Invitation for the 2016 Patriot Games Classic

You are invited to attend the 13th Annual George Mason University Patriot Games Classic to be held on the George Mason University Campus in Fairfax, Virginia on December 3 and 4, 2016.

The GMU forensics team is excited to offer a fun and educational experience in 12 individual events, Public Forum Debate, Congressional Debate, and Lincoln-Douglas Debate!

The deadline for entry is Tuesday, November 15th at 5:00pm EST, but we strongly encourage people to enter early as once we are filled to capacity, we will no longer be able to accept entries.

Additional information regarding parking and the specific location of important rooms will be submitted along with your team's entry confirmations. We encourage you to keep up with our tournament updates at https://www.facebook.com/GeorgeMasonInstituteofForensics/

We look forward to seeing you all in December!

Sincerely,

Peter Pober

Director of Forensics & Tournament Co-Director

Jeremy Hodgson

Assistant Director of Forensics & Tournament Co-Director

Parker Roth & Alekhya Tallapaka

Student Tournament Co-Directors

TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES

* **Events Offered:**
	+ Pattern A: Extemporaneous Speaking, Poetry Interpretation, Humorous Interpretation, Declamation, Duo Interpretation, Informative
	+ Pattern B: Original Oratory, Storytelling, Dramatic Interpretation, Prose Interpretation, Impromptu, Program Oral Interpretation
* Competitors may enter at most 3 events per pattern.
* Students may enter one form of debate: Public Forum, Congress, or Lincoln-Douglas. Students who enter debate **may not** enter any events in Pattern B, but may enter Pattern A events.
* Public Forum will use the December 2016 NSDA Topic as published on the NSDA website.
* LD will use the November/December 2016 NSDA Topic as published on the NSDA website.
* Entries are unlimited in all events **except** for Lincoln-Douglas Debate and Public Forum Debate. Schools may submit up to eight entries in LD and up to eight entries in PFD, but may also submit entries in **preferential order** to be held on a waiting list. ALL entries should be submitted directly to the SpeechWire website. Schools will be notified which entries off their waiting list will be accepted no later than November 21, 2016.
* All elimination round participants will receive an award.
* **Congress Specific:**
	+ Each school entering Congress **must provide a bill or resolution for debate**. The bills should be emailed to gmubills@gmail.com no later than 5 p.m. November 15, 2016. Please see use the template posted under files to download at Speechwire.com under GMU Patriot Games. We will post the legislation packet for all schools on the website no later than 5:00 pm November 22, 2016. **Schools who enter Congress students without submitting legislation risk their students being removed from the competition**.
	+ Legislation may also be submitted the day of the competition but it may not be considered until all bills submitted before the deadline have been debated and voted upon.

FEES

* Entry fees are $35 for each IE slot, $35 for each Duo Team, $40 for each Congress entry, $50 for each LD entry, and $50 for each Public Forum Team.
* A qualified judge should be provided for every eight entries or fraction thereof in individual events. Additionally, one qualified judge should be provided for every 3 Public Forum, LD, and Congress entries or fraction thereof. Judge pools for Individual Events, Congress, and Debate are separate and individual judges CANNOT count for multiple pools**.**
* Judges may be hired at $12 for each uncovered individual events entry and $50 for each uncovered PF, LD, or Congress entry.
* Entry fees will be calculated at 5pm on November 28, 2016. For any drops/changes as of 5:01 pm Nov. 28-5 p.m. Nov. 30, the school will still be responsible for the original entry fee. Drops made Nov. 30 as of 5:01 p.m.-Dec. 1 at 5 p.m. will incur a $25 drop fee in addition to the entry fee. Drops made Dec. 1 as of 5:01 p.m. until 5 p.m. Fri. Dec. 2 will incur a $35 drop fee in addition to the entry fee. Drops made as of 5:01 p.m. Dec. 2 or during the tournament will incur a $50 drop fee in addition to the entry fee. All judges dropped after 5 p.m. Nov. 28 will incur a $100 drop fee plus the uncovered charges. All judges dropped beginning Dec. 2 as of 5 p.m. will incur a $200 drop fee plus the uncovered charges.
* **Fees are due AT or before registration**: school checks should be made payable to George Mason University. Personal checks should be made to Peter Pober.
* Fees assessed once the tournament has started (for no show students or no show judges) should be paid immediately at the ballot table. **Schools with outstanding fees risk preventing their students from participating in elimination rounds.**
* **INDEPENDENT ENTRIES MUST PAY IN FULL BY NOV. 28. Failure to do so will result in removal from the tournament.**

