

# NEW JERSEY SPEECH & DEBATE LEAGUE

ISSUE: 24-25: 4 March/April

## Upcoming Events

Newark Tech &  
NSDA Big Questions  
March 8

NJSDL State  
Championships  
Hunterdon Central Regional  
March 14 & 15

NJ Districts – Speech  
& Debate  
Delbarton School  
March 21 & 22

NSDA Last Chance  
Virtual Tournament  
April 24, 25 & 26

NJSDL Middle School  
State  
Championships  
Long Valley Middle School  
May 16

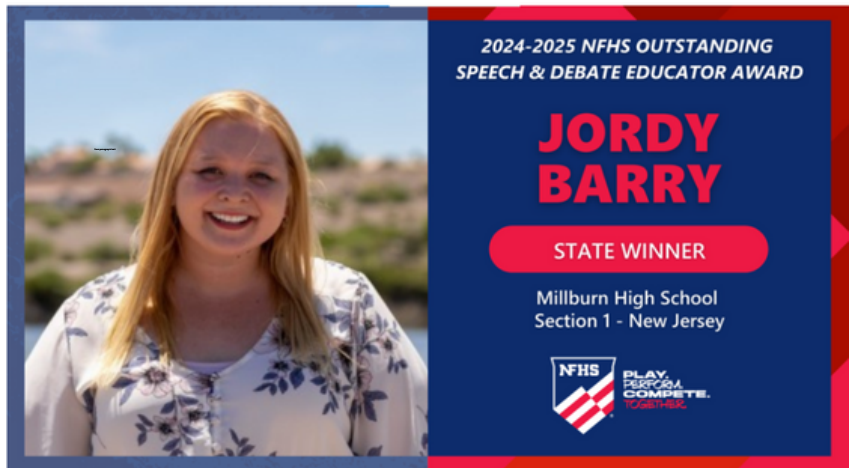
# IT'S MARCH MADNESS

NATIONAL SPEECH & DEBATE ASSOCIATION

100 YEARS  
A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

## Congratulations to Millburn Coach - Jordy Barry

2024-2025 NFHS OUTSTANDING SPEECH &  
DEBATE EDUCATOR AWARD - NEW JERSEY



Deadline to nominate an educator for  
2025 is March 8th! See our [Awards](#)  
[page](#) for more information.

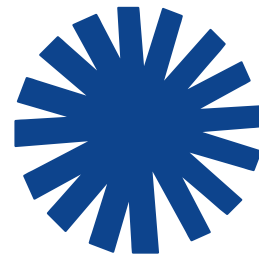


ARTS  
ED NJ  
Many Partners.  
One Voice.





# NJSDL EVENT CALENDAR 24-25



Date	Host	Site for Info.
March 8	Big Questions Qualifier- HS (NSDA)	Tabroom.com
March 8	STATES CONGRESS LEGISLATION DEADLINE Submit to Laurie Schmid ( <a href="mailto:fraulaurie@hotmail.com">fraulaurie@hotmail.com</a> )	NJSDL.LIVE/STATES
March 8-14	JUDGE REGISTRATION FROM DUE	<a href="#">Click Here</a>
March 12	STATE CHAMPIONSHIP JUDGE WEBINAR	<a href="#">Register Here</a>
March 14 - 15	HS State Championships @ Hunt.Ctl Regional	Speechwire.com
March 15	NSDA Nationals Registration Opens	Tabroom.com
March 21 - 22	NJ Districts @ Delbarton School- HS (NSDA)	Tabroom.com
April 7	April Online Tournament Videos Due	Tabroom.com
May 15	NSDA Nationals Registration & Payment Due	Tabroom.com
May 16	MS State Championships @ Long Valley MS	Speechwire.com
May 22	NSDA Nationals - Refund Deadline	
June 1	NSDA Alternate Registration Due	
June 15	NSDA Nationals - Final Script Uploads	<a href="#">Click Here</a>

(NSDA) = NSDA District Series (NSDA Member Schools only)



