

Tennessee High School Speech & Drama League

COMMUNICATOR

February 2006

REMEMBER: THE TOP 4 IN INDIVIDUAL EVENTS QUALIFY FOR THE STATE TOURNAMENT

State Tournament Schedule for One Act

To reduce ambiguities related to traveling to the State tournament, the following pre-arranged schedule is provided for One Act play and Interp. Theatre. Please use this schedule to assist you in determining your travel plans to the State Tournament. Remember One Act and Interp. Theatre competition is held on April 28.

One Act Play Schedule

Examine the stage

8:00-8:20 District 1
8:20-8:40 District 5
8:40-9:00 District 2

Performances

9:30 District 1
10:20 District 5
11:10 District 2
12:00-1:00 Lunch

Examine the stage

12:00-12:20 District 4
12:20-12:40 District 3

Performances

1:00 District 4
1:50 District 3

Interpreters' Theatre: Section A

1:30 District 5 (1st place)
2:00 District 1 (1st place)
2:30 District 3 (2nd place)
3:00 District 2 (2nd place)
3:30 District 4 (1st place)

Interpreters' Theatre: Section B

1:30 District 2 (1st place)
2:00 District 4 (2nd place)
2:30 District 5 (2nd place)
3:00 District 3 (1st place)
3:30 District 1 (2nd place)

Finals at 6:00 p.m.

Please note that the judges will not be aware of the placing at Districts.

Morristown West Hosts 2006 State Tournament April 28-29

Walters State Community College is again welcoming THSSDL to their campus. Plans are underway for an exciting, invigorating, and equitable state championship tournament. One Acts, Interp. Theatre and Debate will be held at Morristown West H.S. on Friday. On Saturday, events will take place at WSCC, which is located in Morristown, east of Knoxville, in the Great Smoky Mountains. The tournament is scheduled for the weekend of April 28 & 29, 2006. Suzanne Terry, District Director, is planning a tournament to remember. Plan now to attend the state tournament in this picturesque setting. An experimental event for this year is Public Forum Debate, so encourage your students to participate. In this newsletter you will find important tournament information. Please take notice of changes related to rules, tournament fees, required documentation, and due dates. All THSSDL forms were sent to you via email. If you need a specific form, contact your District Director or email me at gotcherm@apsu.edu. I am looking forward to seeing each of you at this year's state tournament.

Hotel Information

Rooms are limited, so please make your reservations as soon as possible. For sales tax purposes, you will need a tax form and a school check or credit card.

Comfort Suites 423-585-4000

Price: \$75.00 a night
Deadline: April 1, 2006
Ask for Tenn. High School Speech & Drama

Hampton Inn 423-587-0952

Price: \$85.00 a night
Deadline: April 1, 2006

Holiday Inn 423-587-2400 (ext.8)

Price: \$87.00 a night
Deadline: April 1, 2006

Directions to Morristown from Nashville and Knoxville

From I-40 East, take Exit 394, go left at the light and proceed approximately 35 miles to Morristown. (Comfort Suites will be on the left side behind the Waffle House)

Directions to Morristown West High School from Comfort Suites.

Go left out of parking lot, turn right on Morris Blvd. Go 5-7 blocks and take a right on to Sulphur Springs Rd. School is on the left side of the road about 3 blocks.

Directions to Walter State from Comfort Suites

Go left out of parking lot, turn right on Morris Blvd. heading toward 25-E. You will pass mall on your right, and turn right on 25-E. Drive 2 minutes. WSCC is visible from the street.

Entry/Judging Fees

Entry fees are as follows: \$6 per entry for IE, LD and Congress; \$20 for each One-Act Play, Interpreters' Theatre, \$12 Duo, Duet and Public Forum Debate team.

Drop fees are entry fees plus twice the entry fee for the event. Fees occur after April 14, 2006. Drop fees on the first day of the tournament (April 28) are \$50 per drop in debate and \$25 per drop in Congress and IE.

Judging fees are \$40 per hired judge for IE (one judge covers six I.E. slots) and \$75 per uncovered debate team (1 judge per 2 teams).

Entry fees may be sent with "Intent to Compete" forms; however, fees are not required until official registration at the tournament. Checks should be made out to the *Tennessee High School Speech and Drama League (THSSDL)*.

Intent to Compete

Coaches! It is important to remember that it is the responsibility of each coach to officially enter qualified students in the State Championship Tournament. Also, the "Intent to Compete" forms must include your judges. Revised "Intent to Compete" forms are included as pdf files in this email.

The "Intent to Compete" form must be received by the Executive Director no later than Friday, April 14, 2006.

