



TOURNAMENT
DIRECTOR

November 24, 2015

Danny Haidar

2015-2016
EXECUTIVE BOARD

Larry He
President

John Mellow
VP Finance

Lily Zalon
VP Campus Affairs

Taronish Irani
VP Team Affairs

Maggie Mallernee
Secretary

Danny Haidar
VP Public Affairs

The Columbia Debate Society (CDS) is an undergraduate organization of Columbia University in New York, NY. Every year, the CDS travels throughout the US and the world to compete in parliamentary debate. The CDS hosts an annual high school speech and debate competition and an annual college debate tournament to encourage participation in these activities.

Dear Speech and Debate Coach:

On behalf of the Columbia Debate Society, we cordially invite you and your team to the 14th Annual Columbia University High School Invitational. The tournament will begin on Friday, January 22, 2016 and conclude on Sunday, January 24, 2016. It will consist of competition in Varsity Lincoln-Douglas Debate, Public Forum Debate, Student Congress, and six Speech events.

This year the Finalists in Varsity Lincoln-Douglas Debate will receive bids to the Tournament of Champions. Columbia is also a Quarters bid for the TOC in Public Forum. Our tab room directors will be Jim Menick from Hendrick Hudson, Joe Vaughan from Scarsdale, and Paul Wexler from Needham.

The information provided with this invitation and on our tournament page on tabroom.com, should answer any questions that you may have about our tournament.

If you need additional assistance, please email us at columbiadebate@gmail.com.

Best wishes for a restful and enjoyable winter break. We look forward to seeing many of our old friends and competitors in New York in January.

Sincerely,

Danny Haidar



2016 Columbia University High School Invitational Tournament Packet

January 22nd—January 24th, 2016

Columbia University Public Safety: (212) 854-5555

Tab Phone Number: Thomas Startz (701) 541-3407

Tournament Director: Danny Haidar (586) 744-8213

Tab Directors:

Jim Menick (Debate)

Sheryl Kaczmarek (Debate)

Fr. Michael Tidd (Debate)

Joe Vaughan (Speech)

Paul Wexler (Congress)

Martin Page (Congress)

Things You Really Care About...

Important Locations

-General Assembly (for students): General Assembly will be held in multiple rooms: Barnard Hall 304, and Lehman Hall 202 on Friday

On Saturday GA will be in The Diana event oval, Barnard Hall 304, and Lehman Hall 202. On Sunday GA will be in the traditional Boone Aldridge auditorium in Lerner Hall.

For Friday and Saturday, if one of the GA's is filled please set up in another GA. We would prefer if debate contestants stay in the Diana center while Speech and Congress utilize Barnard and Lehman Hall.

Please note that you will need a wristband that you receive at registration in order to gain access to Lerner Hall and the School at Columbia. If you misplace your bracelet and are in need of a new one, you can go to the registration desk. However, you will incur a fee of \$5 per each wristband.

-Judges Assembly: Is in the Diana Center room LL104.

-Tabroom: is in the Diana Center room 502

-Ballot table, and check in will be located in the Lobby of the Diana Center

Merchandise!!

You can purchase Columbia Debate paraphernalia the booth located in the Diana Event Oval. T-Shirts, Sweatshirts, and Stickers will be sold at great prices!

Security

Columbia and Barnard Campus Security has been increased for the weekend to accommodate the tournament on Broadway and throughout the Columbia Campus. **Call Public Safety at (212) 854-5555 if you experience an emergency or have security concerns.**

Some Specifics

Registration

- **Only teams officially representing degree-issuing high schools are eligible to register.** We will not accept independent entries, camp entries, or mix-match entries from across school districts. Additionally, due to liability reasons, **no teams will be accepted into the tournament without a responsible adult chaperone on property for the duration of the tournament,** unless alternative plans are made in advance with the Tournament Director. An adult, for these purposes, is defined as a college graduate twenty-one years of age or older, presumably an employee of the team's school or a parent.

