



Dear Colleagues:

It is my pleasure to invite you to the 2014 Ohio University Interstate Individual Events Tournament on January 24-25, 2014.

The tournament begins on Friday with 4 prelims and finals of open competition in Parliamentary Debate, College Public Forum and NFA-LD. Both of these events conclude on Friday evening. We will use the **Spring 2014 CPF TOPIC – Resolved: Congress should restore funding to the SNAP program to pre-November 2013 levels.**

On Saturday, the tournament will offer Open and JV divisions in all IEs. For this tournament, “JV” is defined as first or second year in college forensics. The tournament will offer two rounds and finals in all Open IE divisions and 3 rounds with no final rounds in all JV divisions.

Additionally, we will also offer an open division of the following Public Communication events: Radio Broadcasting, Editorial Impromptu, Improvisational Duo Acting and Poetry Slam. PLEASE NOTE: 50% of the entry fee money for these events will be distributed among the finalists as cash awards (in addition to trophies). OU student may enter these events but are INELIGIBLE for cash awards.

On top of all of that, we will be concurrently hosting the Ohio Forensics Association Novice State Championships on Friday and Saturday. Judge pools for both tournaments will be merged and a joint awards ceremony will be held on Saturday night.

You will find all of the necessary tournament information enclosed in this invitation, including a tournament schedule, event rules, lodging and entry information. We look forward to seeing you here in Athens in January.

If you have questions about the tournament please contact Dan West at 740-593-9962 or email westd1@ohio.edu.

Respectfully,

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Justin “Gus” Foote, Associate Director of Forensics
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Tournament Information

Events: NFA event rules apply for all individual events (AFA rules for POI). We do not limit a school's number of entries per event, however, individuals may enter no more than three events in each pattern. Students who are entered in more than one event in any pattern are responsible for notifying their judges. Judges will not wait for contestants longer than the scheduled times. The following individual events will be offered:

College Public Forum, NFA-LD and Parliamentary Debate conclude on Friday. Students may not cross enter in different formats of debate.

Pattern A

Extemporaneous Speaking
Persuasive Speaking
Dramatic Duo Interpretation
Programmed Oral Interpretation
Dramatic Interpretation
Rhetorical Criticism
Poetry Slam
Editorial Impromptu

Pattern B

Impromptu Speaking
Informative Speaking
Prose Interpretation
Poetry Interpretation
After Dinner Speaking
Radio Broadcasting
Improvisational Duet Acting

Event descriptions for College Public Forum, Poetry Slam, Editorial Impromptu, Radio Broadcasting and Improvisational Duet Acting appear at the end of this invitation.

Entry Deadline: The deadline for all entries will be Tuesday, January 21, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. The deadline for changes (late adds or drops) will be Wednesday, January 22, 2014 at NOON. Late adds and drops will incur a \$10 per change fee. Drops at registration are \$25/slot.

Judges: Each school is required to provide one judge for every six individual events entries, and one judge for every two debate entries or portion thereof. Judges may judge both debate and IEs. Please attempt to cover your judging obligation; we would rather have your judges than your money. Dropped judges the day of the tournament will incur a \$100 nuisance charge in addition to uncovered judging fees.

Fees: Entry fees for individual events are \$10.00 per slot. Hired judges are \$12.00 per slot. Entry fees for debate are \$50.00 for each LD/Parli/PF entry. Hired judges are \$100.00 per uncovered LD/Parli/PF entry per tournament.

Registration: Registration will be held in the Baker University Center on the Ohio University Campus. The Baker University Center was the headquarters for the NFA National Tournament in 2012. The facility, in addition to housing southeastern Ohio's only escalators, has a food court, which will be open for lunch, as well as two coffee shops. The Baker Center DOES NOT OPEN before 8 am. You may wish to warm up in one of the classroom building near the Baker Center before registration.

Parking: Parking is available in the Walter Hall Parking Lot (first parking lot on your left once you turn onto South Green Drive). EVEN THOUGH THE TOP OF THE PARKING DECK IMMEDIATELY NEXT TO THE BAKER CENTER WILL LOOK VACANT, IT IS **NOT** AVAILABLE FOR PARKING. You will be ticketed for parking on the top level of the parking deck. The green metered spaces in front of the Baker Center are monitored 24/7, and you are free to park there as long as you are willing to feed the meters. ☺

Hospitality: A continental breakfast will be provided each morning, and snacks will be provided each afternoon. There is a \$3 per person charge for hospitality each day.

