

Happy Valentine's Day to all the Great Debaters of New York City - our students, teachers, coaches, judges, volunteers, supporters, donors, alumni, parents - everyone who is passionate about debate!

Last weekend was magical and why we all **LOVE** this activity. Over 500 debate tournament participants across two different boroughs! Harlem hosted its first debate competition in recent memory at PS 161 which this year had started its first debate team! Brooklyn hosted a debate tournament that was jam packed - debates were happening in any space available! Over 276 middle school debaters, 136 judges, and over 95 parents and guests last Saturday!

Students were debating, discussing, researching and thinking about issues including rent control in Harlem, the Supreme Court's recent decision invalidating parts of the Civil Rights Act, sexism in the media, professional athlete pay and the Cuban Embargo. High School students were volunteering as judges, coaches, mentors and workshop instructors! Over 200 New Yorkers came out to judge and watch our Great Debaters! And after each tournament we hosted 7 different workshops for students and taught by students on issues f