



5 September 2008

Dear Colleagues,

Minnesota State University – Mankato is pleased to invite you to the Larry Schnoor Invitational Tournament, hosted by Leah White, Jim Dimock and the MSU-Mankato Speech Team held on the MSU-Mankato campus Saturday October 18th. Please note that our tournament is no longer held as a formal swing with Gustavus Adolphus and all inquires and entries related to the Gustavus tournament should be directed to Kris Kracht at kkracht@gac.edu.

Competitive Event Offerings:

The Larry Schnoor Invitational will offer two preliminary rounds in one open division of all 11 AFA-NIET events. Semi-finals will be held if more than 50 students are entered in an event.

Events will be offered in 2 conflict patterns.

Pattern A: persuasion, extemporaneous, duo, program oral interp, prose, communication analysis

Pattern B: informative, impromptu, dramatic interp, after dinner, and poetry

Students may enter a maximum of **THREE** events per pattern. *Students who triple enter in a pattern are responsible for getting to all events during the scheduled time period.*

Competitive Standards:

We will follow AFA-NIET rules and request attending teams to familiarize themselves with Article II of the AFA Code of Forensic Program and Forensic Tournament Standards and the AFA-NIET Ethical Use of Literature Policy.

(<http://www.americanforensics.org/documents/afacode.html>) (http://www.mnsu.edu/spcomm/niet/charter/afa-niet_bylaws_Oct2005.htm).

Host Practices:

MSU Student Competitors:

As hosts, the Minnesota State University, Mankato forensic program will enter MSU students at our tournament who are in their first semester of college competition. We engage in this practice because we have plenty of experienced competitors to assist with tournament management, and have found that competing on our own campus in early fall has been an effective and nonthreatening way to introduce novices to college forensics.

Hired Judges:

Our hired judge pool consists primarily of alums from our own as well as other regional programs and the Speech Communication Graduate Teaching Assistants. The graduate assistants received a judge training session where they are informed of the event descriptions and rules, as well as methods for writing effective ballots.

Tab Room:

The tab room will be run by the MSU coaching staff. We use the program designed by Dan Cronn-Mills which is also used at the AFA-NIET.

Tournament Observers:

Many of the instructors in our department choose to offer students extra credit for observing competition rounds at our tournament. The faculty and graduate students have been informed that they should discuss proper audience etiquette with their students prior to the event.

Awards:

We will continue to offer our annual Larry Schnoor themed trophies. As usual, the theme will not be revealed until the tournament. Awards will be given to finalists in each individual event. Additionally, 1st, 2nd and 3rd place trophies will be awarded in both Team Sweeps and Individual Sweeps. **Individual Sweeps includes all students entered in 4 events.** Sweepstakes awards will be given using the following point system: In prelims 3pts for every 1st and 2pts for every 2nd and 1 pt for every 3rd. In finals 1st place = 10 points, 2nd place = 8 points, 3rd place = 6 points, 4th place = 4 points, 5th place = 3 points, and 6th place = 2 points. Any non-advancing semi-finalists in IEs will receive 2 points.

The Larry Schnoor Invitational also includes a Team Quality Award (team sweep pts. divided by number of entries). Each year, MSU- Mankato names the quality award after distinguished individual(s) in forensics who have shaped the activity on either a regional or national scale. The designees are nominated and chosen by current students involved with the MSU forensic program. Previous designees include Brian Halleen, George Armstrong, Grace Walsh, Guy Yates, Joel Hefling, Susan and Stephen Collie, Mike Wartman, Mark Fokken, Kelli Jo Wright, Dan Cronn-Mills, Michael Dreher, Penni Pier, Craig Brown, and Brian Klosa.

Fees:

Entry fees are \$7.00 per slot. One judge covers 6 IE entries. The cost per uncovered IE slot is \$10.00. Fees are assessed as the entry stands on Noon, Wednesday, October 15th. A fee of \$10.00 is assessed for each drop or add after this time. All judges are expected to be available for final rounds. All judges are considered “clean” for final rounds.

Hotel Information:

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Mankato Best Western Hotel at 1111 Range St., North Mankato. The block is held under the group name “Larry Schnoor Speech Invitational” and **will be released September 25.** The rate is \$70.00 + tax per room, per night. You can contact the Best Western at (507) 625-9333.

Other possible hotels are include: Mankato Holiday Inn - 507-345-1234; Americinn Hotel and Suites – Mankato 507-345-8011; Country Inn and Suites – Mankato 507-388-8555; Comfort Inn – Mankato 507-388-5107; Days Inn of Mankato 507-387-3332

Please note Minnesota State Mankato is hosting Family Weekend the same weekend as our tournament, so make your reservations soon.

Entries:

Entry Deadline: 5 p.m., Tuesday, October 14

Fees Assessed: Noon, Wednesday, October 15

Please check flighting carefully and then send entry to leah.white@mnsu.edu. If you have questions you can call Leah’s Office at (507) 389-5534

Schedule

Saturday October 18th

8:00 – Registration and Breakfast (Armstrong Hall 102)

8:30 – Draw

9:00 – Rd 1 A (ext, per, duo, poi, ca, prose)

10:15 – Rd 1B (imp, info, poet, ads, di)
District IV Committee Meeting

11:15 – Lunch

11:45 – Draw

12:15 – Rd 2A

1:30 – Rd 2B

3:00 – Draw

3:15 – Finals A and Semis A/B

4:30 – Remaining Finals

6:00 – District IV Meeting

6:30 - Awards