**Winston Churchill High School**

**Speech and Debate**

**Oral Interpretation**

****

**2018-2019**

**Information PacketWinston Churchill High School Forensics**

# **Oral Interpretation**



Oral Interpretation is a course focused on competition in different speech and drama events. These events include Humorous and Dramatic Interpretation, Prose and Poetry Interpretation, Duet Acting, Duo Interpretation, Program Oral Interpretation, Informative, and Original Oratory. The Churchill Oral Interpretation program is a nationally recognized program with a long standing tradition of success. It is my goal to continue to build upon that success and create one of the highest-quality speech programs in the state, if not the nation.

In this class, students will learn invaluable skills that will benefit them in whatever endeavor they choose for the rest of their lives:

**Confidence:** The experience of speaking and performing in public gives the student the confidence and self-awareness to handle future challenges.

**Knowledge of Contemporary and Classical Literature:** One of the primary virtues this class stresses is that of reading. While searching for material to perform, the student will encounter the ideas of authors from many different places and times.

**Research and Writing:** When writing original orations, the students will learn valuable internet and traditional research methods. As they confront their own ideas about a particular topic, they will learn to find how the ideas of others can contribute to their thinking.

**Critical Thinking:** With both oratory and drama performance events, the student must consider their material in a critical fashion.

The requirements for this class include the following:

**Materials:** Each student will need a composition book, a prose/poetry notebook.

**Rehearsal:** Like any other extra-curricular activity aimed toward success, this program requires time outside of in-school class time. In order to allow students the most flexibility to participate in other programs (including athletics, music, drama, dance, etc. Official practices will occur in the mornings on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays from 7:45am-8:45am and 4:15pm-5:15pm. Students are not required to attend all rehearsals, but are required to come to one per week, minimum. Those students hoping to compete at the top level should be here for rehearsal as often as possible. As with football, band, drama and any other activity, **rehearsals are required and a grade will be taken**. If a student misses his/her hour of rehearsal in any given week, s/he will be required to write a one-page paper as assigned to make up for it.

**Tournament Participation: S**tudents are required to attend tournaments in conjunction with their level in the program. First-year students must attend at least three tournaments between August and February, with at least one in each semester (Second-year students must attend four, Third-year students must attend five, and Fourth-year students must attend six). Students need to be aware of tournament availability when planning their schedules. Those students who wish to compete at the highest level (which I hope for from every student entering the program) should be prepared to participate in as many tournaments as possible during the year. Experiencing the competition is the best way to learn and grow.

I am totally committed to helping the students in the Oral Interpretation program succeed in every way – in their school work, in their other activities and in this program. I try to be as flexible as possible with all of my students, in order to allow them the greatest range of experiences. If there is ever a conflict, please keep the lines of communication open and I will do all I can to accommodate you and your student. As we work this year toward continuing one of the strongest Oral Interpretation programs in the state, please let me know if there is anything I can do for you:

Brandon Forinash

Winston Churchill High School

12049 Blanco Rd.

San Antonio, TX 78216

bforin@neisd.net

I look forward to an enjoyable and successful year!

**Winston Churchill High School Forensics**

**The Organizations**

**Texas Forensic Association**

This is the state organization for speech and debate.

The majority of tournaments that we will attend this year are TFA tournaments.

Finalists at TFA tournaments earn points toward the TFA state tournament in March.

 (\* see “The Points” sheet)

Qualifying events are: Humorous, Dramatic, Duet Acting, Duo Interp, Program Oral Interp, Informative and Oratory.

Supplemental events are: Prose, Poetry, Impromtpu

**National Forensic League**

This is the national organization for speech and debate.

Competitors earn NSDA points throughout their high school careers, achieving advancingdegrees (\* see “The Points” sheet)

There is one district tournament in the spring semester which can qualify competitors for

the NFL national tournament in June.

Qualifying events are: Humorous, Dramatic, Duo Interp and Oratory, Program Oral Interp, Informative.

Supplemental events are: Prose, Poetry,

Consolation Events are: Storytelling

**University Interscholastic League**

This is the school-affiliated, state organization for athletic and academic competitions.

UIL events are: Prose and Poetry

There is one District UIL tournament in March. The school is allowed three entries in

each event. The top three competitors in each event advance to the Regional

contest.

There is one Regional UIL tournament. Anyone who advanced from the District

tournament may compete. The top three competitors in each event advance to the

State contest.

There is one State UIL contest. Anyone who advanced from the Regional tournament

may compete.

**Winston Churchill High School Forensics**

**The Points**

**Texas Forensic Association**

TFA points are earned and used to qualify to attend the TFA State tournament during the first weekend of each March. Points reset at the beginning of each year and cannot be carried over. You earn points for making the final round in a TFA qualifying event (HI, DI, OO, Info, POI Duet and Duo) at a TFA tournament (which will be the majority of the tournaments we attend this year). You must earn 12 points in each event in order to qualify to go to the state tournament in that event. The following is the new point system:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|   | 10-24 | 25-50 | 51-75 | 76+ |
| Semi-Finalist |   |   |   | 1 |
| 8th |   |   | 1 | 2 |
| 7th |   |   | 2 | 2 |
| 6th | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| 5th | 1 | 2 | 4 | 4 |
| 4th | 2 | 3 | 6 | 6 |
| 3rd | 3 | 4 | 6 | 6 |
| 2nd | 4 | 6 | 8 | 8 |
| 1st | 6 | 8 | 8 | 8 |
|  |  |  |  |  |

**National Forensic League**

NFL points are cumulative throughout your high school forensics career. You earn points for every round you compete in. You can earn points in each of the following 4 categories: debate, interp/speaking, congress and service (earned for activities such as judging novices). The point schedule for interp/speaking is as follows:

**Category 1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th – 8th**

OO, DI, HI, Duo 6 5 4 3 2

PR, PO, Duet, Imp 5 4 3 2 1

As you earn points, you achieve membership and then additional degrees in the National Forensic League:

1. **Merit –** Eligible persons who have 25 points, 10 of which were earned in competitive speaking, shall upon election, receive the Degree of Merit.
2. **Honor** – Members who have a total of 75 points shall receive the Degree of Honor.
3. **Excellence** – Members who have a total of 150 points shall receive the Degree of Excellence.
4. **Distinction** – Members who have a total of 250 points shall receive the Degree of Distinction.
5. **Special Distinction** – Members who have a total of 500 points shall receive the Degree of Special Distinction.
6. **Superior Distinction** – Members who have a total of 750 points shall receive the Degree of Superior Distinction.
7. **Outstanding Distinction** – Members who have a total of 1000 points shall receive the Degree of Outstanding Distinction.
8. **Premier Distinction** – Members who have a total of 1500 points shall receive the Degree of Premier Distinction.

**Winston Churchill High School Forensics**

**Rules of Decorum**

****

# Before the Tournament

* Sign-up by the deadline with all requested information
* Pay all tournament fees on time

# In the Common Area at the Tournament

* Above all, always act in a professional manner
* Remain in full dress (do not remove shoes, ties, etc…)
* