Dear Coaches and Students,

The Kentucky Educational Speech and Drama Association (KESDA) cordially invites you to participate in a unique day of competition and work-shopping we’re calling The Odd Couple. The name refers to a strange pairing of two wildly different events: a debate tournament and an improv workshop. Weird? Maybe a little. Fun? Definitely!

**LOCATION/DATE**

The Odd Couple will take place on the campus of Georgetown College on Saturday, December 14.

**DEBATE EVENTS**

We will offer Congress, Public Forum, Policy, and Lincoln Douglas Debate. Middle school students are welcome to participate but will be competing against high school students. The KESDA directors reserve the right to reduce or creatively pair entries should the need arise. We require at least six entries in an event (15 for Congress) in order for it to make.

In addition, if we have enough interest among middle school students, a special teaching Congress will be held. Experienced middle school students may opt to compete in Senior Congress.

**IMPROV WORKSHOP**

True improv is FUN! The idea for the improv workshop sprang from a movement afoot to revamp improv pairs and make it more enjoyable for students, coaches, and judges and to make the event more like real improv. Dr. Ed Smith will lead a variety of improv games and teach skills we hope to highlight in next year’s new version of improv pairs.

**ENTRIES**

All events are unlimited entries, but a student may enter only one debate event or the improv workshop. Each entry is $10 ($20 for Public Forum and Policy teams). Participation in the improv workshop is open to both students and adults and is $10 per attendee.

**DEADLINE**

Registration will close at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, December 9th. Any drops or adds after that time will be assessed $10 per entry until December 12. Drops after December 12 are $25. Substitutions are free. Please let us know of any changes as soon as possible.

Congress bills for high school competitors will be due on Thursday, December 5th by 4:00 p.m. A packet of bills will be prepared for students participating in the training Congress.

**JUDGES**

While entries are unlimited, you must be able to provide one qualified judge for every two entries. For $50, you may opt to hire **one** judge per team. Your judges must be capable of judging any debate event. A fee of $50 will be assessed for a dropped judge.

**AWARDS**

Medals will be awarded to the top four competitors in Lincoln-Douglas, Policy, and Public Forum and to the top six speakers in Senior Congress. Trophies will be awarded to the top six teams.

**MEALS**

The college cafeteria will not be open, but food service has tentatively agreed to make boxed lunches at a cost of approximately $12.50 each. These must be pre-ordered. A couple of pizza places will deliver to campus, and there are several fast food places within a five minutes drive of the Georgetown College campus.

**REGISTRATION**

Registration will be online at <http://www.tabroom.com> .

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE**

8:15-9:00 Registration and Ballot Pick Up

9:15-12:00 Training Congress

9:15-Round I Debate and Senior Congress Session I

9:30-12:00 Improv Workshop: Session I

10:15-Round II Debate

12:30 Senior Congress Session II

1:00 Round III Debate

1:30-3:30 Improv Workshop: Session II

3:00-Congress Finals and Debate Round IV (or semifinals, if needed)

4:30-Debate Finals (if needed)

6:30 Awards (if debate finals are not needed, awards will take place earlier)

We look forward to seeing you at The Odd Couple on December 14th! It’s going to be a time!

Sincerely,

Dr. Edward B. Smith & Betsy B. Smith

Executive Directors, KESDA

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