Awards: Trophies will be awarded to all students placing in varsity individual events and all students who advance to debate elimination rounds. Sweepstakes Awards will be awarded to the top three schools in debate, the top three Large Entry IE Schools, the top three Limited Entry Schools in IEs and the top overall School for the Swing. Individual Sweepstakes awards will also be presented to the top competitors entered in four or more events.

Entries: Please register for the tournament at forensictournament.net. If you have not used this site before, you will need to create an account before you will be able to register. You will need to register for each tournament separately.

**2014 Ohio University Interstate Individual Events Tournament
January 24-25, 2014 – Athens, Ohio**

Friday, January 24, 2014

10:00-10:30 am	Registration for Parli & LD & College Public Forum (CPF)
10:45 am	Topic Announcement - Parli
11:00 am	Round I Debate
Noon	Topic Announcement - Parli
12:15 pm	Round II Debate
1:30 pm	Topic Announcement - Parli
1:45 pm	Round III Debate
2:45 pm	Topic Announcement – Parli
3:00 pm	Round IV – Debate
4:15 pm	Topic Announcement – Parli
4:30 pm	Finals Debate (possible semi's depending on entries)
ASAP	Awards

Saturday, January 25, 2014 – Ohio University IIET

7:00 – 8:00 am	Registration for IE's Baker University Center
8:00	Extemp Draw
8:30 – 9:45 am	Round I Pattern A
9:45	Broadcast Draw
10:15 -- 11:30 am	Round I Pattern B
11:30	Extemp Draw
Noon – 1:15 pm	Round II Pattern A
1:15	Radio Draw
1:45 – 3:00 pm	Round II Pattern B
3:00	Extemp Draw
3:30 – 4:30 pm	Finals/Round III Pattern A
4:30	Broadcast Draw
5:00 – 6:15 pm	Finals/Round III Pattern B
7:00 pm	Awards Ceremony

Additional Event Descriptions:

Editorial Impromptu: Students will be given a short editorial (ideally 3 to 5 paragraphs) to which they will develop a response. Students will be allowed nine minutes to divide between preparation and speech time. Speakers must speak for at least five minutes. Limited notes, prepared in the round, are permitted.

Event Description: Editorial Impromptu represents an attempt to return “impromptu” to impromptu speaking. The speech should involve the development of an argument in response to the thesis developed or opinion shared in a given editorial. The event resembles typical impromptu speaking in many ways, with the following important exceptions:

1. Topicality is more obviously inherent in the editorial format.
2. The development of argumentation is featured over pre-planned exemplification.
3. Social issues often ignored in other formats are fair game.
4. Historical editorials might also add a dimension to the event.
5. The sharing of opinion, as well as a consideration of the opinions of audience members may play a more central role,
6. The event more closely resembles real-life discussion than existing limited preparation formats.
7. Students are rewarded for possessing and articulating a wider breadth of knowledge than existing formats.
8. This format also encourages the development of skills related to evaluating arguments and analyzing rhetoric.

Improvitational Duo – Preparation time for Improvisational Duo is three minutes.

Preparation time is separate from performance time. Performance time must be a minimum of three minutes and a maximum of six with a 30-second grace period. Contestants going over or under the allotted time and grace period may not be ranked first in that round. The judge should clarify with the students before they begin how time signals will be communicated and must then give hand signals as the contestants are performing to help them stay within the time limit. No make-up, costumes, props, or lighting are permitted, but a table and/or two chairs may be used. Doors and walls are considered props and must not be used. The scene must contain only two characters with equal sharing of dialogue. An introduction by one or both students is **REQUIRED** to set the scene, and a resolution of the conflict must be evident at the end of the scene. Excessive profanity, sexual innuendo, or excessive physicality (i.e. pushing, shoving, and striking) **will NOT** be tolerated. Contestants are to remain outside of the room until it is their time to perform. Once they have finished with their performance they must remain in the room (unless they are cross entered) until the round is complete.

