

Tennessee High School Speech & Drama League COMMUNICATOR

February 2018

*Deadline for THSSDL Kathleen Thayer Beach
Scholarship March 9th Application Available Online*

District 2 Hosts 2018 State Tournament April 13-14

District 2 is proud to host the 2018 State Tournament. Competition will take place at West Creek HS in Clarksville, TN.

District Director Linda Starnes, District Rep. Emily Higdon, District 2 schools, and our host Rob Silvers are working to make the tournament a great success. Please make plans now to attend this important tournament. Make your hotel reservations soon.

This year we will have 2 new events: Informative Speaking and POI. Rules and ballots for these events are on the website (www.thssdl.com). A 30 second "grace" period has been adopted for all events except: TV, One-Act, Interp Theatre, Set Design, and Costume Design. Also, rules have been established for the use of online sources. Please consult the manual for specific details for each change.

In the newsletter, you will find important tournament information. Please take notice of competition times, tournament fees, required documentation and due dates.

PLEASE NOTE:

For the 2018 State Championship tournament, we will use SpeechEase (www.speechease.com) to enter contestants. We are moving away from the "Intent to Compete" form. As soon as your students qualify for the state championship, you will need to login into SpeechEase and enter the contestants. Entries are due by **March 30, 2018**, unless your District tournament is after that date. If that is the case, entries are due by **April 8, 2018**.

THSSDL Kathleen Thayer Beach Scholarship applications are due March 9, 2018. The application form is on the thssdl.com website. Please encourage your seniors to apply. THSSDL awards 3 scholarships each spring.

State Tournament Schedule for One Act and Interp Theatre at West Creek

To reduce uncertainty related to traveling to the State tournament, the following schedule is provided for One Act play and Interp Theatre. Interp Theatre Prelim stages are 15 ft by 15 ft.

Remember, One Act and Interp Theatre competition is held on Friday, April 13th. *Judges will not be aware of the rankings from Districts.* Special instructions concerning Interp Theatre and One-Act on page 2.

One Act Play Schedule

Examine the stage

8:20-8:40 District 2
8:40-9:00 District 3
9:00-9:20 District 5

Performances

9:30 District 2
10:20 District 3
11:10 District 5
12:00-1:00 Lunch

Examine the stage

12:00-12:20 District 4
12:20-12:40 District 1

Performances

1:00 District 4
1:50 District 1

Interpreters' Theatre: Section A

12:30 Examine the space (Each group in order of performance-- Allowed 5 minutes in the space)

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

Interpreters' Theatre: Section B

12:30 Examine the space (Each group in order of performance -- Allowed 5 minutes in the space)

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

Please do not unload for IT until your performance area is determined.

Debate at State

Debate at the State Tournament will be Public Forum Debate and LD.

In order for a debate division to take place, competition must include at least ten teams representing a minimum of three schools. If you are interested in LD, please contact Mike Gotcher (mgotcher@tntech.edu) to determine status of the event.

For Public Forum Debate, the topic will be the April topic and will be determined in early March, found on the NSDA website (<http://www.speechanddebate.org>). Five preliminary rounds will be held on Friday with elims on Saturday.

For LD Debate, the NFL January/February topic will be used. **Resolved: Plea bargaining ought to be abolished in the United States criminal justice system.** The time formats are 6:3:7:3:4:6:3. Prep time is three minutes.

Judging Requirements

Schools must bring qualified judges for LD and Public Forum Debate in order to compete.

For Public Forum Debate, schools **must** bring judges willing and available to judge on Friday **and** Saturday for Public Forum Debate. Public Forum Debate judges are **desperately** needed.

Schools must bring one judge for every two teams. Debate judges should be separated from IE judges and Student Congress. Be sure to enter debaters *and* list judges in SpeechEase.com.

Technical Theatre Design Set and Costume Information

Competition will take place on Saturday as an Individual Event. Designs must be original works by the student. The selected plays for Technical Theatre for 2018 are: ***Cinderella*** (Rodgers and Hammerstein) ***All My Sons***, and ***Ragtime***.

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 (pre-orders are required). ALL orders must be placed by **March 30, 2018** with Sarah Kieffner (stkieffner@gmail.com). T-shirts are \$13 each with a \$2 surcharge for XXL and larger. Order form is attached to the newsletter and can be found on the website (thssdl.com) under the forms link. A few extra shirts will be available at the tournament.

Important Guidelines for Interp Theatre and One-Act (Reiteration of Rules from the THSSDL Manual)

All technical and performance components of the productions must be conducted and operated by students. Schools must bring their own audio equipment because the lack of uniformity of equipment makes it impractical for the host site to provide the equipment competing schools may need.

