



Dear Colleagues:

On behalf of the Minnesota Collegiate Forensics Association and the Concordia College Forensics Team, we invite you to attend the 33rd annual Minnesota State Intercollegiate Speech and Debate Championship Tournament. The tournament will be held February 17 – 19 (Friday through Sunday) at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, MN. This year, anticipating that schools will travel on Friday, the banquet will take place on Friday, after the first three rounds of Parliamentary Debate

This tournament is open to any Minnesota community college, college or university. All eleven of the AFA-NIET events, plus Extemporaneous Interpretation and Parliamentary Debate will be offered. This tournament also serves as the state qualification tournament for the Interstate Oratorical Contest. The two top finishers in oratory will represent Minnesota at the IOA tournament in April 2017. Please see the entry description page for special notes for Extemporaneous Speaking, Oratory, Extemporaneous Interpretation and Impromptu Speaking. You will find all the necessary details for the tournament in this invite letter and on the tournament website. If you have any questions feel free to contact any member of the executive committee or the tournament hosts.

Registration will take place Friday afternoon or Saturday morning in Beck Hall, room 305. This year, the cost of the banquet for students and coaches, combined with two full-service lunches, will be \$30.

We hope to see everyone in February. We are sure the state championship tournament will prove to be an exciting weekend of competition.

Phil Voight, tournament host (pvoight@gustavus.edu)
Jon Loging, (Jonathan.Loging@blc.edu)
Brian Kunz (kunzx094@umn.edu)
Joe Kennedy (jkenned6@cord.edu)
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Event Descriptions:

Impromptu Speaking. An impromptu speech, serious in nature, with topic selections varied by round, section by section. Topics will be determined by the executive committee but the rounds will consist of these general themes: Round 1-quotations Round 2-Cartoons Round 3-Objects Finals-Quotations

Speakers will have a total of 7 minutes for both preparation and speaking. Timing commences with the acceptance of the topic or item. Limited notes are permitted. In each round, enough topics will be provided so that contestants may all be in the room to observe.

Informative Speaking. An original, factual speech by the student on a realistic subject to fulfill the general aim to inform the audience. Audio-visuals may or may not be used to supplement and reinforce the message. Multiple sources should be used and cited in the development of the speech. Minimal notes are permitted. Maximum time is 10 minutes, including introduction.

Prose Interpretation. A selection of prose material of literary merit, which may be drawn from more than one source. Play cuttings are prohibited. Use of manuscript is required. Maximum time is 10 minutes, including introduction.

Extemporaneous Interpretation. Contestants will be given a piece of literature and have 30 minutes to prepare an oral interpretation performance. Each preliminary round will be from a different genre of literature (Prose, Poetry, Drama). Use of manuscript is required. Maximum time is 7 minutes including introduction.

(Black paper, tape, scissors, and pencils will be provided for Extemporaneous Interpretation. MCFA has black books for sale for \$6, but request that you bring your own.)

Duo Interpretation. A cutting from any genre, humorous or serious, involving the portrayal of two or more characters presented by two individuals. This material may be drawn from any literary genre. This is not an acting event; thus, no costumes, props, lighting, etc. are to be used. Presentation is from the manuscript and the focus should be off-stage and not to each other. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes including introduction.

Oratory:

1. The oration must be delivered without the aid of notes or manuscript.
2. No oration may contain over 1800 words. Although no minimum word limit is established, a 1500 word limit is suggested. Oration will not be timed.
3. For the purpose of definition, quoted words are those written or spoken by a person other than the orator. Such quoted material shall be limited to 20% of the total number of words in the oration.
4. All quoted material shall be documented.
5. A copy of each oration shall be submitted at registration.

Program Oral Interpretation. A program of thematically-linked selections of literary merit, chosen from two of the three recognized genres of competitive interpretation (prose/poetry/drama). A substantial portion of the total time must be devoted to each of the two genres used in the program. Use of manuscript is required. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes including introduction and/or transitions.

After Dinner Speaking. An original humorous speech by the student, designed to exhibit sound speech composition, thematic coherence, direct communicative public speaking skills and good taste. The speech should not resemble a night club, an impersonation, or comic dialogue. Audio-visual aids may or may not be used to supplement and reinforce the message. Minimal notes are permitted. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes.

Communication Analysis. An original speech by the student designed to offer an explanation and/or evaluation of a communication event such as a speech, speaker, movement, poem, poster, film, campaign, etc. through the use of rhetorical principles. Audio-visual aids may or may not be used to supplement and reinforce the message. Manuscripts are permitted. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes.

