



Alexis Elliott Memorial Round Robin for Lincoln Douglas Debate

It is with great pleasure that Western Kentucky University Forensics announces the Third Annual Round Robin for Lincoln-Douglas Debate on Friday, September 16, 2016. The first of its kind at the collegiate level, the Round Robin seeks to showcase the nation's top returning LD debaters in a highly competitive round robin style tournament. Each participant and critic will be provided with a catered lunch. In hopes of inspiring a legacy of excellence, a traveling plaque will also be awarded to the Round Robin Champion.

Overview

Seeking sixteen debaters for the tournament, each school wishing to participate should nominate their top two returning debaters no later than **September 5, 2016**. The top nominated debater from each school will receive a guaranteed bid; in the event that less than sixteen schools submit bids, the remaining slots will be filled based on the remaining nominees' previous success at the NFA National Tournament. Schools without returning debaters and new programs are also encouraged to nominate the person who they feel is their best debater. In the spirit of NFA LD which seeks to be both academically rigorous and communicatively accessible, the final round will be a public debate with a 5-7 person judging panel comprised of WKU alumni, members of the LD community, WKU Administrators and Faculty, and a member of the community considered a topic area expert on US Foreign Policy with Latin America. In addition to spotlighting the nation's finest debaters, we believe that all rounds at the tournament and especially the final round will be an excellent opportunity for education and growth within the LD community.

Entry Fee and Schedule

Each school must provide one critic per entry for the entire duration of the Round Robin, even if your student(s) fails to advance to elimination rounds. Because two judges are utilized in every preliminary round, it is critical that all teams try their best to fully cover their entries; if you are unable to secure critics please let us know and we will do our best to accommodate your entry. An entry fee of 50.00 per competitor will be required at the time of registration. Though entering the round robin will not conflict with the LD tournament included in the WKU Fall Tournament beginning on September 16th, participants in the round robin *cannot* enter parliamentary debate. A finalized schedule will be available as soon as possible; however, participants and critics should plan to arrive on campus for registration no later than 9:00am and should be prepared to stay until the conclusion of awards beginning at approximately 7:00pm. Schools are encouraged to bring additional students to observe rounds; however there will be a \$15.00 fee for each student wishing to join us at the Round Robin Luncheon.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Jessica Furgerson, Director of Debate, at Jessica.furgerson@wku.edu.