-Registration will open December 1st at 1pm for all categories.

To accommodate as many teams as possible as efficiently as possible, we will open registration for the tournament on tabroom.com on a waitlist-only basis. As soon as our rooms are confirmed with the university, we will clear as much of the waitlist as we can. **PLEASE DO NOT PURCHASE PLANE TICKETS OR MAKE NON-CANCELLABLE RESERVATIONS OF ANY SORT FOR STUDENTS UNTIL THEY ARE CLEARED:** great distance from the tournament is not a guarantee of admittance. Schools with a history of judge absences and unpaid fees will be given precedence for remaining on the waitlist until next year.

- Waitlists will be cleared no sooner than a week after registration opens (and most likely a bit later). All schools registered at that point will be given equal consideration. In other words, there is no benefit to being first to sign up: fast fingers on the computer are a poor warrant for acceptance into a tournament. A fair distribution of slots to all seems to make the best sense.

-In the past, some schools have not reported all their drops to the tournament; this harms competitive balance in panel assignments. **Schools with unreported drops the day of the tournament will be assessed a fee of \$25 per round missed.**

-We ask that you call in to confirm your registration to the tab room phone number at (701) 541-3407 and pay once rounds have begun. You must call before 4:00 PM for Debate schools and by 5:00 PM for Speech and Congress only schools.

-We also ask that coaches please check in upon arrival in the lobby of the Diana Center. Students should go directly to one of the GA rooms

Registration Fees

Speech | \$25/entry

Duo Interpretation | \$30/team

Student Congress | \$40/entry

Lincoln-Douglas Debate | \$75/entry

Public Forum Debate | \$80/team

***Please bring all payments with you to the tournament on Friday, January 22nd. Please make all checks payable to Columbia University. Please do not submit payments late. If you have trouble submitting your payment on time, please email the tournament director, Danny Haidar, at columbiadebate@gmail.com.**

We also accept cash.

Judging Requirements

-We require teams to bring one judge for every 3 Lincoln-Douglas debaters or fraction thereof. Teams must bring one judge for every 3 Public Forum teams or fraction thereof. For all Speech events and Student Congress (a separate pool), teams must bring one judge for every 5 entries or fraction thereof. Judges in speech and congress are obligated for the entire tournament. Judges in LD and PF are obligated to judge one round past the last full round in which their students are active, i.e., in addition to any run-offs.

-A number of judges will be available for hire. Requesting a hired judge does not guarantee that the request will be accepted. **The hired judge charge for all speech events is \$40.00 per uncovered entry. For Lincoln Douglas or Public Forum debate judges, the charge is \$75.00 per uncovered entry. Acceptances will be sent by email via tabroom.com.**

-Like last year, **schools whose judges fail to appear for an assigned round may be fined \$25 for a prelim or \$50 for an elimination round at the tournament's discretion.** These fines are non-negotiable. Having all judges registered on tabroom.com will help them enormously, as ALL information and announcements will be via this site. In other words, situations where somebody they thought was a Columbia student told your judges something false is not an excuse. We will also ask for judge cell phone numbers at registration; being able to contact judges quickly and directly will help us stay on time.

-Competitors from any school with outstanding fines will not advance to elimination rounds, nor may the school pick up awards or ballots until they have settled their balance.

Events

Speech events

- Speech events will be broken into two groups. Group A will consist of Oratory, Duo and Oral Interp. Group B will consist of Extemp, Dramatic Performance, and Declamation. A student may enter up to two different speech events in each group.
- Please note that this tournament follows the NCFL guidelines about laptop usage during Extemp prep.
- All speech events will follow National Catholic Forensic League rules and guidelines. Speech events will break to either quarterfinals or semifinals based on the size of each field.
- Due to difficulties in tabbing students double entered in Extemp, we would request that all students registered for Extemp do not participate in the other Group B events (DP, Dec)

Varsity Lincoln-Douglas Debate

- The LD resolution will be the January/February NFL topic. LD will follow the 6-3-7-3-4-6-3 format. Debaters will have 4 minutes of prep time. Ties will be broken based on record, adjusted points, total points, double-adjusted points, judge variance, opponents' record, and coinflip, in that order. The break will depend on the number of teams registered. MJP will be used in LD to rank the judges.

