



August 2018

Dear Colleagues,

Minnesota State University, Mankato is pleased to invite you to the 2018 Larry Schnoor Invitational, hosted by the Minnesota State, Mankato forensic team on Saturday October 20th. As part of the Southern Minnesota Swing, we are joined again this year by Southwest Minnesota State University, who will host the Mustang Stampede here on the Mankato campus on Sunday October 21st. Please send all questions regarding the Larry Schnoor Invitational to Katie Brunner (katie.brunner@mnsu.edu), acting Director of Forensics. We are very pleased to welcome you back to our campus for another year of great competition, particularly as this October marks the conclusion of our university's Sesquicentennial anniversary.

Competitive Event Offerings:

The Larry Schnoor Invitational will offer two preliminary rounds in one open division of all 11 AFA-NIET events with **special additions of Editorial Impromptu and Improvised Duo**. Semi-finals will be held in any event with more than 50 students entered. Please note: 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.*

Events will be offered in 2 conflict patterns:

Pattern A

Communication Analysis
Duo Interpretation
Extemporaneous Speaking
Editorial Impromptu
Persuasion
Program Oral Interpretation
Prose

Pattern B

After Dinner Speaking
Dramatic Interpretation
Impromptu
Improvised Duo
Informative
Poetry

Here are descriptions for Editorial Impromptu and Improvised Duo:

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. Limited notes, prepared in the round, are permitted.

Improvised Duo: Students will draw three scenarios and choose one to perform. Students have a total of 7 minutes for both preparation and performing. Timing commences with the draw of the last scenario. The performance should adhere to the prompt and showcase quality

storytelling, character creation, and performer interaction. No props are allowed. Creativity is encouraged. Limited notes are permitted.

Competitive Standards:

We will follow AFA-NIET rules and codes of conduct, and request attending teams to familiarize themselves with those guidelines.

- AFA Code of Standards: <http://www.americanforensicsassoc.org/code-of-standards/>
- AFA-NIET Event Descriptions: <https://sites.google.com/site/afanietnew2/products-services/event-descriptions>
- AFA-NIET Bylaws: <https://sites.google.com/site/afanietnew2/products-services/afa-niet-charter>

Schedule:

Saturday October 21st

8:00 Registration and Breakfast
8:30 Extemp Draw
9:00 Rd 1A (Ext, Per, Duo, POI, CA, Prose, Ed Imp)
10:15 Rd 1B (Imp, Info, Poe, ADS, DI, Improv Duo)
11:15 Lunch Break
11:45 Extemp Draw
12:15 Rd 2A
1:30 Rd 2B
3:00 Extemp Draw
3:15 Finals A and Semis A/B (Extemp begins at 3:30)
4:30 Finals B
6:30 Awards

Host Practices:

MNSU Student Competitors

As hosts, the Minnesota State, Mankato forensic program will enter 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 program, other regional programs, and the Minnesota State, Mankato Communication Studies Graduate Teaching Assistants. The graduate assistants receive a judge training session where they are informed of event descriptions and rules, as well as methods for writing effective ballots.

Wireless Internet

Minnesota State, Mankato provides free guest access to university Wi-Fi, at your own risk. We do not guarantee the reliability of wireless internet service.

Food Options

The Centennial Student Union offers a limited number of food options starting at 11am on Saturday and Sunday. Other food options (including Weggy's, Noodles & Company, Jimmy John's, Caribou Coffee, & Jonny B's) are within walking distance of campus.

Tab Room

The tab room will be run by the MNSU & SMSU coaching staff. We will use SpeechWire to schedule and tab the tournament.

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. Trophies will be awarded 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 with at least one interpretation event and one Public Address or Limited Preparation event. Sweepstakes awards will be given using the following point system: In prelims 3pts for every 1st, 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, Minnesota State, 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 Minnesota State, Mankato 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, Brian Klosa, Kittie Grace, Rebecca Buel, Megan Orcholski, Karen Morris, Sade Barfield, Ben Walker, David Brennan, and Andrea Carlile.

Fees:

Entry fees are \$8.00 per slot. One full-time judge covers 6 IE entries. The cost per uncovered IE slot is an additional \$10.00. Fees are assessed as the entry stands at noon on Wednesday, October 17th. 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. Teams will be charged a fee of \$50.00 for every judge dropped from the tournament.

Tournament Entry:

Entries are due via **Speech Wire**

Entry Deadline: 5 p.m., Tuesday, October 16

Fees Assessed: Noon, Wednesday, October 17

If you have questions, feel free to contact Katie by email (katie.brunner@mnsu.edu) or phone **(715-864-3597)**.

Hotel Information:

The following link will bring you to a list of hotels in the Mankato area (<http://www.mnsu.edu/admissions/visit/hotels.html>). Be advised: the Mankato Marathon again occurs the same weekend as our tournament, and draws a large number of participants from out of town. Hotel rooms will book quickly, so **reserve your rooms ASAP**. Please contact the hotels directly for reservations.

We hope you find it possible to attend a weekend full of excellent competition and bright fall foliage at the 2018 Larry Schnoor Invitational!

Sincerely,

Katie Brunner
Acting Director of Forensics

Justin J. Rudnick
Acting Assistant Director of Forensics