

THE GREAT DEBATERS WEEKLY NEWSLETTER
THE NEW YORK CITY URBAN DEBATE LEAGUE

"Be Great! Be a Great Debater!"

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR BRONX
SUMMER DEBATE INSTITUTE
PARTICIPANTS & EDUCATION WEEK
PROFILES THE IMPACT OF DEBATE!**



This week we celebrate our Bronx Debate Camp and two news articles celebrating scholastic debate in New York by Education Week and the Huffington Post! It was only several years ago there were no interscholastic debate opportunities for elementary school and middle school students, and less than 10 Title I high schools had debate teams. Together, we are changing these statistics to ensure that every school should have a debate team and every student should have access to debate opportunities. Today, New York City has the largest middle school debate program in the nation, one of the most successful high school programs in the nation, one of the first elementary school debate leagues in the nation, but even more importantly debate and argumentation are not just for

students on "debate teams" but for students in every class. Evidence based argumentation since Ancient Greece has been the most rigorous academic program to teach students reading, writing, critical thinking, communication, note taking, questioning, research and every other academic skill...

Education Week, August 12th

These skills, loosely categorized as elements of emotional intelligence, include the capacity to persevere through setbacks (grit), the facility to bring existing knowledge to a novel situation (creativity), comfort in working with others and knowing when to lead and when to follow (collaboration), the capability to confront the seemingly infinite volumes of information on any topic and select the relevant data (research), and sensitivity to what a target audience is thinking so that such data can be presented persuasively (empathy). The debate curriculum teaches young people much of what they'll need to know in these areas by active, engaging, and highly direct means. - Paul Deards, NYC Middle School Principal

Huffington Post, August 15th

"The goal of an argument curriculum is to enhance the development of the responsible citizens and the pedagogical methodology consists of cultivating argument skills, epistemic development, and moral development. School-based nurturance of this development will lead to students' autonomous critical thinking and their formation as responsible citizens. We must invest in the education of our youth. They are our future!" - NYC Rabbi Dr. Shmuly Yanklowitz

Start a Debate Team At Your School This Year!

So!!!! With the new school year starting soon, we welcome back the over 1000 students that participated in the NYC Debate League last year! But we also invite all schools without a debate team - elementary, middle and high school to sign up to discover the world of debate! Parliamentary Debate! Policy Debate! Public Forum Debate! Public Speaking! Elementary School Debate! Debate Across the Curriculum! Contact us now at nycudl@gmail.com to bring debate to your school! NYC Debate offers year round debate education programming - EVERY DAY - outreach to schools to support debate, EVERY WEEKEND - debate tournaments, EVERY SUMMER - from the first day of summer to the last day of summer is Debate Camp!.....

BE GREAT! BE A GREAT DEBATER!

Sincerely,
Erik Fogel, Director
Website: www.nycudl.org
Blog: <http://nycudl.blogspot.com>
Debate Camp Website: www.nycdebatecamp.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/nycudl
Twitter: #nycdebateleague
Email: nycudl@gmail.com
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Be Great! Be a Great Debater!
Support Our City's Debate League!

[Click here to learn more about supporting our Great Debaters and our city's debate league for all ages.](#)

LAST WEEK FOR DEBATE CAMP!

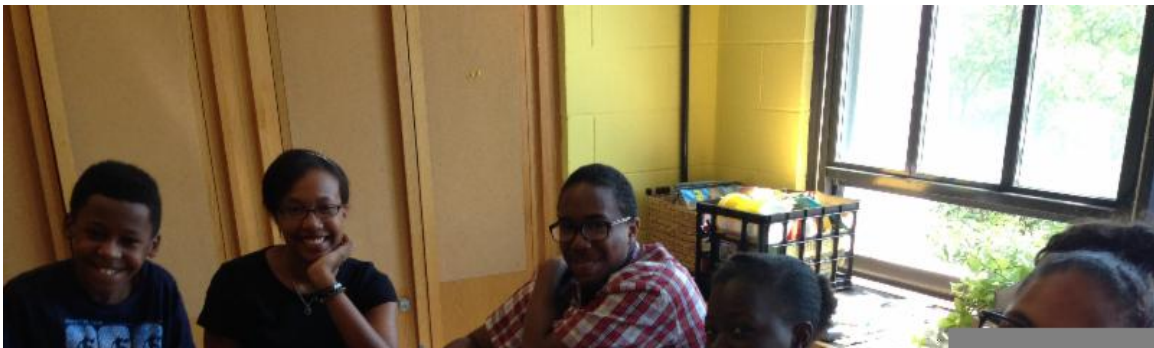
**Queens Debate Institute (August 25th-29th)
Columbia University Debate Camp (August 25th-29th)
Teachers Debate Institute (August 25th-29th)**