Drama Interpretation. A cutting which represents one or more characters from a play or plays of literary merit. This material may be drawn from stage, screen, or radio. Use of manuscript is required. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes including introduction.

Poetry Interpretation. A selection or selections of poetry of literary merit, which may be drawn from more than one source. Play cuttings are prohibited. Use of manuscript is required. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes including introduction.

Extemporaneous Speaking. Contestants will be given three topics in the general area of current events, choose one, and have 30 minutes to prepare a speech that is the original work of the student. The third round of questions will be questions pertaining to Minnesota taken from the Minneapolis *Star Tribune*, the St. Paul *Pioneer Press*, *Minnesota Post* (<http://www.minnpost.com>), and Minnesota Public Radio. Speakers are required to use notes. Maximum time limit for the speech is 7 minutes. Students will speak in the listed order. Posting of topics will be staggered.

Parliamentary Debate. We will offer 4 preliminary rounds, breaking to octafinals if entries warrant. NPDA Guidelines will be followed with the following exceptions: No warm room will be provided. No coaching or team preparation during the 15 minutes of preparation time.

Round 1 of Parli will be a Minnesota-based resolution. Participants can expect resolutions of value, policy, and fact throughout the tournament.

2017 Tournament Fees:

IE Slots (non-Oratory)- \$7/each

Oratory Slots: \$15

Parliamentary Debate Team: \$30/team

Meal tickets (Friday banquet, plus lunch Saturday **and** Sunday): \$30

Each judge covers 6 IE slots OR 2 debate teams

Uncovered* IE /Oratory slots: \$10/each (in addition to entry fees)

Uncovered* Parli debate teams: \$30/each (in addition to entry fees)

*Please make every effort to ensure your judges are able to judge as many events as possible; if it is necessary to “double up” students from your school in preliminary rounds to keep the judging pool clean and productive, this may occur.

Each school is limited to 4 judges unless otherwise determined in advance; contact Michael Dreher for such approval.

Entry Patterns

Group A: Extemp, Oratory, Program Oral Interpretation, Duo Interpretation

Group B: Prose, Informative, Impromptu, Extemporaneous Interpretation

Group C: ADS, Poetry, DI, CA, Parli Debate

Competitors may enter up to two events in each grouping with the following exceptions:

- A competitor may enter up to two Duo Interpretations (with different partners), however, may not enter any other category in Group A.
- Competitors in Parliamentary Debate may **enter ONE individual event** in Group C
- Each school is limited to a maximum of 4 teams/entries per event.

Schedule

Friday	
3:00	Registration
4:00	Parli round 1
5:00	Parli round 2
6:00	Parli round 3
7:15	Banquet

Saturday	
8:00	Parli round 4
8:30	Round 1C
9:30	Extemp Interp Draw
10:00	Round 1A
11:00	Extemp Draw
11:30	Round 1B
12:45	Lunch & Coaches meeting
2:00	Extemp Interp Draw
2:30	Round 2A
3:30	Round 2C
4:00	Parli Quarters
5:00	Extemp Draw
5:30	Round 2B

Sunday	
7:15	Extemp Draw
7:45	Round 3B
9:00	Extemp Interp Draw
9:15	Round 3A
10:30	Parli Semifinals
11:00	Round 3C
12:00	Lunch
1:00	Extemp Draw
1:30	Finals, B
2:45	Extemp Interp Draw
3:15	Finals, A
4:30	Finals, C and Parli
5:45	Senior Send-off
6:30	Awards

Note: DEADLINES:

Several schools have typically entered after the previous entry deadline due to team meetings and other considerations. In exchange for making the entry deadline later, we will need some sense of each team's number of students and coaches in order to give the tournament host the counts she needs for the banquet and the luncheon.

Thus, while early entries are always gratefully appreciated, we will use the following system this year:

- **Numbers for the banquet will be due** to Phil by **Friday, February 10 by noon**. Include any special dietary requests.
- **Entries will be due on Tuesday, February 14 by noon.**
- **Fees will be determined as of Wednesday, February 15 at noon.**
- **Late changes:** Changes after the fee deadline (Wednesday at 12:00) should be communicated to Michael via email.

Make checks out to MCFA.

