



Dear Forensics Family:

Welcome to Paul Laurence Dunbar High School *Raise Every Voice Invitational Speech & Debate Tournament*. We have been hosting at the University of Kentucky for the past few years so we are excited to welcome you to Paul Laurence Dunbar High School on November 15th for an amazing competition and the opportunity to support a worthy cause. Homelessness is an issue that affects approximately 3,984 individuals in Kentucky of this population nearly 24,000 school-aged children are housing insecure. According to the U.S. Department of Education Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development, 1 in 14 Kentucky children under age six are currently experiencing homelessness. As we approach the winter months it is increasingly important to find ways to support this population. This year a percentage of our proceeds will be used to support the homeless population in KY. In addition, our team will be collecting items to create survival kits to pass out to individuals in the area. For a list of items we will be accepting please click [here](#). Every donation helps us get a bit closer to helping those in need so thank you for your donations.

PLATFORM

Our tournament will be held in person and be judged electronically using tabroom.com. All competitors and judges will need to have registered Tabroom.com, NSDA accounts, and have technology available to effectively compete in or judge rounds.

CATEGORIES

We will be offering all KHSSL JR & SR speech and debate events. Please visit the [Kentucky High School Speech League Handbook](#) for event and scoring rules and guidelines.

DEBATE & CONGRESS INFO

Schools participating in Congress may submit 1-3 bills (NSDA format/template). Bills must be sent to neomia.hagans@uky.edu by **Friday, November 8 @8:00pm EST**. Congress legislation will be posted on Sunday, November 10 by 8:00 pm. All PF and Varsity LD Debaters (novice and varsity) will debate using the November/December Varsity Topics. Novice LD Debaters will be using the Novice LD topic. PLD will be allowing its students to participate in debate competitions as judging and space allows. PLD students will not be eligible to earn sweepstakes points or earn team awards.

ENTRIES

Teams may have unlimited entries; however, only the top three scores in each event will count toward sweepstakes. Students may **triple** in IE. Debaters (LD, PF, & Congress) may enter 1 debate event and 1 speech event. Due to time constraints, debaters (LD & PF) cannot enter extemp. All students are expected to be prompt and on-time for all rounds. No rounds including final rounds will be held for students who are excessively late (not arriving at the round in enough time to perform before the round ending time or more than 15 minutes late for LD & PF).

JUDGES ENTRY

Teams are required to provide 1 judge for every 6 entries into the competition. 6 entries = one judge, 7 entries = 2 judges, etc. Debate events must provide 1 judge for every 2 entries or fraction thereof. **Schools must provide at least one judge in speech if their students are competing in speech events and 1 judge in debate events if their students are competing in debate.** In the event you cannot provide the required number of judges, you may hire

up to 2 judges for \$30 each.

All judges should be familiar with KHSSL rules and ballots and are expected to be in the judge pool during rounds where they are not explicitly scheduled. **ALL JUDGES MUST HAVE A TABROOM.COM ACCOUNT IN ORDER TO BE PLACED ON YOUR JUDGING ROSTER.** All judges will be considered for all events and all rounds in the pool in which they are registered regardless of the age group in which your team represents (speech, debate, or congress). Some SR Speech rounds may utilize JR Speech judges and vice versa. All judges should be prepared for competition accordingly and are asked to be present at the judge roll call on Saturday morning.

COST

Single entries = \$6

Double entries = \$12 (PF, CX, Duo Interp, Duo Improv)

Entry drops/adds after deadline = \$10 single/\$20 double

Unfulfilled judge burden = \$30 per judge

Judge drops = \$50

Judge no-show = \$30 per round

DEADLINES

Congress Legislation Due: Friday, November 18 @8:00pm EST.

Congress Legislation Packet: Will be posted on Sunday, November 10 by 8:00 pm.

Entries Due & Judges Due: November 12 @ 8:00pm EST

Late & Add/Drop fees begin: November 12 @ 8:00 pm EST

AWARDS

We will be giving students medals as awards for placing in the top six in speech and top 4 in debate. The top three Speech and top three Debate Schools sweepstakes earning schools will be awarded trophies. The top three performing schools with combined points in both Speech and Debate will also receive a plaque or trophy.

FOOD

Pizza Pack Meals and Sandwich Meals including pizza/sandwich, a bag of chips, and a drink are available for pre-purchase @\$7.00. Any meals must be pre-ordered. Please include your food orders in your online registration.

PARKING & DROP OFF

This tournament is located at Paul Laurence Dunbar High School. Bus drop-off will be in front of the school bus parking on the far side of the school beside the gym.

Address:

LODGING

Here are several hotels located in Lexington that are 10 minutes or less from the school.

- Residence Inn Lexington Keeneland/Airport - 1.4 miles (859) 296-0460
- Fairfield Inn Lexington Keeneland Airport -1.4 miles (859)224-3338
- Hampton Inn Lexington SouthKeeneland Airport KY - 1.4 miles (859) 223-0088
- Courtyard Lexington Keeneland/Airport 1.4 miles (859) 224-0460
- Holiday Inn Express & Suites Lexington-Downtown/University - less than a mile (859) 389-6800
- SpringHill Suites by Marriott Lexington Near UK - less than a mile (859) 225-1500

SCHEDULE

Please note that this schedule is tentative and may change based on the number of entries or judge availability. Start Times vary by Category.

	JR & SR Speech	Debate	Congress
8:30	Registration	Registration	Registration
9:00		Judges Meeting	Judges Meeting
9:30	Judges Meeting	Rd 1	
10:00	Rd 1		
10:30			Rd 1
11:00		Rd 2	
11:30	Rd 2		
12:00			
12:30			Rd 2
1:00		Rd 3	
1:30	Rd 3		
2:00			
2:30			
3:00		Debate Semis	Congress Finals
3:30	Finals		
4:00			
4:30		Debate Finals	
5:00			
6:30ish	Awards	Awards	Awards

HOW TO ENTER & Payment

All TEAMS ARE TO REGISTER ONLINE and review invoices on Tabroom.com. Please bring payment with you to the tournament. Make checks payable to PLD Speech and Debate

We look forward to raising funds and voices with you and your students soon. Please reach out if you have any questions.

Have a Blessed Day,

Neomia Hagans Flores & Connie Hagans