



Wisconsin High School
Forensic Association
P.O. Box 176
Waukesha, WI
53187-0176

“Not to defeat each other, but to pace one another on the road to excellence.”

Ethel Heise New Coach Award

In memory of long time speech coach and WHSFA advocate, we have started presenting the “Ethel Heise New Coach Award” at the WHSFA State Speech Festival. The winner needs to have been coaching one to five years and made significant contributions to a schools forensic program.

This year WHSFA received many outstanding nominations. It was a difficult decision for the reading committee to select only one recipient. Therefore, it was decided WHSFA would award two outstanding candidates – Craig Pierce from Desoto High School and Amy Koszarek from Waterford Union High School.

Craig Pierce got involved in coaching forensics because he realized what an influence his coach, Kathleen Kennedy from Necedah, had on his life. He states in his application that to this day he still hears Ms. Kennedy in his head say, “Craig, slow down, Craig speak up, Craig, quit fidgeting, quit pacing.” Now he says these things to his own team members. All of us know how busy teachers

One Act Time Change

Effective this Fall the time for One Act Plays will change to a straight 45 minutes. It will be up to the school how the time is used. The 45 minutes will include set up, performance and strike. Literally it will be bare stage to bare stage. It is important that directors realize that there will be no grace period.

are these days but there is no question Craig Pierce is among the busiest. Not only is he the Desoto forensic coach, he is also the band director, choir director and school musical director and also the weight-room supervisor. This year he had nearly a quarter of the school’s population involved in the forensic program.

Amy Koszarek took over a very successful program at Waterford Union High School and made it even stronger. In her application, Amy compares coaching forensics to being a “gentle mom figure to the student who needs help overcoming fear . . . a cheerleader to the kid who seems to never catch a break . . . a teacher to the student who needs help constructing a well-written speech . . . a drill sergeant to the kid who needs a little extra discipline and responsibility . . . a mirror to the student who just can’t see how brilliant she already is . . . a clown to the overly serious student that needs to see that is okay to be silly. “

Congratulations to these outstanding coaches.



WHSFA

WISCONSIN HIGH SCHOOL FORENSIC ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 116 • ISSUE 1 • SPRING 2012

Four Year Gold Winners

Every year we ask the coaches to notify the State Office of students who had earned a fourth straight gold at the State Speech Festival. Some of the students changed categories and others stayed in their original category all four years. What you probably don’t know is when WHSFA started in 1895, if a student won gold in Oratory, for example, they were not able to compete in that category the rest of their time in high school. There were very few students who managed four straight gold medals in those days. As you read, you will find several of our winners this year did compete in more than one category.

Congratulations to:

Claudia Hagerman from Brookwood High School who in her freshman, sophomore and senior year won gold in Prose Reading. Her junior year she participated in Play Acting and won gold.

Nick Helber from Prescott High School took gold all four years in Four Minute Speaking.

Chase Jaime from Bonduel High School won his fourth gold this year in Four Minute Speaking.

Emily Hebron from Union Grove High School won her fourth gold this year in Four Minute Speaking.

Hunter Evenson from Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau High School won his fourth gold in Solo Acting this year after previously winning

gold his freshman year in Poetry Reading, his sophomore year in Prose Reading and his junior year in Solo Acting.

Earl Stoll from Maple Northwestern High School won his fourth gold this year in Prose Reading. He had previously won gold in Poetry Reading.

Freesia Krogstad from Chippewa Falls Senior High School won her fourth straight gold medal in Poetry Reading.

Trent Davis from Fennimore High School won his fourth straight gold in Group Interpretation.

Cora Ketterhagen from Lake Holcombe High School won her third gold medal in Solo Acting. She has also won gold in Play Acting.

Rebecca Vacha from Wrightstown High School won her fourth straight gold in Poetry Reading.

Veronica Arntz from St. Ambrose Academy, Madison received her fourth straight gold medal.

Colton Larsen from Luther Preparatory School in Watertown received his fourth gold medal in Storytelling.

Michael Janssen from Luck High School received his fourth straight gold medal at State Speech.

