

# SPEECH EVENTS

★ NSDA event

## INTERPRETATION (ACTING) EVENTS

### **Drama or Humorous Interpretation ★**

Students memorize selections from plays, short stories, essays or novels. The speakers' selections will have two or more characters telling a story. Each selection cannot be longer than 10 minutes. Each student speaks as an individual.

### **Duo ★**

Two speakers work together presenting a selection from a play, short story, or novel. Each speaker must do at least one character. Duos can be performed from a script in November and December, but memorization is recommended thereafter. Each duo program cannot be longer than 10 minutes.

### **Program Oral Interpretation ★**

Using selections from Prose, Poetry, and Drama, students create a ten minute performance around a central theme. POI is designed to test a student's ability to intersplice multiple types of literature into a single, cohesive performance. A manuscript is required and may be used as a prop within the performance if the performer maintains control of the manuscript at all times. Performances can also include an introduction written by the student to contextualize the performance and state the title and the author of each selection.

### **Prose**

Students prepare a prose program. The program must be a short section taken from a novel, short story, or essay. The program must be at least 5 minutes long. The program is read from a manuscript. Each student speaks as an individual.

### **Poetry**

Students prepare a poetry program focusing on a single theme. Program must be 5-10 minutes long and include 2 or more poems. Poems must be written by someone other than the reader and be published. The poetry is read from a script. Each student speaks as an individual.

### **Original Performance**

Students write and perform their own material. Students may write poems, brief stories, plays, or essays. The performance may be read or memorized. Students may work as a duo team or as an individual speaker.

## PUBLIC ADDRESS EVENTS

### **Original Oratory ★**

Students write a speech focusing on individual concerns or an issue they find interesting or important. The speech cannot be longer than 10 minutes. Speeches should be memorized and each student speaks as an individual.

### **Impromptu**

Students are given a word, a quotation, or a current events question 30 seconds before they speak. After 30 seconds of preparation, students give a speech up to 5 minutes long. Each student speaks as an individual.

### **Informative Speaking ★**

Students author and deliver a ten-minute speech on a topic of their choosing. Competitors create the speech to educate the audience on a particular topic. All topics must be informative in nature; the goal is to educate, not to advocate. Visual aids are permitted, but not required. The speech is delivered from memory.

## ARGUMENTATION EVENTS

### **Extemporaneous Speaking ★**

Students give speeches up to 7 minutes long answering a current issues question drawn and prepared at the tournament. Students use major newsmagazines as sources for the speeches they prepare. Students may enter divisions focusing on either international issues or United States issues. Each student speaks as an individual.

### **Discussion**

Students participate in round-table type discussions on current events, art, literature, music, social sciences, philosophy, mass media, and science. Discussions are conducted using a Socratic seminar format. Topics are released on Mondays preceding Saturday meets. Each student speaks as an individual.

### **Congress ★**

Congress speakers are modeling a state or national congress legislative session. Speakers give short speeches on model legislation. The goal is to convince the congress members to vote for or against the model legislation.

## MASS MEDIA

### **Broadcasting (Radio)**

Students present their material over a microphone to a judge in another room. Some material is prepared ahead of time, other material is prepared at the tournament, and other material is impromptu. Broadcasting contestants present newscasts, commercials, editorials, and on-the-spot reporting. Each student speaks as an individual.