In preparation for **Interp Theatre** competition, please read the rules found in the Manual on pages 42-43. Competing schools will be required to bring the original source material used for the presentations, highlighting the material used in the presentation. Additionally, competing schools must identify original transitional material used in the presentation. This is required for both District and State competition. In the case of a question concerning the material/presentation, the material must be presented within 15 minutes to the Tournament Director. Please note that Interp Theatre rules allow for subtle costuming. **Uniformity of dress is permissible but productions with full costumes run the risk of penalty and/or disqualification.**

In preparation for **One-Act Play**, please read the rules found in the Manual on pages 44-45. Competing schools must provide original material and permission to perform the play. During the production, a student may be in the tech booth to run any sound cues, but s/he is the only individual (no director/coach/parent) allowed in the tech booth during the performance. Due to the uncertainty of the equipment at the hosting school, competing schools must bring any special equipment needed for the production. Lights will be up and down (no special area lighting for scenes or scene changes). A copy of performance rights (**rights must be paid**) must be sent to the District Director before the District Tournament. A copy must be sent to the Executive Director before the State Tournament. (Tournament Manual B:1:a).

Tournament Information

School Location

West Creek High School
1210 West Creek Coyote Trail
Clarksville, TN
931-503-1788

Parking and Registration

Friday parking will be a challenge until 2:45 pm (school dismissed). Parking for One Act and IT will be available at lot near football field. Signs will provide direction

Friday Registration: Northeast end (front-side of school)

Saturday Registration: Front lobby

Hotel Information

These hotels have blocks of rooms reserved with guaranteed rates; however, it is a busy time of the year, they are requesting reservations by **March 30th**. The earlier the reservations, the better. Exit 4 is closer to the school.

To guarantee the quoted rate, be sure to mention **Tennessee High School Speech and Drama League**. Make sure you bring your tax form.

Hilton Garden Inn
I-24 Exit 4
931-647-1096
\$93/double room

Days Inn
I-24 Exit 11
931-358-3194
\$60/double room
Ask for Eddie Burn

Days Inn North
I-24 Exit 4
931-552-1155
\$60/double room

LaQuinta
I-24 Exit 4
931-906-0606
\$99/double (free hot breakfast)

Intent to Compete

Coaches! This year we will be registering the State Championship through **SpeechEase.com**. You will need to establish a login with SpeechEase which will give you access to the tournament. If you have never used SpeechEase, please talk with a colleague. It is self-explanatory with clear step-by-step guidelines.

The entry must be **submitted** by Friday, **March 30, 2018** (unless your District tournament is after that date). If the District tournament is after 3/30/18, all entries must be submitted by **April 8**.

If you encounter difficulties, you can submit the "Intent to Compete" form to Mike Gotcher (mgotcher@ntech.edu). Form is posted on the website (thssdl.com). It can be filled out using Microsoft Word and submitted via email to mgotcher@ntech.edu.

Remember, it is your responsibility to know the rules and procedures for each event and guarantee submission of your entries.

Food at State

April 13—West Creek HS
During the tournament on Friday, West Creek will have concessions available for Debaters at 6:00 pm. A hospitality room will be available for coaches and judges.

April 14—West Creek HS
Due to the tight schedule, all participants, coaches, parents, and judges will be required to eat at West Creek HS. West Creek will have food available for students to purchase. Hospitality will be provided for coaches and judges.

As courtesy to the host school, please do not bring food to the school.

Preliminary State Tourney Committee Assignments

Committee assignments are still available, if you are interested in serving on a committee for the State Tournament contact:

Mike Gotcher
mgotcher@ntech.edu

One Act: Suzanne Terry

IT Prelims:

A: Lucy Boydston **B:** Peggy Russell

IT Finals: Cathie C. Stamps

Extemp Topics: Matt Grimes

Impromptu Topics: Suzanne Terry

Extemp/TV Draw: Pollyanna Parker

Debate: Bridget Baron, Rob Baron, Danielle Smallwood

Congress:

Harriet Medlin, Randy Sullivan

TV Packets: Peggy Russell

Friday Registration: Emily Higdon, Sarah Kieffner

Saturday Registration: Kevin Rogers, Danielle Smallwood

Debate Registration: Rob Baron

Judging: Linda Starnes, Matt Grimes, Suzanne Terry, Kevin Rogers

Timekeepers:

District 2 (Extemp and TV)

Group Events Judges:

District 2

T-Shirts: Sarah Kieffner

Ballots:

Doug James, Laura Humphrey, Donna Spain

Hospitality: District 2

Tab Room: Linda Miller, Lee Ellen Beach, Board of Directors

Posters and Removal: Kevin Rogers

T-shirt Judges and Display:

Lee Ellen Beach and Matt Grimes

Fees

Entry fees

\$8 per entry for IE, LD, and Congress;
\$16 for Duo, Duet Acting, PFD
\$25 for One-Act and Interp Theatre.

Fees are due at the official registration, please bring your payment—do not mail it. Checks should be made out to:
Tennessee High School Speech and Drama League (THSSDL).

Drop fees from 4/9/18 to 4/12/18:
Individual IE and Congress \$24
Duo, Duet, and Debate \$48

Drop fees on 4/13 and 4/14
Debate \$100 per drop
IE and Congress \$50 per drop

Judging fees

\$50 per hired IE judge (one judge per six IE slots)
\$75 per uncovered debate team.