Public Forum Debate

- There will be a single, open division of public forum debate. The tournament will be using the NFL topic for January. Ties will be broken using the same criteria as Lincoln-Douglas Debate. The break will depend on numbers registered.

Student Congress

- If numbers warrant, a semisupersession will be added to the schedule. Regardless, the Supersession, featuring a multifaceted scenario, will be held Sunday beginning at 10 am. Advancement to the Supersession (and Semi, if any) will be by JUDGE RANKING.

- Supersession question time will feature 2 minutes each for the sponsorship and first negative speeches, and 1 minute for all subsequent speeches, divided into 30-second blocks per questioner.
- Registration for congress will end on January 12th at 5pm to enable time for chamber assignments.

Legislation Submission

-Please submit all legislation to columbiadebate@gmail.com by Monday January 11th, 2016 at 5pm.

-Legislation must include the name of the author and the author's school. Legislation should follow the templates found at

<http://www.congressionaldebate.org/resources/legislation-templates>

-Legislation should ideally be submitted in a ".docx" or ".doc" form. Legislation that does not meet these requirements may be not be accepted, especially if close to the deadline.

-Submitting multiple pieces of legislation per school is permitted, but acceptance is not guaranteed. Please rank your submissions in priority order.

-Every effort will be made to post chamber assignments and the docket by January 16th, hopefully earlier.

-Accordingly, additions to a given school's congress registration after January 12th will only be accepted (up to the regular tournament deadline) in so far as they do not create a need for additional number of chambers.

Awards & Ballots

Awards

All competitors reaching elimination rounds will receive awards. We will not mail trophies and encourage all schools to stay for the awards ceremony in order to receive their awards or arrange for another school to pick them up.

Ballots

We do not release ballot packets until the tournament is complete under any circumstances.

If you anticipate leaving early, bring a self-addressed, stamped envelope of sufficient size and postage to mail your ballots, label it with your school name, and deliver it to Tab. The postage is not because we need the money, it's because it takes forever and a day for us to go to the post office and mail 40 envelopes, so realistically this never happens. Therefore, please give us actual postage; don't just staple dollar bills to envelopes, as this saves us zero effort. We will put your ballots into the envelope and send it after the tournament.

Getting Around NYC

Parking

Overnight parking is oftentimes available through your hotel.

Meter Parking is available around the campus on Broadway and Amsterdam Avenue.

Parking Garages near Columbia

Parking St Garage Corporation

512 West 112th Street

New York, NY

(212) 865-1754

Manhattan Parking 10

2840 Broadway

New York, NY 10025




(212) 222-7813

Arriving, Departing, and Everything In Between

Getting Around New York City

Travel on MTA New York City Transit requires a MetroCard. MetroCards can be purchased at MetroCard Vending Machines (MVMs) which can be found at most station entrances. Base fare for the NYC Transit System (Subway, Surface Transit excluding Express Buses) is \$2.50. Buses do not accept bills as payment for fare. The MTA also offers a One-Day Unlimited Ride [Fun Pass](#) at \$8.25/person.

Subway

The  Train goes to 116th Street Columbia (make sure that you **do not** take the 2 or 3 trains to 116th Street—this is not the same station!). The  train (“Broadway – 7th Avenue Local”) services a number of popular NYC destinations including **Lincoln Center** (66 Street — Lincoln Center), **Columbus Circle/Central Park South** (59 Street — Columbus Circle), **Times Square** (42 Street — Times Square), **The West Village** (Christopher St/Sheridan Sq), and **SoHo** (Houston St). You can also connect to a number of other lines from the  Train. Refer to the [Subway Map](#) for more information.