Hints for Improvisational Duo Judges: The scene must be a self-contained unit holding together a story itself. Students must resolve the conflict presented in the topic. Criteria

for judging include teamwork of the actors, timing, movement, consistent characterization, good speaking skills, pantomime of props, and the comedic or dramatic effect of the scene on the audience.

Poetry Slam: Contestants will perform one self-authored poem. No introduction, other than the title of the poem, will be giving. Scripts may not be used. Maximum time limit is 3 minutes.

Poems and performance

- 1) Poems can be on any subject and in any style.
- 2) Each poet must perform work that he or she has created.
- 3) No props, blocking, musical instruments, pre-recorded music or costumes.

The rule concerning props and blocking is not intended to squelch the spontaneity, unpredictability, or on-the-fly choreography that people love about the slam; its intent is to keep the focus on the words rather than poets who movement and/or dance to convey the ideas and meaning inherent in the words of the poem.

Sampling

It is acceptable for poets to incorporate, imitate, or otherwise "signify on" the words, lyrics, or tune of someone else (commonly called "sampling") in their own work. If they are only riffing off another's words, they should expect only healthy controversy; if on the other hand, they are ripping off another poet's words, they should expect scornful contumely.

The No Repeat Rule

Poems may not be repeated in prelims rounds. Students advancing to finals must perform one of their poems from prelims. Each poet should plan on bringing two original poems to compete.

The Three-Minute Rule

No performance should last longer than three minutes. The time begins when the performance begins, with the statement (or a similar equivalent): "My poem is entitled (called, named, etc)..." No other introduction is necessary.

Judges will provide time signals. Performances lasting longer than three minutes and ten seconds should not be ranked first in the round.

Radio Broadcasting: Contestants will be given a packet of source materials and will have 30 minutes to select and organize a 5 minute simulated radio broadcast. All material used in the broadcast must be provided by the tournament with the exception of

any hypothetical station call letters, time and current weather conditions or forecast and no more than one commercial (maximum 30 seconds). Maximum time limit for the speech is 5 minutes. Students will be seated at a table during the performance and may use a stopwatch since time signals will not be given. Judges will not face the contestant during the speech. Students will speak in listed order.

College Public Forum

1. **Philosophy:** Public Forum focuses on advocacy of a position derived from the issues presented in the resolution. Competitors in this team event advocate or reject a position posed by a resolution (prepared by the College Public Forum committee and distributed via the IE-L). The clash of idea must be communicated in a manner persuasive to the non-specialist or “citizen judge”, i.e. a member of the American jury. Public Forum should:
 - a. **Display solid logic, lucid reasoning, and depth of analysis.**
 - b. **Utilize evidence without being driven by it.**
 - c. **Present a clash of ideas by countering/refuting arguments of the opposing team (rebuttal)**
 - d. **Communicate ideas with civility, clarity, organization, eloquence, and professional decorum.**

This is not a debate event, per se, and as such, teams do not have prime facie burdens or the burden of rejoinder. Instead, teams are asked to advocate for (pro) or against (con) the ideas and policies represented within the resolution.

Since this is not a debate event, in the traditional sense, teams are prohibited from utilizing plans (formalized comprehensive proposals for implementation), counterplans and kritiks (off-topic arguments). Multiple competitive venues exist for the application of these argumentative strategies.

2. **Resolutions:** Resolutions will be distributed four times in this inaugural year. Topics will be announced on the IE-L.
 - a. Sept 17 for tournaments Oct 1-31.
 - b. Oct 25 for tournaments Nov 5-Dec 5.
 - c. Jan 7 for tournaments Jan 14-Feb 21
 - d. Feb 11 for the National Tournament, Feb 26 at Butler University in Indianapolis, IN.
3. **Procedure and order of speeches:** Prior to EVERY round and in the presence of the judge(s), a coin is tossed by one team and called by the other team. The team that wins the flip may choose one of two options: EITHER the SIDE of the topic they wish to defend (pro or con) OR the SPEAKING POSITION they wish to have (begin the debate or end the debate). The remaining option (SIDE OR SPEAKING POSITION) is the choice of the team that loses the flip. Once speaking positions and sides have been determined, the debate begins (the con team may lead, depending on the coin flip results). Note:

The round begins at the conclusion of the coin flip/sides/positions discussion. Contestants may not leave the room or consult with coaches after the coin flip, which begins the round.