Tournament Schedule

Friday—West Creek

One-Act: 9:30 am

Interp Theatre Prelim: 1:00 pm

Debate Registration: 2:30 p.m.

For debate competition, do not plan to arrive until 2:30 pm. Parking will be difficult.

Debate Competition: 3 pm

General Registration: 3 - 4:30pm.

Schools are encouraged to register on Friday.

Interp Theatre Finals: 6 pm

Saturday—West Creek

Registration: 7 am.- 8 am.

All schools must be registered by 7:45 a.m. or risk disqualification.

Opening Ceremony: 8:00 a.m.

Competition Begins: 8:30 a.m.

Awards: 4 pm

Extemp Topics

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 6, 2018. If topics are not received by the due date, Extempers from that school are subject to disqualification.

Send topics to:
Matt Grimes
james.grimes@wcs.edu

Competition Times

Friday, April 13th—West Creek High School

One-Act Play competition will begin at 9:30 a.m. with stage inspection for morning performances between 8:20 a.m. and 9:20 a.m., and afternoon performances between 12:00 p.m.- 12:40 p.m.

Interpreters' Theatre begins at 1:00 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. Five rounds of debate will take place on Friday.

Performance Spaces for One-Act and Interpreters' Theatre

Interpreters' Theatre prelims will be held in Choir room and one in a Lecture Hall. Finals in the theatre.

One-Act Play competition will be held in the theatre. Loading door is 6'x7'. 3 Dressing Rooms

Saturday, April 14th—West Creek High School

All I.E. competitions will begin at 8:30 a.m. Awards ceremony will take place at 4 pm.

Student Congress Information for 2018 State Tournament

Anyone planning to enter Congress must be registered for Congress. A maximum of 8 Congress entries will be charged to the school's entry, payable at registration. Schools may enter more than 8.

Each school is required to submit two (2) pieces of legislation with numbered lines which follow NSDA guidelines (refer to NSDA template). The legislation must be submitted as pdf file and emailed to mgotcher@tntech.edu by **March 30, 2018**.

The legislation will be posted on the web- site to assist in the preparation for State competition. A \$24 drop fee for Congress will be assessed on April 9. Congress drop fee the day of tournament is \$50.
Email legislation: mgotcher@tntech.edu.

District Reports Due

In order to update and maintain the THSSDL files and website, please submit district reports as soon as possible.

Once reports are received, changes can be made to the Directory and the website.

Please have district members check the names, addresses, and phone numbers to be included in the Directory. Also, be sure to include email addresses, fax numbers, and cell numbers.

Send your reports to:
Mike Gotcher
mgotcher@tntech.edu

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(s) 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).

Scholarship Information

To promote and reward involvement in high school speech and theater activities, THSSDL awards three (3) \$500 Kathleen Thayer Beach Memorial Scholarships each year to deserving seniors. The recipients are not required to major or minor in speech or theatre to qualify for the scholarship.

The school of the applicant must be a member of the Tennessee High School Speech and Drama League (THSSDL). All paperwork must be postmarked before **March 9, 2018** and mailed or emailed to the Executive Director (mgotcher@tntech.edu).

All recipients must attend the THSSDL State Tournament. Please encourage your students to apply as soon as possible. A list of eligibility requirements the application are available on the THSSDL website (thssdl.com).

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 online at thssdl.org. Forms must be completed and 12 copies submitted to the Executive Director by **April 6, 2018**.

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 the individual student and his/ her future.

The **Krider Award** honors 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.

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 Miller (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)
Randy Sullivan (2006)
Saralyn Archibald (2007)
PollyAnna Parker (2008)
Rick Marshall (2009)
Amy Jackson (2010)
Brad Hutson (2011)
Lucy Boydston (2012)
Cheryl Ward (2013)
Bette Lordeman (2014)
Linda Starnes (2015)
Sarah Kieffner (2016)
Peggy Russell (2017)

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)

Hall of Fame Members

*Dockie Weems (1994)
*Jane Eldridge (1994)
Howard Henderson (1995)
Florence Roach (1995)
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 Miller (2001)
Kathryne Pugh (2001)
Aldameda Landiss (2001)
Lee Ellen Beach (2002)
Lola Barkow (2002)
Glenda Sullivan (2004)
Paulette Regan (2004)
*Sandra Davis (2005)
Katherine Ligon (2006)
Bonnie Barker (2007)
Mickey Hutson (2007)
*Mark Collins (2008)
Mike Gotcher (2008)
Suzanne Terry (2008)
Lynne Colvin (2009)
Cathie C. Stamps (2009)
Pollyanna Parker (2010)
Randy Sullivan (2011)
Liz Davis (2011)
Leslie Capozzoli (2012)
SaraLyn Archibald (2013)
Linda Starnes (2013)
Lucy Boydston (2013)
Amy Jackson (2014)
Cheryl Ward (2014)
Pat McGraw (2015)
Danielle Smallwood (2017)
Rick Marshall (2017)

*deceased