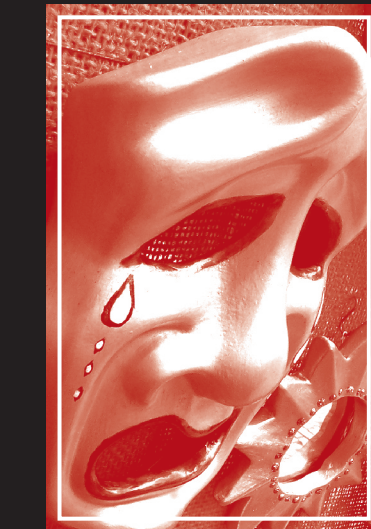
Brian Fesenmaier from Spring Valley High School received his fourth straight gold medal at State Speech.

State Speech Largest in Past 10 Years

It was a very exciting year to be part of the WHSFA State Speech Festival with 4,937 students on the Madison Campus to perform. In a time when there are a lot of changes in school districts, it is good to know that students are still involved in this important activity.

Along with the nearly 5,000 students, we had 559 judges scheduled at Madison and 468 coaches (many of them functioned as judges).

Because I like numbers, I kept track for the first time of the number of students that began the activity in January. I was pleasantly surprised to discover that nearly 6,000 student started speech activities.



BOARD OF CONTROL

Chuck Malone	Executive Director
Dr. Charles Grover	Advisor in Theatre
Dr. Kay Neal	Advisor in Debate
Dr. Gregory Olson	Advisor in Speech
Dr. Emily Long	Middle Level Advisor
Andy Wolfe	District 1 Chair
Nancy Herbison	District 2 Chair
Christine Fern-Denzer	District 3 Chair
Judine Brey	District 4 Chair
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Mark Kohl	District 8 Chair
Rev. Gary Wegner	District 9 Chair
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Shauna Wessely	District 11 Chair
Sue Luterbach	District 12/13 Chair
Bernadette Elverman and Amy Koszarek	District 14 Chair
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Rick Braun	Sect III (7,8,10) Chair
Laura Maly	Sect IV (9,12/13) Chair
Chris Andacht	Sect V (11,14) Chair

Book a Slot for State

Book a Slot for State worked very well this year. The State Office heard from coaches all over the state about the success of the new system. It was the first time in many years that some schools were able to secure the 5:30 p.m. round because coaches in rural areas were not dependent on mail service between the State Office and their school.

Interestingly enough, the 5:30 p.m. round was the first to fill. It was full by 9 a.m. of the opening day. The 7 p.m. round was available for several weeks before it was full.

Next year, when schools can enter more than four Group Interpretive entries and/or Playing Acting entries, it will change the schools selecting rounds since they will be allowed to only select a Saturday round.

Certified Adjudicators

As you are all aware, we are keeping detailed records of adjudicator certifications to insure that all judges used at any level in the Speech Festival season hold current certification.

It is very important that you notify the state office whenever you have a name change, an address change, a phone number change, or an email address change. All renewal notices are sent via email now as we continue to "go green" – so it is imperative that our records contain your current email address. If you are at all unsure if you are up-to-date in our office, just send an email to Linda@whsfa.org and we'll make sure that all is in order. Thanks for your help with this. It will help you receive renewal notices in a timely manner and also be a great help to us in the State Office.

One Act Plays

Start planning now for Fall 2012 and One Act Play Festivals! If you haven't participated in One Act Festivals before, now is a great time to get started. It's fun – the students totally enjoy it and the State Office is always available to help you get started and guide you along the way. Give it some thought . . . and if you already participate in this program, summer is a great time to start thinking about your play selection. State Theatre is at U.W. Stevens Point this year November 15-17, 2012.

Show Case Productions

Every year WHSFA along with Continuing Studies in Theatre at U.W. Madison sponsor full length productions at the WHSFA State Theatre Festival. If you are interested in bringing a production contact Chuck Malone in the WHSFA State Office and he will send you this year's application.

Don't miss an opportunity to show off your fine theatre program!