# Current **NSDA** 'Active' Schools



Arts HS, NJ	Long Branch HS, NJ	Princeton HS,, NJ
Barringer HS, NJ	Matawan Regional HS, NJ	Randolph High School, NJ
Bridgewater-Raritan Regional HS, NJ	Millburn HS, NJ	Ranney School, NJ
Cherry Hill High School East, NJ	Monroe Township High School, NJ	Ridge HS, NJ
Delbarton School, NJ	Montclair Kimberley Academy, NJ	Ridgewood HS, NJ
Dwight Morrow High School, NJ	Montgomery HS, NJ	Saddle River Day School, NJ
Dwight-Englewood School, NJ	Montville Township HS, NJ	SciCore Academy, NJ
East Side HS, NJ	Morris Knolls HS, NJ	Science HS, NJ
Elizabeth HS, NJ	Morristown HS, NJ	South Brunswick High School, NJ
Emerson Jr Sr High, NJ	Morristown-Beard School, NJ	Summit HS - Summit, NJ, NJ
Essex County West Caldwell Tech, NJ	Mountain Lakes HS, NJ	Teaneck HS, NJ
Freehold Township HS, NJ	Mt St Mary Academy, NJ	The Lawrenceville School, NJ
Glen Rock High, NJ	Newark Central HS, NJ	The Pingry School, NJ
Hanover Park HS, NJ	Newark School of Global Studies, NJ	Thomas Edison Energy Smart Charter School, NJ
Hoboken Charter School, NJ	Newark Technical, NJ	Toms River High School East, NJ
Hunterdon Central Regional HS, NJ	Noor-ul-Iman School, NJ	Union County Voc-Tech Schools, NJ
Immaculate Heart Academy, NJ	North Brunswick Twp HS, NJ	University HS - Newark, NJ, NJ
Irvington HS, NJ	North Star Academy HS, NJ	West Windsor-Plainsboro North, NJ
Lacey Township High School	Peddie School, NJ	West Windsor-Plainsboro South, NJ
Livingston HS, NJ	Phillipsburg HS, NJ	Westfield HS, NJ

Roster updated as of 3/1/2025. If your school is not listed, please contact [speechanddebate.org](https://speechanddebate.org) to inquire about your school's membership status.

Membership in the NJSDL is separate from the NSDA.





## SCENES FROM OUR JANUARY & FEBRUARY EVENTS



# 2025 NJSDL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP INFORMATION

**REGISTRATION LINK** Deadline: Monday, March 10

**VIRTUAL COACH & JUDGE MEETING**

**Wednesday, March 12 @ 7:00PM**

**REGISTER HERE**

**SCHOOL-AFFILIATED JUDGE REGISTRATION: CLICK HERE**

**WANT TO BE A HIRED JUDGE? CLICK HERE**

**CHECK YOUR STUDENTS' SCRIPTS:**

Review your students' speeches & interp scripts using these guideline templates.

**INTERP/DEC SCRIPTS**

**ORATORY/INFO SCRIPTS**

## 2025 NSDA MIDDLE SCHOOL NATIONALS

**JUNE 17-20, 2025 - DES MOINES, IOWA**



The 2025 Middle School National Tournament will be held in person in Des Moines, Iowa on June 17-20, 2025. This is an open invitational tournament, and all middle school NSDA members are welcome to compete for a chance to be named a middle school national champion!

Registration opens on March 15 at **[msnats.tabroom.com](https://msnats.tabroom.com)**.



# 2024-2025 NJSDL Online Speech Festival Series

April 2025



## Celebrating Earth Day

Registration will soon open in [SpeechWire.com](https://www.speechwire.com)

Video Submissions Due April 7, 2025

Judging – April 8-14, 2025

Awards Ceremony – April 15, 2025

**Open to High School and Middle School Students in all states.**

**THEMED Congressional Debate Authorship Challenge** – Students will choose two pieces of legislation to write and deliver authorship speeches introducing each piece of legislation and urging passage of each resolution/bill. Click here for the Legislation Packet (To be released on March 24, 2025).

[CLICK HERE for our FEBRUARY ONLINE AWARDS CEREMONY](#)

[CLICK HERE for our DECEMBER ONLINE AWARDS CEREMONY](#)

in addition to our regular schedule of events.  
Visit [NJSDL.LIVE/virtual2425](https://NJSDL.LIVE/virtual2425) or event info and links!