TOURNAMENT HOTEL

**Marriott Fairfax at Fair Oaks: 11787 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway. (703) 352-2525**

Located a mere 10 minutes from the GMU campus, the Marriott Fair Oaks will once again serve as the official tournament hotel for the GMU Patriot Games. The hotel will also host tournament registration and the coach’s reception on Friday night. We have a block of rooms reserved for Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday at $89/night plus tax for a king or two queens. Please call the number listed above and refer to group code PAGS.
***We highly recommend schools stay at the tournament hotel as this is a specially negotiated rate that will be difficult to beat!! For 10 or more rooms in a reservation, please contact Mary Billone at 703-667-4215 and reference GMU Forensics/GMU Patriot Games and the Group Code* PAGS *.***

***\*\*\*The room block will be released as of November 20th so be sure to make reservations early\*\*\****

HOW TO ENTER THE PATRIOT GAMES

We are thrilled to announce that all registration will take place through SpeechWire.com. Once you click on the link, you will find everything you need to register your students. We can’t wait to have you with us. Here’s the link:

<http://www.speechwire.com/patriotgames>

Schools unable to access by clicking should copy the link and paste it.

13th Annual Patriot Games Tournament Schedule

<Tentative and subject to change!>

Friday Dec. 2, 2016

7:00-10:00- Registration at Marriott **ALL SCHOOLS MUST REGISTER DURING THIS TIME BLOCK**!

9:00-11:00- Coaches Social Gathering at the Marriott

Saturday Dec. 3, 2016

8:00- LD Round 1, PFD Round 1, Congress 1 (8:00-11:00)

9:00- LD Round 2, PFD Round 2

10:00- Round 1B (OO, ST, IMP, PRO, DI, POI)

11:15- Draw

11:45- Round 1A (EXT, POE, HI, DEC, DUO, INF)

1:30- LD Round 3, PFD Round 3, Congress 2 (1:30-4:30)

2:30- Round 2B

4:00- LD Round 4, PFD Round 4

5:00- Draw

5:30- Round 2A

7:00- Round 3B, Congress Semis

8:30- LD Round 5, PFD Round 5

10:30- Posting of Congress, PFD, and LD elimination round participants online and at the Marriott

Sunday Dec. 4, 2016

7:30- Triple Octos PFD

8:15- Draw

8:45- Round 3A

10:15- Double Octo-Finals PFD and LD, Quarter-Finals B Pattern, Congress Final 1 (9:30-11:30)

11:30- Draw

11:45- Quarter-Finals A Pattern

12:45- Octo-Finals PFD and LD

1:15- Semi-Finals B Pattern, Congress Final 2 (1:15-2:45)

2:00- Quarter-Finals PFD and LD

2:45- Draw

3:15- Semi-Finals PFD and LD, Semi-Finals A Pattern

4:45- Finals LD, Finals PFD, Finals B Pattern

5:45- Draw

6:00- Finals A Pattern

8:30 or ASAP- Awards

EVENT RULES

**Congress: NSDA Rules**

This is individual debate in a large group setting. Legislative debaters research and write pieces of Congressional legislation that they feel will better the society in which we live. At a tournament, debaters will then speak on the legislation while using proper parliamentary procedure. Judges score each competitor based on argumentation ability, speaking technique, knowledge of parliamentary procedure, and overall participation.

**Public Forum Debate: NSDA Rules**

Public Forum Debate is audience friendly debate. You and a partner will debate controversial issues that are "stripped" from the newspaper headlines. A new topic will be announced the first day of each preceding month at www.nationalforensicleague.org. This means we will be using the Public Forum Topic from December. A Public Forum Debate round begins with a flip of a coin between the competing teams to determine your side and speaker position. Public Forum will test your skills in argumentation, cross-examination, and refutation.

**Lincoln/Douglas Debate: NSDA Rules**

Lincoln/Douglas debate is a one-on-one debate based on a resolution set by the National Forensics League. We will be using the November/December resolution published by the NFL. Judges will rate each debater on a scale of 30 (highest) to 1 (lowest) and will decide a winner based on argumentative quality, persuasiveness, and delivery.

**DUO: NSDA Rules**

Selections can be either humorous or dramatic. Selections shall be cuttings from published-printed novels, short stories, plays, poetry, or any other printed-published materials. Presentations must be memorized, without props or costumes. Performers are allowed to represent one or more characters. The time limit is ten minutes.

**Declamation: CFL Rules Eligible for Freshman and Sophomore competitors only**

The selection in this category must have been actually delivered in real life as a speech by a speaker other than the present contestant. Selections may include, but are not limited to professional speeches, public orations, former competition speeches, eulogies, sermons, etc. The introduction must name the work and author and describe the actual circumstances under which the speech was originally presented. The original speaker's words may not be altered for this presentation with the exception that cutting is permitted. The speech must be memorized. The presentation should not exceed 10 minutes, including at most one minute of introduction and transitional material other than the author's words.