Always Check Your Up-date Registration Forms

Again this year there were entries scheduled for State Speech that had dropped out along the way. This could have been avoided if coaches would have checked their registration forms every time they received an updated one.

The State Office sends the coach a new registration copy whenever the old one is updated. The registration forms can be updated for a variety of reasons: the coach notifies us of a change, there has been a Sub-district Speech Festival or a District Speech Festival. Every time there is a change in the entries, the coach is sent a copy.

Tech Awards to be Tried at 2012 State Theatre Festival

The WHSFA Board of Control has decided that there will be Tech Award(s) at the State Theatre Festival. As with the other awards, it will take two out of the three evaluators to cite a school for Outstanding Tech. The award can be given for costumes, makeup, set up and strike and/or set design and function. After the trial period, the Board of Control will examine the effect on the over-all festival.

Middle Level Advisory to Address Speech Rubrics

This summer when the Middle Level Advisory meets one of the things they will have on their agenda will be the judging rubrics. We are seeking your input for the discussion. Are there things on the present rubrics you would like to see kept or are their things you would like to see changed? Please email Chuck at the State Office and let him know your ideas. director@whsfa.org

2012-2013 Increase in Group Interpretation and Play Acting Groups

As you think forward to next year, remember speech coaches you will be able to add two more groups to your entries. Of course, you cannot have more than a total of 25 entries. The total number of groups in either category cannot exceed four. The second thing to consider is by adding two more groups you are agreeing to perform on Saturday of State Speech Festival. If a school signs up for a Friday night time slot and then registers more than four group entries, they will automatically be dropped from the Friday night round and scheduled into a Saturday round.



Speech Coaches Follow in Footsteps of Their Mentors

As many of us already know, coaches are very influential when it comes to the direction that our students go in life. For example, on the Wisconsin High School Forensics Association Board of Control two of the District Chairs are sitting along side of their high school coach.

Christina Fern-Denzer (Tina) District 3 Chair's high school speech coach is the Section I Chair, Roxi Wakeen. Tina got involved in forensics in high school and went on to get a teaching degree and became the speech coach for Menomonie High School. Tina went on to represent Section I on the Speech Advisory and later to be elected as District 3 Chair.

Shauna Wessely, District 11 Chair, is following in the footsteps of her high school coach from Westosha Central High School, Bernadette Elverman, District 14 Co-Chair. Shauna participated in college as part of the U.W. Whitewater forensic team. When she started teaching at Milton High School, Shauna became their forensic coach.

ADVISORIES TO MEET THIS SUMMER

All the Wisconsin High School Forensic Association Advisories are meeting this summer.

Speech Advisory will meet on June 14, 2012

Middle Level Advisory will meet on July 18, 2012

Theatre Advisory will meet on June 26, 2012

Debate Advisory - TBA

2012 Excellence In Speech Award Winners

Baraboo High School (District 8) and coach Jamie Spagnolo

Boscobel High School (District 10) and coach Jean Salzgeber

Burlington High School (District 14) and coaches Robbie Twohig and Matt Nie

Darlington High School (District 10) and speech coach Carmen Rielly

Eau Claire Memorial High School (District 4) and coach Nicholas Sirek

Lakeside Lutheran High School, Lake Mills (District 11) and coach Steve Lauber

Lomira High School (District 9) and coach Sarah Teschke

Menomonie High School (District 3) and coach Christina Fern-Denzer

Milton High School (District 11) and coach Shauna Wessely

St. Mary Central High School, Neenah (District 9) and coach Jean Zuleger

Prescott High School (District 3) and coach Tanya Sponholz

Regis High School, Eau Claire (District 4) and coach Judine Brey

River Falls High School (District 3) and coach Jean Moelter

St. Lawrence Seminary, Mount Calvary (District 9) and coach Fr. Gary Wegner

Stoughton High School (District 11) and coaches Mary Lusk and Mary Carel Verden

Tomahawk High School (District 2) and coach Nancy Herbison

Westosha Central High School, Salem (District 14) and coach Bernadette Elverman