# LAST CALL!

# DEADLINE: 3/8

## **Coach & Educator Recognitions**

**Nominate a deserving candidate  
today!**

**Paula Mittleman Educator of the  
Year & NFHS State Recognition**

**Due: 3/8/2025**

**High School Coach of the Year**

**Due: 3/8/2025**

**Middle School Coach of the Year**

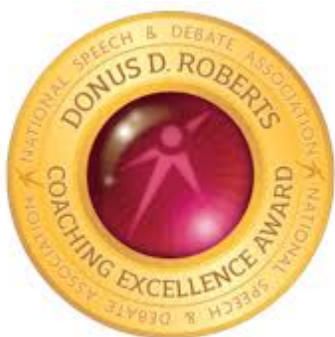
**Due: 3/8/2025**

**Assistant Coach of the Year**

**Due: 3/8/2025**

**New Coach of the Year**

**Due: 3/8/2025**



## **Student**

## **Recognition**

**Nominate a deserving student  
today!**

[CLICK HERE](#)

**Nominate a New Jersey  
Student of the Year**



2024 Student of the Year finalists including New Jersey's own Anika Parthiban from Thomas Edison Energy Smart. Charter School.

Each NSDA District has the opportunity to name a District Student of the Year. Coaches may nominate a graduating senior who best represents the tenets of the Association's Code of Honor: humility, equity, integrity, respect, leadership, and service.

Each year, the top students who win the district award are selected as finalists for the William Woods Tate, Jr., National Student of the Year award. Finalists interview with an esteemed panel, and the National Student of the Year is announced during the National Awards Assembly.

# NSDA Information Webinar



[Click to Play](#)

## Celebrate Speech & Debate Education Day March 7, 2025



**Celebrate and Your School Could Win »** As part of our Centennial Celebration, we are giving away some amazing prizes to schools that celebrate our life-changing activity on National Speech and Debate Education Day!

All you have to do is celebrate speech and debate on Friday, March 7, complete our [contest form](#) to share how you celebrated, and you could win prizes for your team during the 2025 National Speech & Debate Tournament. [Learn more »](#)



# GETTING INVOLVED

## JUDGE TRAINING

NSDA JUDGE ACCREDITATION is an ever-growing set of self-paced online judge certification modules. Upon successful completion of each module, judges will be able to download a certificate and claim their badge in Tabroom.com. Thank you for judging!



<https://www.speechanddebate.org/learn/judge-accreditation/>

## PARLIAMENTARIAN TRAINING



**Parliamentarian Training**

We are always looking for parliamentarians at our local and district events. Consider helping with this valuable role!

VISIT

[NJSDL.ORG/PARLIAMENTARIAN](https://www.speechanddebate.org/learn/parliamentarian/)

## BIA (ADVOCATE) TRAINING

BIA (Belonging & Inclusion Advocates) serve the organization by ensure that every student, judge and coach has an advocate to promote inclusivity and cultural literacy. VISIT

[SPEECHANDDEBATE.ORG/BIS](https://www.speechanddebate.org/bis/)



**NSDA**

Belonging  
& Inclusion  
Station

# District Tournament Information

## Congratulations to our NSDA District Congress Qualifiers!!

### HOUSE Qualifiers

Anshita Jaiswal -  
Bridgewater Raritan  
Aaron Pan - Millburn  
Zoey Qin - Ridge  
Ryan Davidson - Randolph  
Shivank Jha - Ridge  
Aditi Terli - Ridge

### SENATE Qualifiers

Caroline Cheng - Millburn  
Jia Aggarwal - Ridge

## NSDA District Big Questions

Date: March 8, 2025

Location: Newark Tech High School  
91 West Market Street, Newark, NJ 07103

Registration: 8:00-8:45AM

Website: [NJ Tabroom.com](http://NJ.Tabroom.com)

Entry Fee: \$20 per BQ entry

Judge Requirement:

1 judge for every 2 entries

Hired judging Fee: \$175.00

NJ District - [Tabroom.com](http://Tabroom.com)

LIVE DOC: [NJSDL.LIVE/BQ25](http://NJSDL.LIVE/BQ25)

## Newark Tech Invitational:

All speech & debate categories  
[Tabroom.com](http://Tabroom.com)

## NSDA District - Speech & Debate

Date: March 21 & 22, 2025

Location: The Delbarton School  
230 Mendham Rd, Morristown, NJ 07960

Registration: 3:00-3:45PM on 3/22

Website: [www.Tabroom.com](http://www.Tabroom.com)

Entry Fee: \$20 per entry

Judge Requirement:

1 judge for every 5 speech entries

1 judge for every 2 debate entries

Hired judging Fee: \$250.00

Registration for District Speech &  
Debate:

NJ District - [Tabroom.com](http://Tabroom.com)

LIVE DOC: [NJSDL.LIVE/DISTRICTS](http://NJSDL.LIVE/DISTRICTS)

All district entry payments should be  
made payable to

New Jersey Speech & Debate League

Attn. Adam Leonard, Treasurer

Box #337

203 Main Street

Flemington, NJ 08822

Cash, Checks and Purchase Orders are  
accepted.

