



Wisconsin High School Forensic Association

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Executive Director

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State Contest Announces Schools Earning Excellence in Speech Awards

LA CROSSE, Wis. – Nineteen Wisconsin high schools received the highest recognition at the recent State Speech Festival in Madison. The Wisconsin High School Forensic Association held its 124th annual event on the campus of UW-Madison. This past weekend, approximately 4,200 students from 340 high schools across the state participated. Students had to advance from two qualifying level contests to perform at the State contest, which is one of the largest in the country.

Judges rated each student or performing group, and the **top five percent of schools** are recognized with ***Excellence in Speech Awards***, with the school and teacher each presented with a plaque. This year, 19 schools earned this honor (sorted by school, alphabetically):

| School (with city listed, if not in name of school) | Coach |
|--|--------------------------|
| Baldwin-Woodville High School | Angela Schmoker |
| Boscobel High School | Jean Salzgeber |
| Burlington High School | Robbie Twohig & Matt Nie |
| Darlington High School | Clarey Knellwolf |
| DeForest High School | Tom August |
| Ellsworth High School | Jennifer Kieren |
| Fennimore High School | Carrie Krogman |
| Hudson High School | Jessica Flanagan |
| Lakeside Lutheran High School, Lake Mills | Stephen Lauber |
| Lincoln High School, Wisconsin Rapids | Cathy Tritz |
| Menomonie High School | Andrea Smith |
| New Berlin Eisenhower High School | Rebecca Donlin |
| Prescott High School | Tanya Sponholz |
| Regis High School, Eau Claire | Judine Brey |
| Sauk Prairie High School | Ryan Mussack |
| St. Lawrence Seminary High School, Mt. Calvary | Martin Vu |
| Waterford Union High School | Neil Hepworth |
| Waunakee High School | Walter Stenz |
| Wrightstown High School | David Winkler |

“Students in our academic sport practice long hours to hone their skills and meet expectations upon which they will be judged,” said WHSFA Executive Director Adam Jacobi. “These schools represent consistent performance across a variety of contest events at our festival and should be lauded for their performance.”

In addition to the top 5% of schools, the WHSFA offers *honorable mention* of the 17 schools within the top 6-10% (sorted by school, alphabetically):

| School <i>(with city listed, if not in name of school)</i> | Coach |
|---|---|
| Appleton West High School | Rebecca Herring & Dana Krause |
| Cameron High School | Sheri Hagen-Salm, Bambi Forcey & Sarah Pica |
| Cedar Grove-Belgium High School | Mary Beth Desens |
| Cuba City High School | Laura Wilberding & Becky Sitts |
| Fox Valley Lutheran High School, Appleton | Seth Hahnke & Kathy Kolell |
| Iowa-Grant High School | Jacqueline Rolli |
| Kettle Moraine Lutheran HS, Jackson | Barb Olsen |
| Lake Mills High School | Brenda Morris & Eric Angell |
| Lancaster High School | Sam Jonas |
| Lodi High School | Anne Lembcke |
| Mineral Point High School | Kristin Staver |
| Northwestern High School, Maple | Pat Luostari & Mike Goodlet |
| Platteville High School | Cheryl Schober |
| Richland Center High School | Christine Mulholland |
| Shoreland Lutheran High School | Sarah Selle |
| West De Pere High School | Natalie Buhl |
| Westosha Central High School | Jennifer Neumann |

About the Wisconsin High School Forensic Association

Since 1895, the Wisconsin High School Forensic Association (WHSFA) has provided programming for middle and high school students in theatre, debate, and public speaking activities. Each year, our nonprofit organization serves about 10,000 Wisconsin students from 375 high schools, and 150 middle schools in the longest-running high school speech contests in the nation. Our aim is to empower students to enhance their skills in presentation through interscholastic assessment. For more information, visit www.whsfa.org.

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