**Dramatic Interpretation: NSDA Rules**

Selections are dramatic in nature. Selections shall be cuttings from published-printed novels, short stories, plays, poetry, or any other printed-published materials. Presentations must be memorized, without props or costumes. Actors will utilize stationary blocking to enhance the interpretation. The time limit is 10 minutes which includes an introduction.

**Humorous Interpretation: NSDA Rules**

Selections are humorous in nature. Selections shall be cuttings from published-printed novels, short stories, plays, poetry, or any other printed-published materials. Presentations must be memorized, without props or costumes. Actors will utilize stationary blocking to enhance the interpretation. The time limit is 10 minutes which includes an introduction.

**Original Oratory: NSDA Rules**

As orator you will be expected to research and speak intelligently, with a degree of originality, in an interesting manner, and with some profit to your audience, about a topic you have chosen. Although many orations deal with a current problem and propose a solution this is not the only acceptable form of oratory. Your oration may simply alert the audience to a threatening danger, strengthen its devotion to an accepted cause, or eulogize a person. An orator is given free choice of subject and judged solely on the effectiveness of development and presentation. The time limit is 10 minutes.

**Extemporaneous Speaking: CFL Rules**

Questions will encompass all areas of foreign and domestic issues. Speakers shall bring the printed topic slip to the judge(s) in the round. The speaker should be held to strict adherence to the precise statement of the topic selected and should be penalized for any obvious shift to a different topic. The speech must be extemporaneous, and delivered without notes. The speech should not exceed seven (7) minutes. **Please note that the final round of Extemp will feature an open 3 minute cross-examination period.**

**Poetry Interpretation: CFL Rules**

The selection should be literature, either as a single piece, a cutting, or a series of short pieces united by theme or by author. Literature includes all forms of poetry, except plays and oratorical compositions written to be delivered in real life situations. The author's words as published in the literature may not be altered for this performance with the exception that cutting is permitted. Since this is to be a reading, the interpreters must use a manuscript. Speakers may not take lines belonging to one character and apply them to a different character in the performance. No costumes or properties may be used.

The selection must be delivered from center stage. Movement and gestures, if used, should be appropriate to the selection. The presentation should not exceed 10 minutes, including at most one minute of introduction and transitional material other than the author's words.

**Prose Interpretation: CFL Rules**

The selection should be literature, either as a single piece, a cutting, or a series of short pieces united by theme or by author. Literature includes all forms of prose, fiction or nonfiction, except plays and oratorical compositions written to be delivered in real life situations. The author's words as published in the literature may not be altered for this performance with the exception that cutting is permitted. Since this is to be a reading, the interpreters must use a manuscript. Speakers may not take lines belonging to one character and apply them to a different character in the performance.

No costumes or properties may be used. The selection must be delivered from center stage. Movement and gestures, if used, should be appropriate to the selection. The presentation should not exceed 10 minutes, including at most one minute of introduction and transitional material other than the author's words.

**Storytelling: VHSL Rules**

Storytelling features the contestant presenting a children's story, as though the audience consists of a group of children. Judging is based in storytelling ability. Students are judges in (1) introduction, (2) delivery, (3) character development through physicalization and vocal variety and (4) entertainment value. No manuscript, prop, costume, or excessive walking is allowable. The time limit is ten minutes.

**Impromptu: VHSL Rules**

The impromptu speech is a short, well-organized talk that makes a specific point. A student will blindly draw three topics from the judge and choose one topic upon which to base the speech. The contestant is to be judges upon (1) creative development of the topic, (2) organization and logic, (3) support of the speech, (4) adherence to the topic and (5) delivery - creativity, eye contact, vocal variety and gestures. A 3 X 5 note card is permissible though not necessary. The time limit is seven minutes from the selection of the topic, preparation, and delivery.

**Informative Speaking and Program Oral Interpretation: NSDA Rules**

Please see the NSDA website at <http://www.speechanddebate.org/aspx/content.aspx?id=1311> for descriptions of these exciting new events.

ENTRY REMINDER

Entry for the GMU Patriot Games must be completed at the SpeechWire website <http://www.speechwire.com/patriotgames> no later than November 15, 2016.

•Entries for the round robin must be faxed to: 703-993-1096 attention Round-Robin Director Jeremy Hodgson.

