



## **Reverend D. Stanley Lord Tournament**

**For Middle School Debaters**

*Saturday, April 18, 2026 | University of Bridgeport*

Dear Colleagues,

It is with great pleasure that the Bridgeport Public Schools Debate League and New Haven UDL invite you and your middle school debaters to the Reverend D. Stanley Lord Tournament.

### **Location**

Our venue is the beautiful seaside campus of The University of Bridgeport. We will kick off the event at the John J. Cox Student Center at 244 University Avenue, Bridgeport CT 06604.

### **Format**

This is an in-person parliamentary tournament for middle school debaters (grades 6-8). Students debate in two-person teams following an extemporaneous format. See our [Style Guide](#) for information on our Parli format. (Please note the Style Guide differs from the BPSDL's.)

### **Fees**

Thanks to the generosity of the University of Bridgeport and our additional sponsors, this tournament is free.

### **Judges**

Participating schools do not need to bring judges. Judges will be experienced judges from local high school debate teams and Yale University.

For more information, view our judging guide: [\[Judging Guide\] LT](#) .

### **Registration**

Registration is open on Tabroom.com as the Reverend D. Stanley Lord Tournament 2026.

Registration Deadline: Wednesday, **April 8, 2026 at 11:55 PM**. You are welcome to make changes after that date but please get your entries in by then. **For planning purposes, please respond to this email and let us know ASAP if you think you will attend and roughly how many teams you'll bring.** All schools will initially be waitlisted and then entered until we reach tournament capacity.

### **Supervision**

All teams must be accompanied by a responsible adult who has emergency information for every debater. Teams do not need to be affiliated with a school.

### **Food**

Breakfast and lunch will be provided to debaters, coaches, and judges.

### **Schedule**

Event	Time
Registration & Breakfast	7:45-8:30 am
General Briefing	8:30-8:55 am
Round 1	9:00 – 10:15 am
Round 2	10:25 am – 11:40 pm
Round 3	11:50 – 1:05 pm
Lunch	1:05 – 1:50 pm
Speaker Awards & Announce Qualifying Teams	1:55-2:15 pm
Semi Finals	2:25 – 3:40 pm
Finals	3:40 – 4:55 pm

*\*Please note that late arrivals will not be tolerated. Failure to check in both members of a team by 9:00 a.m on Saturday will result in a forfeit for the first round. Plan accordingly!*

### **Questions**

Please contact tournament directors Linda Chen and Janet Fan at [lindachen239@gmail.com](mailto:lindachen239@gmail.com) and [birdnhorse789@gmail.com](mailto:birdnhorse789@gmail.com).

### **Reverend D. Stanley Lord**

Reverend D. Stanley Lord was a civil rights activist who championed voting rights and was a fierce fighter for racial justice. He was a generous and thoughtful leader who, in his role as President of the Greater Bridgeport NAACP, positioned the organization to be at the center of the movement for change in the City of Bridgeport.