[Click here to register for Summer Debate Camp or School Year Programs!](#)

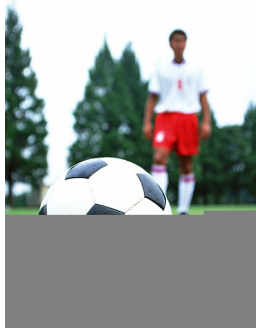
All members of the New York City Urban Debate League are eligible for full scholarships to Debate Camp
Email us at nycudl@gmail.com for scholarship information!

NYC DEBATE WEEKLY NEWS

Celebrating the incredible achievements of our Great Debaters every week.



Congratulations to our Bronx Great Debaters! This is our second year of the Bronx Summer Debate Institute and it continues to grow! We would like to thank the incredible Principal Ms. Tara Edmonds and Debate Coach, Ms. Weems of IS/PS Institute for Environmental Learning! We would also like to thank an incredible staff of Emily Tran, Jason Alina Kulman, Pablo Blanco, Jason Chen, and Ms. Weems for sharing their passion for debate! Finally, a huge shout out to all our Great Debaters for attending the Bronx Summer Debate Institute!



**SPORTS
DEBATE TOPIC!
NATIONAL MIDDLE
SCHOOL
AND HIGH SCHOOL
PUBLIC FORUM DEBATE
SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER
TOPIC ANNOUNCED!**

Based on a nationwide vote, the September/October 2014 Public Forum topic is, Resolved: On balance, public subsidies for professional athletic organizations in the United States benefit their local communities.

A total of 360 schools and 298 students voted for the resolution. The winning resolution received 51% of the school vote and 56% percent of the student vote.

Public Forum Debate is the newest debate format in the United States and has quickly grown to become the largest middle school and high school debate format nationwide. Topics change monthly based on current events and all students and coaches vote for the national topics.



**THE 2014
OCEANS GREAT
DEBATE!
NATIONAL MIDDLE
SCHOOL AND HIGH
SCHOOL POLICY
DEBATE RESOURCES
AVAILABLE!**

Policy Debate is the oldest style of debate in the United States and one of the most rigorous debate formats. Students study and research a single topic during the year and earn basically a master's thesis on the topic.

The topic this year is Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase its non-military exploration and/or development of the Earth's oceans.

You can find topic resources at the [Open Evidence Project](#) and our Starter Packets will be sent out to schools at the start of the school year!



**PARLIAMENTARY
DEBATE CAMP
STARTS NEXT
WEEK!**

Several years ago New York City Urban Debate League coaches partnered up with Claremont Colleges to bring parliamentary debate to NYC and the results have been stunning with parliamentary debate expanding throughout NYC! Next week we host the Parliamentary Summer Debate Institute at Columbia University. [Click here if you haven't signed up yet!](#)

While Public Forum debate emphasizes researched and written speeches, and Policy Debate encourages students to process and bring thousands of pages of research to debate rounds - parliamentary debate features limited prep and thinking on one's feet on topics that change every round!

QUEENS, HARLEM, AND TEACHERS DEBATE CAMPS START NEXT WEEK!

Next Monday the Queens Debate Institute (QDI), Harlem/Columbia University debate Institute, and the Teachers Debate Institute will begin. Thank you for everyone for making our Summer Debate Camps possible! And a huge shout out to our Debate Camp staff! And if you would like to join the staff please email us at nycudl@gmail.com.

Frank Zhao

Frank Zhao was our Queens Summer Debate Institute Program Director last year as well our Public Forum and Parliamentary Debate Coordinator at our local tournaments. Frank is a long time member of the St. John's University Debate Team and long time supporter of the New York City Urban Debate League and bringing debate education opportunities to all students.

St. John's University Debate Team

We thank the incredible and award winning debate team of St. John's University in Queens for sharing their passion, experience, and debate skills with us at the Queens Summer Debate Institute!

Alina Kulman

Alina Kulman is a rising sophomore at Hunter College High School. She began her debate career with parliamentary debate in 8th grade, and her team placed in the top 5 at every tournament they attended. This led her to immense interest in debate, and this year Alina competed in her novice year of Lincoln Douglas, reaching elimination rounds at the State finals, the Scarsdale Invitational and the Ridge Debates. Outside of debate, Alina plays piano, tennis, and thinks about debating.