Patriot Games Round Robin: December 2, 2016

**Extemporaneous Speaking**
The Round Robin will consist of a series of preliminary rounds. Each extemper will compete against every other extemper in a series of head to head rounds. The two extempers in each round will draw at the same time and perform their speeches back to back. Each round will also feature cross-examination as per the guidelines used at the NFL National Tournament- following the speech, the opponent will have three minutes to cross examine the speaker. Thirty minutes prior to the round, each pair of competitors will receive five topics in a given topic area. The first speaker will veto any one topic he or she desires, eliminating it from consideration by either their opponent or themselves. The second speaker will choose which of the remaining four topics they wish to speak on in the round. The first speaker will then choose any of the remaining three topics to be the subject of his or her presentation. When draw has concluded, both speakers will go to the contest room. First speaker will perform, second speaker will cross-examine the first speaker at the conclusion of the speech. Second speaker will then have up to five minutes, if they so desire, to re-familiarize themselves with their outline and then perform. First speaker will cross examine the second speech as well.

**Dramatic Performance**
The Round Robin will consist of a series of head-to-head preliminary rounds: each competitor will perform against every other competitor. Each performer must perform a cutting not to exceed ten minutes in length from a published play, screenplay, fictional, or non-fictional work. Poetry may not be used for this event. The competitor does not have to perform the same selection in every round; for example, a competitor may shift between a traditional HI and a traditional DI between rounds, but is certainly not required to change texts. Manuscripts may not be used. Never before seen in high school forensics, the Dramatic Performance Round Robin features a cross-examination period. Following the first performance in the round, the second competitor will have up to 3 minutes to engage in open cross-examination concerning any aspect or aspects of the performance they find relevant: cutting choices, interpretive choices, literature selection, and humorous versus dramatic tonal decisions are but a few of the possible avenues the cross-examination may take. Following the second performance, the first competitor will also have 3 minutes to engage in a similar cross-examination.

George Mason University

11th Annual Round Robin Application

To Which Round Robin Are You Applying (Select One)?

 Extemporaneous Speaking Dramatic Performance

Name (s):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Contact Information:

School Address:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Coach Email:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student(s) Email:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Coach Phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student(s) Phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Below, please list your major forensics accomplishments and results from both the 2015-2016 tournament season AND the Fall 2016 tournament season. Use additional pages if necessary.

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| **Tournament** | **# of Schools** | **# of Entries** | **Place** |
| Example Tourney, VA | 45 | 96 | Semi-Finals |
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GMU Patriot Games Round-Robin Application

In a brief paragraph, please explain why you feel qualified to participate in this event?

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In a brief paragraph, please explain why you feel you will benefit as a performer from this experience.

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Is there any additional information we should know when considering your application?

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Acknowledgement Page

I hereby acknowledge that by submitting this application, I may be selected to participate in the 2016 GMU Patriot Games Round Robin. I acknowledge that if I am selected, I

* Will attend the 2016 GMU Patriot Games Round Robin
* Am responsible for all entry fees regardless of whether or not I am able to attend the tournament. Fees are $125 for each Extemp or DP entry. Each entry must provide one judge. Fees include meals throughout the day for competitors and judges covering entries.
* Must register separately and participate in the 13th Annual GMU Patriot Games. Extemp competitors must enter Extemp. Dramatic Performance competitors must enter Dramatic Interpretation OR Humorous Interpretation OR Prose (this does not preclude you from entering other events, but you must enter at least the event indicated).
* Will provide a full time judge for the duration of the Patriot Games and Round Robin or pay the $125 hired judge fee.

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Student(s) Signature

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Coach Signature

This application is due Monday October 17th no later than 5pm EST. It may be submitted either via fax (703-993-1096) or email jhodgso1@gmu.edu. Decisions will be emailed to all applicants October 24th.

2016 Patriot Games Round Robin Tentative Schedule

Thursday Dec. 1, 2016

8:00-10:00- Registration, Marriott Fair Oaks

Friday Dec. 2, 2016- All rounds at George Mason University; meet in Student Union Building #1, Room 3311

9:00- Draw in Room 3317

9:30- Round Robin Rd. 1

10:00- Draw

10:30- Round Robin Rd. 2

11:00- Draw

11:30- Round Robin Rd. 3

12:00- Lunch Break

12:45- Draw

1:15- Round Robin Rd. 4

1:45- Draw

2:15- Round Robin Rd. 5

2:45- Refresher

3:00- Draw

3:30- Round Robin Rd. 6

4:00- Draw

4:30- Round Robin Rd. 7

5:15- Announcement of Exhibition Participants

5:30- Dramatic Performance Exhibition, Draw for Extemp Exhibition

6:00- Extemp Exhibition

6:45- Round Robin Banquet and Awards