THSSDL Mailing Address:
Dr. Mike Gotcher
APSU
P.O. Box 4446
Clarksville, TN 37044
Phone # (931) 221-7364
Fax # (931) 221-7265

Remember, it is your responsibility to guarantee delivery of your entries. Certified mail is the preferred choice. Certified mail provides you with a receipt.

Tentative Tournament Schedule Registration

On **Friday**, Registration Tables will be in the main entrance at Morristown West HS. Debate Registration: 1 p.m.-2 p.m.

General Registration: 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Schools are encouraged to register on Friday.

On **Saturday**, Registration will be at the main entrance (University Center) of WSCC

General Registration: 7 a.m. - 7:30 a.m.

Opening Ceremony: 8:00 a.m.

Competition Begins: 8:15 a.m.

Competition Times

Friday

One-Act Play competition will begin at 9:30 a.m. on April 28 with stage inspection for morning performances between 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m., and afternoon performances between 11:15 a.m.- 12:15 p.m.

Interpreters' Theatre begins at 1:30 p.m. with finals at 6:00 p.m. The order of competition has been set and is included in the article on the front page of the newsletter.

Debate competition will begin at 3:00 p.m. Four rounds of debate will take place on Friday.

Saturday

All competitions will begin at 8:30 a.m. All competitors, coaches and judges are to meet in the theatre for the opening ceremony at 8:00 a.m.

Technical Theatre Design: Set and Costume competition will take place on Saturday as an Individual Event. The selected Plays for Technical Theatre for 2006: *The Taming of the Shrew, Harvey, and Oklahoma.*

Performance Spaces for One-Act and interpreter's' Theatre

Interpreters' Theatre prelims will be held in theatre spaces, which meet THSSDL specifications on size. Prelims will begin at 1:30 p.m. on April 28. Finals will be held in the auditorium at 6:00 p.m.

One-Act Play competition will be held in the auditorium.

Debate at the State Tournament

Debate at the State Tournament will be LD Debate and Public Forum Debate. For LD Debate, the NFL January-February topic will be used. Resolved: The use of the state's power of eminent domain to promote private enterprise is unjust. The time format is 6:3:7:3:4:6:3. Prep time is three minutes.

LD Debate will be divided (if possible based on the number of teams) into Novice and Varsity Divisions. "Novice" refers to any student who is in their first year of debate.

For **Public Forum Debate**, the topic will be the April topic and will be determined in early March, found on the NFL website (<http://www.nflonline.org/Main/CurrentTopics>) Five preliminary rounds will be held with appropriate elimination rounds.

Importantly, schools must bring qualified debate judges for LD in order to compete. Also, for Public Forum Debate, schools must bring IE judges willing to judge Public Forum Debate. Public Forum judges will be needed on Friday. Schools must bring one judge for every two teams (LD or Public Forum). Debate judges should be separated from IE judges or Student Congress judges. Be sure to enter debaters and list judges on the "Intent to Compete" form.

Documentation Issues

Due to the increased number of challenges concerning authenticity of materials, contestants in ALL Interpretative and Acting events must bring the original source or sources of their presentation to the tournament (this includes Interp. Theatre and One-Act play). Students and coaches should be prepared to present the documentation at district or State tournaments if requested by tournament officials. Failure to present the requested materials could result in immediate disqualification. All material presented in acting and interpretive events must be published and of recognized literary merit and not the original work of the student.

Also, remember that students are not allowed to use the same cutting in different events at competitions. This decision by the Board of Directors means that a student cannot use a cutting in Dramatic one year and use the same cutting in Duo the next year (or subsequent years).

Call for Krider and Hall of Fame Nominations

District Directors, make plans to place names in nomination for the Krider Award and for the **Hall of Fame** at the Board of Directors meeting during the State Tournament. Nominations can be made by any THSSDL member; however, nominations must be made at the District tournaments. Nomination forms can be found in the emailed pdf files or from your District Director. Forms must be completed and 15 copies submitted to the Executive Director by **April 14, 2006**.

The Hall of Fame was created in an effort to reward outstanding teachers of the dramatic and forensic arts. Selection of Hall of Fame members are based on these elements: ten or more years of service in the state of Tennessee, integrity, outstanding service above and beyond the call of duty, willingness to help colleagues, commitment to speech and dramatic arts education, and dedication to caring for the individual student and his/her future. Sandra Davis was inducted into the Hall of Fame in August 2005.

The **Krider Award** is an effort to honor educators who promote excellence in the study, preparation, and/or performance of speech and dramatic arts not exclusive to competitive activities. Some of the qualifications for the award include strong commitment to speech and dramatic arts education, ability to inspire creativity, and willingness to help colleagues and THSSDL members. The 2005 Krider Award winner was Leslie Capozzoli from Maryville H.S.