Buses

The M4, M5, M11, M60, and M104 service Columbia University. Refer to the [Manhattan Bus Map](#) for more information.

Taxis

Yellow Taxis supervised by the Taxi and Limousine Commission (which look like [this](#)) are easily flaggable from most city streets at any time of day or night.

Walking

New York can be a very walkable city and we encourage you to explore! Before setting out on foot, be sure to think about the actual distance to your destination (New York City may be larger than you think, 42nd Street is pretty far from 116th Street by foot). Also, be sure to use your brain and practice basic street smarts.

Four ways to increase your personal safety (from CU Public Safety)

1. Reduce or eliminate opportunities that make you a target.
2. Remain alert, even in places you're most comfortable.
3. Trust your instincts, even if it makes you feel self conscious
4. Prepare your daily schedule with safety in mind.

We also suggest traveling in groups (which shouldn't be hard).

» **please note**

Transportation services and conditions are always subject to change. We advise you be conscious of service changes and circumstances. The 1 Train of the subway system does not operate during some weekends. The information is provided as a courtesy by the Columbia Invitational. Note that personal transport is independent of the Tournament and Columbia University and neither is liable for transportation occurrences or damages.

Tournament Schedule: Debate

Friday, January 22, 2016

1:00-4:00	Register by Phone
4:00-4:45	Check in in the Lobby of the Diana Center
4:45	Open Assembly
5:30	PF&LD Round 1
8:00	PF&LD Round 2

Saturday, January 23, 2016

8:00	Arrive at the Diana center through the Campus entry
8:30	PF&LD Round 3
11:00	PF&LD Round 4
2:00	PF&LD Round 5
5:00	PF&LD Round 6

Sunday, January 24, 2016

8:30	LD&PF Double Octofinals
11:00	LD&PF Octofinals
1:00	LD&PF Quarters
2:30	LD&PF Semis
4:00	LD&PF Finals

3:30 Awards & Ballot Distribution

Call in any changes to us by phone at (701) 541-3407 by 4 PM Friday of the tournament. The earlier you confirm, the better! Speech only schools may call until 5 PM.

You may pay your registration at the Tab Room after rounds have begun on Friday evening in Debate and Saturday morning in Speech.

THE DROP FINE FOR UNREPORTED DROPS IS QUITE SEVERE. MAKE SURE YOU REPORT ALL YOUR DROPS TO US! WE DO NOT WANT YOUR MONEY, WE WANT TO KNOW YOUR DROPS!

Tentative Tournament Schedule: Speech

Friday, January 22, 2016

1:00-5:00 Register by Phone **(701) 541-3407**

Saturday, January 23, 2016

8:00	Check in in the Lobby of the Diana Center	
9:00	OO, Duo, OI	Round 1
10:00	Extemp Draw 1	
10:30	Extemp, DP, Dec	Round 1
12:00	OO, Duo, OI	Round 2
1:00	Extemp Draw 2	
1:30	Extemp, DP, Dec	Round 2
3:00	OO, Duo, OI	Round 3
4:00	Extemp Draw 3	
4:30	Extemp, DP, Dec	Round 3
6:00	OO, Duo, OI	Round 4
7:00	Extemp Draw 4	
7:30	Extemp, DO, Dec	Round 4
10:00	Speech Elims posted (Online & Lerner)	

Sunday, January 24, 2016

8:00	Arrival in Roone	
8:30	Extemp Draw	Quarterfinals
9:00	All Speech	Quarterfinals
11:15	Extemp Draw	Semifinals
11:45	Speech	Semifinals
1:30	Extemp Draw	Finals
2:00	Speech	Finals
4:00	Awards & Ballot Distribution	

Tentative Tournament Schedule: Congress

Friday, January 22, 2016

1:00-6:00: Speech/Congress Reg. by phone **(701) 541-3407**

Saturday, January 23, 2016

9:00	Congress Session 1
2:00	Congress Session 2

Sunday, January 24, 2016

10:00	Congress Super Session
3:30	Awards & Ballot Distribution