## What does a coach need to do in order for students to participate?

This is not like a local tournament where one can just 'sign up' and pay entry fees. A school's NSDA roster determines the amount of entries that school can enter for the district tournament. The more students on your roster, the more entries your school is eligible to enter at Districts! (i.e., GET THOSE POINTS IN!!)

- ☒ Read through the invitation information (this document) and note the specific deadlines and requirements.
- ☐ Join or renew the National Speech & Debate Association (this is a separate registration from the New Jersey Speech & Debate League).  
Enter your students names, emails and passwords and have them confirm.
- ☐ Link your students to Tabroom and Speechwire which will allow autoposting. Make sure their names and emails are identical between NSDA and Tabroom.com. You can use the syncing functions to assist with this.
- ☐ Enter your students' points or use the autoposting feature if it has been previously enabled. Points can be earned at any local, regional or national tournament; however they must be recorded ahead of districts. Remember, students can also earn points for specific 'service' categories!
- ☐ Once a student earns 25 NSDA points, their lifetime dues must be purchased before registering for the district series. This membership fee is separate from and does not include the student's entry fee(s) at the district tournament.
- ☐ Once a student becomes a member of the NSDA with 25 points, they are eligible to compete in the District Series!!! Congratulations! Now you have to enter them.





# ENTERING THE DISTRICT TOURNAMENT

ALL REGISTRATION FOR THE NSDA DISTRICT TOURNAMENT WILL BE THROUGH [TABROOM.COM](https://www.tabroom.com)

Congressional Legislation due	2/5/25
Congressional Registration opens	1/21/25
Congressional Debate entries due	2/14/25
Congressional Debate judges due	2/19/25
Congressional Debate payment due	2/22/25
World Schools Applications are due	2/25/25
Big Questions Registration opens	2/9/25
Big Questions entries due	3/3/25
Big Questions judges due	3/5/25
Big Questions payment due	3/8/25
Speech & Debate Registration opens	2/26/25
Speech & Debate entries & titles due	3/18/25
(remember that titles and pieces must be entered with the student's entry.)	
Speech & Debate judges due	3/20/25
Speech & Debate payment due	3/20/25

There are two additional ways  
that students can enter 2025  
National Championships!

[Qualifying through the NSDA  
Last-Chance Virtual Qualifier](#)

[4/24/25 - 4/26/25](#)

[Attend as a non-qualifier in the  
supplemental categories.](#)

Click the links for details on each.

## Important Links

[How do I submit District congress legislation \(2/5  
deadline\)](#)

[What topics are you using for CX, PF, LD and BQ?](#)

[How do I link my NSDA students to tabroom?](#)

[How do I enter my students' NSDA points?](#)

[Where can I find other district resources?](#)





## We're registered.... now what?

This is the perfect time to ensure that your students' materials and performances adhere to NSDA regulations and procedures.

- ☐ Review the most recent NSDA Unified Manual with your team. Have them read through the specific regulations associated with their event(s) to avoid risking disqualification.
- ☐ Have your interpretation students review the rules and complete the documentation process now, rather than right before the event. Share this template with your students so you can review their material with them. [njsdl.live/interp](https://njsdl.live/interp)
- ☐ Have your oratory and informative students review the rules and update their scripts and references to ensure they're current and any sources are accessible. Share this template with your students so you can review their material with them. [njsdl.live/speech](https://njsdl.live/speech)
- ☐ All original scripts and updated manuscripts (for all speech events except USX and IX) must be available at all district tournament contests in the event of a protest. You can see what constitutes an original script/manuscript in the event rules linked above.
- ☐ Review the rules for internet and evidence use with your students in the following events so you can be sure they understand their importance and follow proper procedures.
  - Extemporaneous Speaking
  - Congressional Debate
  - Public Forum, Lincoln Douglas and Policy Debate