T-SHIRT CONTEST AND ORDERS



Showcase your high school! Bring a T-shirt or sweatshirt that represents your forensics team or drama program. Shirts will be displayed during the tournament. The best shirts will receive cash prizes.

T-Shirt Order: T-shirts will be available at

the State Tournament, but ALL orders must be placed by March 31, 2006 with Mickey Hutson. To reach Mickey, call 901-853-3310 or fax 901-853-3313. Order forms can be found in the THSSDL email containing the other forms or contact your District Director.

State Tourney Committee Assignments

One Act Chairperson - R. Marshall
Interp. Theatre Prelims - L. Bennet, J. Brown
Interp. Theatre Finals - C. Stamps, L. Capozzoli
Extemp Topics - M. Hutson
Extemp Draw/Personnel - G. Sullivan
LD Debate - C. Oakes, S. Davis
Public Forum Debate - M. Bean
Congress - H. Medlin,
TV Packets - A. Jackson
TV Draw - J. McCaleb
Friday Registration - (1-4) A. Jackson,
P. Parker

Saturday Registration - (6:45-8:00)
L. Capozzoli, P. Regan
Judges - L. Beach, K. Ligon
Timekeepers - S. Terry
Group Events Judges - S. Terry
T-Shirts - M. Hutson
Ballot Table - J. Cox, Z. Best
Hospitality- S. Terry
T-shirt Judges- P. Regan, L. Capozzoli
If you would like to volunteer to help at the State Tournament, contact:
Suzanne Terry at Morristown West High School (423) 585-3802

Krider Award Winners

Billy Pullen (1987)
Jane Eldridge (1988)
Laura McCammon (1989)
Gloria Robinson (1990)
Blanche Tosh (1991)
Harriet Medlin (1992)
Carlene Ford (1993)
Lee Ellen Beach (1994)
Glenda Sullivan (1995)
Linda Wilson (1996)
Kathy Ligon (1997)
David Bernheim (1998)
Mickey Hutson (1999)
Suzanne Terry (2000)
Sandra Davis (2001)
Lynne Colvin (2002)
Bonnie Barker (2003)
Cathie C. Stamps (2004)
Leslie Capozzoli (2005)

Hall of Fame Members

*Ruby Krider (1991)
*Nancy Pridemore (1991)
*Freda Kenner (1991)
Anne White (1991)
*Betsy Mashburn (1992)
*Robert Woodland (1992)
Gene Crain (1992)
Roberta Daws (1992)
Hazel Gann (1993)
Blanche Tosh (1993)
*Dockie Shipp Weems (1994)
Jane Eldridge (1994)
Howard Henderson (1995)
Florence Roach (1995)
Frank Bluestein (1996)
Sally Welch (1996)
Barbara Corley (1998)
Debbie Nelson (1998)
*Doug Tidwell (1999)
Doris Buchanan (1999)
*Tully Daniel (1999)
Billy Tate (2000)
Guy Stanley (2000)
Harriet Medlin (2000)
Linda Wilson (2001)
Kathryne Pugh (2001)
Aldameda Landiss (2001)
Lee Ellen Beach (2002)
Lola Barkow (2002)
Glenda Sullivan (2004)
Paulette Regan (2004)
Sandra Davis (2005)

*deceased

Student Congress Information for 2006 State Tournament

The official contact person for Student Congress is Harriet Medlin. Anyone planning to enter Congress must be listed on the "Intent to Compete" form and is required to submit one typed piece of legislation with numbered lines and which follows NFL guidelines. Participants must also bring 30 copies of the legislation to the tournament.

There is a \$25 drop fee for Congress. Legislation must be postmarked by April 14, 2006 and should be mailed to:

**Harriet Medlin
Brentwood HS**

**5304 Murray Lane
Nashville, TN 37027**

**For additional information, call
Harriet Medlin at (615) 472-4241.**

District Reports Due

In order to update and maintain the THSSDL files, I need district reports as soon as possible. Once I receive the reports, I can make changes in the Directory and email the changes to members. Please have district members check the names, addresses, and phone numbers to be included in the Directory. Also, be sure to include email addresses and fax numbers.

I appreciate your time and attention to this important matter.