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|----|---|--------------------|
| a. | First Speaker – Team A | 5 minutes |
| b. | First Speaker – Team B | 5 minutes |
| c. | Crossfire (first question by speaker A1) | 3 minutes |
| d. | Second Speaker – Team A | 5 minutes |
| e. | Second Speaker – Team B | 5 minutes |
| f. | Crossfire (first question by A2) | 3 minutes |
| g. | Summary – First Speaker – Team A | 3 minutes |
| h. | Summary – First Speaker – Team B | 3 minutes |
| i. | Closing Arguments – Second Speaker – Team A | 3 minutes |
| j. | Closing Arguments – Second Speaker – Team B | 3 minutes |
| k. | Prep Time | 2 minutes per team |

4. **Timing:** Judges and/or debaters should keep track of speaking time.
5. **Plans/Counterplans:** In College Public Forum, neither side is permitted to offer a plan nor a counterplan (formalized comprehensive proposal for implementation). Instead, each team should offer reasoning to support a position of advocacy. Debaters may offer generalized, practical solutions.
6. **Oral Critiques:** No debate ballot may be turned in without a reason for decision. Oral commentary is not considered a substitute for the written ballot. CPF and the ICFL discourage judges from disclosing decisions in preliminary rounds of competition. The ballot serves as a valuable educational tool to the teams and their coaches. Comments made by a judge (orally or written) should be constructive and professional.
7. **Judges:** The use of community judges is strongly encouraged.
8. **Governance:** College Public Forum is sponsored by the Intercollegiate Forensics League (ICFL) and all matters not covered in this description will be clarified by the ICFL committee.
9. **National Tournament and Qualifications:** Each school in attendance at the College Public Forum National Tournament will be allowed to enter two at-large teams. All additional entries from each school must qualify for the national tournament by being ranked in the top half of teams (with no more than 8 qualifications at any tournament) at a sanctioned Public Forum Tournament during the regular season.
10. **Sanctioning:** All College Public Forum participants are encouraged to be active members of this new forensics community and any and all suggestions and concerns should be directed to the ICFL committee. All College Public Forum tournaments must use the appropriate resolution and must be sanctioned by the ICFL. Sanctioning is

available to all schools at the fee of \$1 per team College Public Forum Team entered into competition. To receive sanctioning, a tournament must:

- a. Have a minimum of three schools competing in public forum
- b. Have a minimum of 4 teams in attendance.
- c. Hold a minimum of 4 rounds of competition.
- d. Use the appropriate CPF topic.
- e. Submit a completed sanctioning form (attached)
- f. Submit a complete set of tournament results (prelim rounds as well as a completed elim bracket, clearly identifying first and last names as well as school affiliations of all competitors).
- g. Pay the sanctioning fee.
- h. NOTE: Any school in attendance may complete the sanctioning process for a tournament.

11. A guide to competing in Public Forum can be found at:

http://www.nflonline.org/uploads/AboutNFL/cr103pf_instr.pdf

Note: This guide was written for high school Public Forum, and the events have slight differences.

12. A guide to judging Public Forum can be found at:

<http://www.nflonline.org/uploads/CoachingResources/Public%20Forum%20Judge%20Overview.pdf>

Note: This guide was written for high school Public Forum, and the events have slight differences.

13. Sample resolutions: Listed below are resolutions used in High School Public Forum. College Public Forum will use resolutions similar to the ones listed below:

- a. Resolved: That, by 2040, the federal government should mandate that all new passenger vehicles and light trucks sold in the United States be powered by alternative fuels
- b. Resolved: That the United States government should implement universal health care modeled after the French system."
- c. Resolved: That the United States should significantly increase its use of nuclear energy.
- d. Resolved: That the United States should implement a military draft.
- e. Resolved: That the US Government should increase social services for indigenous peoples in America.
- f. Resolved: That eliminating United States government budget deficits should be prioritized over increasing domestic spending.
- g. Resolved: That the [Fairness Doctrine](#) should be reinstated.
- h. Resolved: That the private ownership of handguns should be banned in the United States

14. For more information: If you are interested in competing in College Public Forum, there are many resources available at the National Forensics League at <http://www.nflonline.org>