**Generative Artificial Intelligence:** At the 2024 National Tournament, in events in which speeches must be the original created work of a competitor (OO, INF, IX, USX, SW, EXC, IMP), students are **prohibited from quoting or paraphrasing text directly from generative AI sources**. Generative AI should not be cited as a source. The exception is that a student delivering a speech about the topic of AI may quote AI to illustrate their points about AI, in accordance with existing quoted word limits. While generative AI may be used to guide students to articles, ideas, and sources, **the original source of any quoted or paraphrased evidence must be available if requested**. In debate events, generative AI should not be cited as a source; while generative AI may be used to guide students to articles, ideas, and sources, the original source of any quoted or paraphrased evidence must be available if requested. **In Interpretation events, students are prohibited from performing material created by generative AI sources**. Generative AI should not be used as a source of material; while generative AI may be used to guide students to articles, ideas, and material, the original source of any material that is performed must be available if requested.

# Are you interested in starting a Speech & Debate program at your school?

The NJSDL and New Jersey District are here to support you.

- Membership to the league is “school-based.” We are happy to have a conversation with potential school advisors, coaches, teachers or administrators about starting a new program. All students who participate in league events must have their school’s permission and qualify under their school’s insurance & liability.
- Potential student leaders are encouraged to contact us for information; however, they should include an adult school contact in the conversation.
- The [NSDA posts many resources](#) to assist schools in getting started.
- School advisors should complete the School Registration Form online or use the registration form at the end of this newsletter.



[Free Online MS & HS Springboard Scrimmages](#) – Thanks to the generosity of The Julia Burke Foundation, [the Springboard Series](#) will again offer a variety of FREE, online opportunities including after-school scrimmages and two weekend tournaments.



NSDA LEARN is an ever-growing set of self-paced online professional development courses. Various topics include coaching, team building, cultural competency, and advocacy. Coaches can earn certificates of completion they can share with their school administration.



NSDA offers multiple grant opportunities to new programs and teams-in-need. [Click for more info.](#)



# School Registration

## 2024-2025 Season

[Register online here](#) or complete the following form and mail with your registration fee to the address on the right.

Are you a ☐ High School (9-12) ☐ Middle School (5-8)

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

School Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

School Moderator: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal/Head of School: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Moderator/Coach: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: New Jersey Speech and Debate League

#337

203 Main Street

Flemington, NJ 08822

All schools, new and returning, should complete the following information and remit annual dues payment each year [note that many schools pre-pay their annual dues in conjunction with the previous year's state championship tournament registration fees]. In order to compete at league-managed tournaments such as the State Championships, all materials should be received by January 31, 2025 to be eligible. You may pay your dues by October 31, 2024 at the discounted rate of \$175. Dues are \$200 if paid between October 31 and January 31. League W-9 can be accessed at [njsdl.live/w9form](https://njsdl.live/w9form)

[Membership to the National Speech & Debate Association is separate. You can join the NSDA by clicking here!](#)



New Jersey Speech and Debate League

#337

203 Main Street

Flemington, NJ 08822

a partner  
organization with



and



**NATIONAL FEDERATION  
OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL  
ASSOCIATIONS**

### OFFICERS:

President-Katie Burke (Randolph)

VP-Speech-Renee Drummond (Elizabeth)

VP-Debate-Laurie Schmid (Phillipsburg)

VP-Outreach-Dennis Philbert (Newark Central)

Treasurer-Adam Leonard (Hunt. Central)

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Jordy Barry (Millburn)\*

Natasha Doski (Ridge)

Al Fischer (Bridgewater-Raritan)

Mary Gormley (Delbarton)

Saul Grullon (University)

Kyle Parker (Phillipsburg)

Melissa Pierce (Bridgewater-Raritan)\*

Anne Poyner (Summit)

Brian Rodriguez (Elizabeth)

Ray Shay (Friends Academy, NY)\*

Michael Sowell (Barringer)

Gary Yablon (Hudson Arts and Sciences)

David Yastremski (Ridge)\*\*

- alternate      \*\*NSDA Dist. Chair

### NEW JERSEY DISTRICT COMMITTEE:

[David Yastremski](#) (Ridge) - Chair

Katie Burke (Randolph)

Adam Leonard (Hunterdon Central)

Dennis Philbert (Newark Central)

Anne Poyner (Summit)

Laurie Schmid (Phillipsburg)