Sweepstakes:

Large-entry Sweepstakes (Cindy Larson-Casselton Award)

- Top 3 schools' overall competitive excellence

Small-entry Sweepstakes

- Top 3 schools' overall competitive excellence

Divisions shall be determined by natural break by the Executive Committee

I.E. Sweepstakes

- Top 3 schools

Debate Sweepstakes

- Top 3 schools

Greg LaPanta Quality Award

This is earned by the school that has the highest number of average points

Quadrathon: For each individual, the 4 events which earn the most points will count toward this award

Preliminary rounds

- IE: Each 1st place will earn 3 points; each 2nd place will earn 2 points; each 3rd place earn 1 point
- Debate: Each win or bye will earn 3 points.

Final rounds

- IE: Points will be earned on a 9-8-7-6-5-4 (1st through 6th) scale. All placings beyond 6th place will earn 3 points.
- Debate: 9 points for 1st; 8 points for 2nd; 7 points for semifinals; 5 points for quarterfinals; 3 points for octafinals.

IE Tiebreakers:

For advancing to finals - Rank, rating, number of firsts in prelims, head-to-head results if the contestants met in prelims.

For final placement - judges' preference, speaker points, head-to-head results if the contestants met in prelims.

For quadrathon - Number of first places in final rounds, number of events broken.

For sweepstakes - Number of state champions, number of slots in final rounds.

Debate Tiebreakers:

Team advancement:

Prelim record, total points, adjusted speaker points (dropping high and low speaker points), judge variance.

Speaker awards: Total points, adjusted points, judge variance.

Hotel Information:

The following hotels are within 50 miles of St. Peter:

AmericInn Hotel & Suites St. Peter [\(507\) 931-6554](tel:(507)931-6554)

Konsbruck Hotel [\(507\) 381-1089](tel:(507)381-1089)

St. Peter Motel [\(507\) 931-3100](tel:(507)931-3100)

Viking Jr. Motel St. Peter [\(507\) 931-3081](tel:(507)931-3081)

The Locust Street Hotel [\(612\) 990-0090](tel:(612)990-0090)

Microtel Inn & Suites Mankato [\(507\) 388-2818](tel:(507)388-2818)

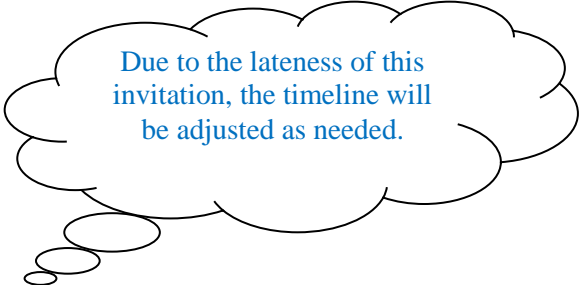
Super 8 Mankato [\(507\) 387-0600](tel:(507)387-0600)

Best Western Hotel Mankato [\(507\) 625-9333](tel:(507)625-9333)

Procedure for special requests for accompanying particular entries.

Note: This is not the same as ADA requests; those should be filtered to both Phil and Jon. This text is for schools that have a special campus-related need in conjunction with a particular entry. The following procedure was approved by the 2013 business meeting:

Students and coaches occasionally may have additional requests that accompany speeches given at the state tournament. Accordingly, the state tournament has the following procedure to make these requests:



Due to the lateness of this invitation, the timeline will be adjusted as needed.

1. The nature of the request and accommodation shall be sent to the Executive Secretary 4 weeks before the opening of the state tournament. The request will include a justification for the request, the impact of the request on the host school, and any other information needed to understand the request. The request should address potential concerns that other coaches and competitors might raise regarding the request; for example, how the request would not provide the competitor some additional advantage.
2. The Executive Secretary shall contact both the host and the coach and/or student within 7 days of the request, seeking to clarify what impacts the request would have on the functioning of the tournament. For example, if any additional tables or other items are needed, this should be determined within that 7 day period.
3. If the host needs additional time to fulfill the request, that shall be made known to both the Executive Secretary and the coach and/or student.
4. Once the Executive Secretary and host have been satisfied that all information has been gathered, that will be communicated to the coach and/or student to clarify if the request has been understood correctly. Once this has been ascertained, then the Executive Council shall have 5 days to discuss and vote upon the proposal. The proposal must be ruled upon no later than 2 days before the entry deadline. If these two dates are in conflict, the 2 days before the entry deadline shall rule.
5. If the petition involves the Executive Secretary's or an Executive Committee member's school, the Executive Secretary or Executive Committee member shall abstain from voting. No other communication

of information shall be allowed during the process that otherwise would be available to any other school.