Emily Tran

Emily Tran is a rising sophomore at Hunter College High School, and has been debating for three years in Parliamentary and Lincoln Douglas debate, with a brief foray into Policy. Last year, she and her team won the city championships, as well as placing second at the national Middle School Parliamentary Debate Championships. This year, she competed on local and national circuits, becoming a semifinalist and 5th place speaker at the New York State Debate Coaches Championships. Debate has been an incredible adventure, and she hopes to share it with others. Outside of debate, Emily fiddles around with Photoshop and tries to hibernate.

Pablo Blanco

Pablo Blanco is a junior at Stuyvesant High School, who participates in the activity of policy debate. He has 2 years of High school experience and has participated in several national tournaments. Pablo also dedicates some time to volunteer work and spends time in his school's branch of Aspira. Pablo aims to enrich the debate community and hopes that spending time with the UDL makes that possible.

Jason Chen

Jason Chen is a rising junior at the Bronx School for Law, Government and Justice. He comes from a family of debaters and is dedicating the summer to interning at the NYCUDL. Jason is also a member of the ROTC and plans to pursue a career in the military.

Erik Fogel

Erik Fogel is Director of the New York City Urban Debate League and coach of the Debate Team at the Bronx School for Law, Government and Justice. His debaters have won top awards at every single debate tournament in the Northeast including Harvard, Yale, Georgetown, NYC, Lexington, Manchester, Ridge, Newark, Washington DC and everywhere else!. He coached the first New York City middle school teams to win top

awards at the National Championships including Quarterfinalists, Semifinalists, and Third Place Top Speaker. Mr. Fogel received his B.A. in Political Science & History from UC Berkeley, J.D. from UC Hastings College of Law, and M.A. in Education from Pace University.

SUMMER DEBATE TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

Click here to register for debate camp!

All members of the New York City Urban Debate League are eligible for full scholarships to Debate Camp

Email us at nycudl@gmail.com for scholarship information!

There's no summer break for debate! Welcome to our summer debate season with tournaments nearly every weekend! And if interested in volunteering as a judge at any of these tournaments, please email us at nycudl@gmail.com. Thank You!

Summer Debate Institutes

Harlem Debate Institute
 Brooklyn Debate Institute
 Bronx Debate Institute
 Queens Debate Institute
 Manhattan Debate Institute
 Teachers Debate Institute

Summer Debate Tournament Calendar

July 3 - Harlem Summer Debate Tournament
 July 11th - Brooklyn Summer Debate Tournament
 July 31st - Manhattan Middle School Summer Debate Tournament
 August 1st - Manhattan High School Summer Debate Tournament
 August 15th - Bronx Summer Debate Tournament
 August 29th - Queens Summer Debate Tournament
 August 29th - Teachers Summer Debate Tournament
 August 29th - Columbia University Summer Debate Tournament

Policy Debate Topic (2014-2015)

Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase its non-military exploration and/or development of the Earth's oceans.

Public Forum Debate Topic (September/October 2014)

Topic Area: Sports in the United States.

Choice 1 - Resolved: On balance, students in grades 6-12 in the United States benefit when their schools offer interscholastic sports.

Choice 2 - Resolved: On balance, public subsidies for professional athletic organizations in the United States benefit their local communities.

International Public Policy Forum Topic (2014-2015)

Resolved: Mass surveillance is not a justified method of governmental intelligence gathering.

Parliamentary Debate Topics



Student selected!

Thank You to Our Sponsors!

Debate Camps can cost several thousand dollars. We are able to provide full scholarships to all Title I schools and students that are members of the New York City Urban Debate League, as well as all students for a fraction of the cost thanks to our incredible sponsors who are passionate about providing the most rigorous educational opportunities to all students. We thank...

The Arthur Rupe Foundation

The West Harlem Development Corporation

New Yankee Stadium Community Benefits Fund, Inc.

The New York City Council

Brown & Rudnick

Fish & Richardson

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NYC DEBATE LEAGUE PROGRAMS

NEW YORK CITY'S MOST RIGOROUS ACADEMIC PROGRAM

EVERY DAY. EVERY WEEKEND. ALL SUMMER. YEAR ROUND.