**Send your reports to:
Dr. Mike Gotcher
Austin Peay State University
P.O. Box 4446
Clarksville, TN 37044
(931) 221-7364**

Extemp Topics for State Tournament

Each school that enters Extempers in the State Tournament must send in at least 5 domestic, 5 foreign, and 5 economic topics from periodicals of the current academic year for the state tournament no later than April 14, 2006. If topics are not received by the due date, extempers from that school are subject to disqualification. Send them to:

***Glenda Sullivan
560 Grindstone Hollow Rd.
Dickson, TN 37055
or fax to her at DCHS
(615) 441-4135***

Scholarship Opportunities

The Center of Excellence for the Creative Arts at Austin Peay State University has scholarships available in Music, Art, Creative Writing, and Theatre. All high school graduates with acceptable academic records are eligible to audition and compete for a scholarship. Scholarship amounts range from \$600 to \$2000 per semester. Audition and material dates vary for the 4 areas. For more information concerning audition dates and requirements, please contact: Karen Kenaston-French (music) 931-221-7002; Dixie Webb (art) 931-221-7333; Barry Kitterman (creative writing) 931-221-7891; and Leni Dyer (theatre) 931-221-6390. Explore the possibilities.

2006 Tennessee Arts Academy

We have three amazing theatre clinicians and workshops lined up for the TN Arts Academy this summer. We also have a new date. The Academy will run July 9-July 14. Please consider sending in your application by the March 1st deadline date to reserve your spot.

Svetlana Efremova

Workshop: The Essential Elements of the Stanislavski Method

The workshop will incorporate a series of exercises covering the most important elements of Stanislavski's method of acting. All of the exercises are aimed at releasing a sense of play as well as an eagerness to respond openly, imaginatively and fully to whatever happens.

BIO--Svetlana Efremova is a Professor of Acting at California State University, Fullerton. A graduate of the Yale School of Drama and a former lead actress of the St. Petersburg State Theatre, Russia, she worked with J. Grotowski, Peter Brook, Lev Dodin, among others. She has appeared on Broadway in a production of "Uncle Vanya", "Ivanov" (off-Broadway), "Skin of Our Teeth" (Yale Repertory Theatre), "Pentecost", "Othello", "Tartuffe" (South Coast Repertory Theatre), "Reference to Salvador Dali", "The Countess", and "Caucasian Chalk Circle". Her film and TV credits include "White Oleander", "The Island", "Phonebooth", "Spinning Boris", "Hotel Lobby", West Wing, ER, Practice, Curb Your Enthusiasm, Strong Medicine, Without a Trace, Cold Case, Judging Amy, Joan of Arcadia and others. Her excellence in teaching was recently the focus of a full-page article in the LA Times. Her work as an actress has also been featured in an article in American Theatre magazine.

Michael Maresca

Workshop--"Turning Actors into Singers: Guiding Your Singers to Vocal Freedom"

These classes are targeted on promoting good knowledge and understanding of the human voice. Emphasis will be given to both broadening the horizon of the actor to expand his/her performance abilities and to advance the singer who seeks freedom and ease in their vocal performance. These classes will require the participant to stretch their own boundaries by means of hands-on activities and group exercises. The results will allow participants to better understand their own instrument and the way it works, so that they can then confidently guide those they teach.

BIO--Michael Maresca is currently on the road with the Broadway National Tour of Mamma Mia! Michael began his musical theatre career with the National Tour of Saturday Night Fever followed by the reproduction of Saturday Night Fever in Las Vegas. He has taught in both the United States and in Canada in high school, private academy, community college, and state university settings. Michael enjoys the opportunities he has been given to share his knowledge and expertise with teachers and students alike.

Jonathan Dorf

Workshop: "Playwriting Jumpstart: Get Great Plays Out of Your Students...Fast!"

Playwriting is an empowering form of self-expression and the beginning of a collaborative theatre experience involving everyone from actors to lighting board operators to poster designers. The workshop will give participants the practical tools they need to guide their students through this crucial first step: writing plays that will work on stage.

BIO--Jonathan Dorf's plays have been performed throughout the United States and Canada, as well as in Europe and Asia, by such companies as the Walnut Street Theatre, Playwrights Theatre of New Jersey, Ensemble Studio Theatre - LA and the Pittsburgh New Works Festival. He served as playwright-in-residence at Choate Rosemary Hall Summer Arts Conservatory and is a resident playwright at Delaware's City Theater Company. His work is published by Brooklyn Publishers, Eldridge Publishing, Meriwether, Playscripts, Inc. and Smith & Kraus.

Check it all out on our WEB site at:
<http://tennesseeartsacademy.org/middle-theatre.html>

Application forms are due in by March 1, 2006. APPLICATIONS ARE ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS. PLEASE FILL OUT A FORM AND SEND IT IN TO SECURE YOUR SPOT. Here is the link to the form:
<http://tennesseeartsacademy.org/application-form-instate.html>

Feel free to write to me if you have any questions. This is our 20th year and we look forward to a great Arts Academy session. I hope that you can make it.

Frank Bluestein
Tennessee Arts Academy
Theatre Director
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