6. At the conclusion of the vote, the results of the vote shall be communicated to the coach and/or student. Three affirmative votes shall be required to approve the request.

Justification: 4 weeks provides for the following timeline:

1 week - communication between requesting coach, host and executive secretary.

1 week - if additional information is needed (say, from an external provider on campus)

1 week - conduct vote

1 week before tournament.

Note: Due to when the schedule came out, we'll take any such requests through February 1.

Learning Goals

For three years, the MCFA has discussed the possibility of formally defining learning goals for each event offered at the State Championship. Below are some suggested ideas. Please bring your thoughts regarding these suggestions, as well as your own suggestions, to the Business Meeting on Saturday for further discussion!

OO

Students must endeavor to alter audience members' thoughts, actions, beliefs, or feelings
Students should select a socially significant topic for which they demonstrate a personal concern and a rich understanding.

Students should be well informed on the topic at hand, and demonstrate detailed and coherent knowledge of the topics discussed.

Students should effectively employ organizational structures, which may vary in form but clearly include:

- a thesis statement
- a forecasting device
- smooth and effective transitions

Students will demonstrate their awareness of, concern for, and focus on reaching the general community embodied by the "listening other."

Students should employ language, which is accurate, appropriate, concise, clear, concrete, interesting, aesthetically pleasing, and supports and enhances the content of the speech.

Students should employ vocal delivery, which is intelligible, varied, conversational, enthusiastic and confident.

Students must follow ethical rules of source citation and avoid plagiarism

Informative

Students should seek to develop audience members' knowledge and understanding of a topic for which the speaker demonstrates a clear personal concern

Students should be well informed on the topic at hand, and demonstrate detailed and coherent knowledge of the topics discussed

Students should effectively employ organizational structures, which may vary in form but clearly include:

- a thesis statement
- a forecasting device
- smooth and effective transitions

Students will demonstrate their awareness of, concern for, and focus on reaching the general community embodied by the "listening other."

Students should employ language, which is accurate, appropriate, concise, clear, concrete, interesting, aesthetically pleasing, and supports and enhances the content of the speech.

Students should employ vocal delivery, which is intelligible, varied, conversational, enthusiastic and confident.

Students must follow ethical rules of source citation and avoid plagiarism

DI

The student demonstrates character development as the primary goal of the performance.

Through performance, students should be able to demonstrate they have analyzed the structural and aesthetic components of the selected text.

Students should be able to discern if a text demonstrates "literary worth" based on the literature's universality, uniqueness, and suggestion.

Students will demonstrate their awareness of, concern for, and focus on reaching the general community embodied by the "listening other."

Students will demonstrate their understanding of the difference between internal voice and external voice of characters

Students will demonstrate an understanding of the environment with which character(s) interact

The student will demonstrate and honor the literary voice inherent in the selection of literature

Prose

The student demonstrates story development as the primary goal of the performance.

Through performance, students should be able to demonstrate they have analyzed the structural and aesthetic components of the selected text.

Students should be able to discern if a text demonstrates "literary worth" based on the literature's universality, uniqueness, and suggestion

Students will demonstrate their awareness of, concern for, and focus on reaching the general community embodied by the "listening other."

The student will demonstrate and honor the literary voice inherent in the selection of literature.

Extemp

Students will demonstrate. . .

- . . . the ability to provide a direct and clear answer to a given question
- . . . the ability to craft well-organized arguments
- . . . the ability to deliver a conversational, reasonably fluent speech with limited notes
- . . . that they have studied and adhered to relevant principles of audience analysis; demonstrate their awareness of, concern for, and focus on reaching the general community embodied by the "listening other."
- . . . that they can critically evaluate the ethos of source material

Impromptu

Students will demonstrate the ability to . . .

- . . . deliver a speech centered on a given prompt
- . . . craft well-organized arguments
- . . . make effective rhetorical choices grounded in critical inquiry regarding topic and rhetorical situation.
- . . . deliver a conversational, reasonably fluent speech with limited notes

Parliamentary Debate

Students will demonstrate the ability to. . .

- . . . engage in clear and direct clash with others' ideas
- . . . treat the resolution and the round as examples of public citizenship
- . . . craft well-organized arguments

- . . . support assertions with appropriate warrants
- . . . treat opponents with respect
- . . . differentiate among debates of fact, debates of value, and debates of policy
- . . . appropriately engage and connect with varied audiences