New York City High School Debate Calendar 2014-2015

10/5 - NYCUDL/Metro Hudson League
Season Opener Workshop

11/1 - HS Tournament #1
The Metro Hudson Tournament

11/22 - HS Tournament #2
The Horace Mann Invitational
(PF Only)

12/13 - HS Tournament #3
The Fried Frank Invitational

12/20 - HS Tournament #4



The Brown Rudnick New York City Travel Team Debate Calendar 2014-2015

9/19-9/21 - Yale University (CT)
9/26-9/28 - Georgetown University (DC)
10/10-10/11 - Monticello (NY)
10/18 - NYC Invitational (NY)
10/24-10/26 -Capital Beltway Classic (MD)
10/24-25 - Manchester (MA)
11/22- Horace Mann Invitational (NY)
12/5-7 - Princeton University (NJ)
12/12 - Ridge High School (NJ)
12/20 - Regis Holiday Classic (NY)
1/9-1/11 - Newark Invitational (NJ)
1/16-1/18 - Lexington (MA)
1/23-1/25 - Columbia University (NY)

The Regis Holiday Classic
 1/10 - HS Tournament #5
 The Brooklyn Debate Invitational
 2/21 - HS Tournament #6
 The Metro Hudson Debate Blowout
 3/20-3/23 - HS Tournament #7
 The NYC High School Championships
 & Kirkland & Ellis National Qualifier
 4/25 - HS Tournament #8
 The Beveridge & Diamond Environmental
 Debate Fest!
 5/TBA - HS Tournament #9
 The Donors Choose Early Bird Tournament
 6/TBA - HS Tournament #10
 The Girls Debate Championships

2/6-2/7 - Scarsdale Invitational (NY)
 2/15-17 - Harvard University (MA)
 2/15-17 - University of Pennsylvania (PA)
 2/27 - Lakeland High School (NY)
 4/9-4/12 - Urban Debate National
 Championships (University of Southern
 California) (CA)
 4/11-4/13 - National Debate Coaches
 Association National Championships (NV)
 6/14-20 - National Speech & Debate
 Association's National Championships
 (TBA)



New York City Middle School Debate League Tournament Calendar 2014-2015

**9/20 - Middle School
 Debate Camp!**

10/11 - Conference #1
 The West Harlem
 Foundation Debate
 Invitational

11/8 - Conference #2
 The McCarthy Dressman
 Debate Invitational

12/6 - Conference #3
 The Citizens Committee
 Debate Invitational

1/10 - Conference #4
 The Donors Choose
 Invitational

2/14 - Conference #5
 The Valentines Day "I Love
 Debate" Invitational.



New York City Middle School Quality Initiative Tournament Calendar 2014-2015

10/18 - Tournament #1
 @ MS 45 (Bronx)

*Topic: Do professional
 athletes deserve multi-
 million dollar salaries?*

1/10 - Tournament #2
 @ Brooklyn Tech High
 School (Brooklyn)

*Nuclear power: Our energy
 future, or danger to society?*

3/28 - Tournament #3
 @ Bronx High School of
 Science (Bronx)

*Violence and media: are
 ratings systems necessary?*

6/12 - Tournament #4
 The MSQI Championships
 @ Columbia University

New York City Elementary School Debate League Tournament Calendar 2014-2015

10/11 - Tournament #1
 The West Harlem
 Foundation Debate
 Invitational

11/7 - The Sesame Street
 Debates! @ Sesame
 Street!

11/8 - Conference #2
 The McCarthy Dressman
 Debate Invitational

12/6 - Tournament #3
 The Citizens Committee
 Debate Invitational

1/10 - Tournament #4
 The Donors Choose
 Invitational

2/7 - Tournament #5

**2/27-28 - Conference #6
Travel Tournament**
(The Westchester Classic)

(Manhattan)
*Should middle and high
schools use academic
tracking?*

The Valentines Day "I
Love Debate" Invitational

3/7-3/8 - Conference #7
The New York State Middle
School Championships

3/7-3/8
The New York State
Elementary School
Championships

3/28 - Conference #8
The Bronx Science Battle
of the Boroughs Middle
School Tournament

3/28 - Tournament #6
The Bronx Science Battle
of the Boroughs

4/25 - Conference #9
The Beveridge & Diamond
Environmental Debate
Fest!

4/25 - Tournament #7
The Beveridge & Diamond
Environmental Debate
Fest!

5/16 - Conference #10:
The Fish & Richardson
City of Champions: New
York City Middle School
Championships

5/9 - Tournament #8
The Elementary School
Championships @ The
New York Historical
Society


6/TBA - Conference #11:
The Girls Debate
Championships

6/TBA - Tournament #9
The Girls Debate
Championships

**6/14 - The National
Middle School
Championships**
The National Speech
& Debate Association

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