to Bronx Science on Saturday, October 17th from 6 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. We recommend that teams drop their students off in the morning directly at Walton after they drop their students off at Bronx Science.

Food & Beverage

At Bronx Science, we will provide participants with dinner on Friday, lunch and dinner on Saturday and lunch on Sunday. Once again, our volunteer parents are working hard to prepare a delicious feast for these days. At Walton, only lunch will also be served on Saturday. Speech and Congress participants will be able to have dinner at Bronx Science. As in the past, all meals at the NYC Invitational will represent a wide range of cuisines and the culinary talents of our team parents.

Concessions, including snacks and beverages, will be available for purchase at both Bronx Science and Walton.

The judges lounge will be well stocked at both schools with delicious food and a lovely variety of snacks.

Classrooms and Offices

All rounds will be held in classrooms and offices at Bronx Science and Walton. We ask that participants not eat in the rooms but only eat in the cafeteria. Please also be mindful to return the classrooms and offices to the way you found them. Both schools and their school yards are a no smoking environment.

Bids

Bronx Science remains a qualifying competition for the National High School Tournament of Champions (TOC) in all four debate events: octofinalists in Lincoln-Douglas Debate, octofinalists in Public Forum Debate, quarterfinalists in Policy Debate and finalists in Congressional Debate. The NYC Invitational is a bid tournament for the TOC in all speech categories. Additionally, we expect finalists in certain speech categories to qualify to compete at the NIETOC.

We anticipate that the New York City Invitational will be a maximum-points qualifier to the National Debate Coaches Association (NDCA) National Championships in both Lincoln-Douglas Debate and Public Forum Debate.

Tournament Rules

Policy Debate: Policy debate teams will debate the 2015-16 National high school topic on domestic surveillance. The resolution to be debated is – Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially curtail its domestic surveillance. The format will be 8-3-5 with eight minutes of preparation time.

Policy debate will feature 6 prelim rounds (powered paired after round 2) and a clear to octofinals. . We expect to hold a partial sextodecimofinals as circumstances dictate. Awards will be given to all teams that reach elimination rounds. Speaker awards will be given to the top 15 speakers.

Lincoln-Douglas Debate: Lincoln-Douglas debaters will debate the September/October 2015 National Speech & Debate Association (formerly the NFL) LD topic. Resolved: Adolescents ought to have the right to make autonomous medical choices. LD debaters will be allowed five minutes of preparation time.

Lincoln-Douglas debate will feature seven preliminary rounds (power paired after round 2). The division will clear to a partial triple-octo to ensure that debaters with a preliminary record of 5-2 or better will have an opportunity to participate in an elimination round. Awards will be given to all debaters that reach the partial triple-octo and speaker awards will be given to the top 20 speakers.

Public Forum Debate: Public Forum debaters will debate the September/October 2015 Public Forum Debate topic. Resolved: The United States Federal Government ought to pay reparations to African Americans.

Public Forum debate will feature seven preliminary rounds (power paired after round 2) and the division will clear to a partial triple-octo to ensure that teams with a preliminary record of 5-2 or better will have an opportunity to participate in an elimination round. Awards will be given to all teams that reach the partial triple-octo and speaker awards will be given to the top 20 speakers.

For the three above debate events, there can only be one win and one loss in each round. Speaker points are on a 30-point scale with tenth point increments. Unless otherwise stated, NSDA rules apply to the tournament.

Congressional Debate: Congressional debaters must provide their legislation by Thursday, October 1st and by emailing Willie Warren at wewsss@gmail.com.

Congressional Debate will feature three rounds and then a break to semifinals. Awards will be given to all finalists and semifinalists. Unless otherwise stated, NSDA rules apply to the tournament.

Speech: Individual events will feature Dramatic Interpretation of Literature, Duo Interpretation of Literature, Extemporaneous Speaking, Humorous Interpretation of Literature, Original Oratory and Prose & Poetry.

Speech will feature five preliminary rounds and clear semis or quarters as the circumstances dictate. Awards will be all participants in the elimination rounds. Unless otherwise stated, NCFL rules apply to the Prose & Poetry division and NSDA rules apply to other divisions.

Judges

There is a limited pool of hired judges available at \$250 per judge for the debate events and \$200 for speech events. Failure to fulfill a judging obligation may result in the inability of students to compete at the tournament. Any school-affiliated judge that misses a round will be assessed \$50 per missed round.

Unfortunately, it is not technically feasible to have a half judge commitment. We tried multiple ways but simply cannot do it without creating other problems. The tab room staff will, however, endeavor not to use judges over their half commitment but cannot promise it will not occur.

Separate documents will be sent on the issue of conflicts for both teams and for judges.

Other announcements will be forthcoming via email so be sure to check your email. We can't wait to see everyone and we look forward to an excellent tournament. If you have any questions, please contact us at 718-817-7700 or speechanddebate@bxscience.edu.

Sincerely,
Jean M. Donahue '77, Ph.D.
Principal
The Bronx High School of Science

Kirby Chin '88
Co-Tournament Host
Bronx Science Speech & Debate

Robert Levinson '80
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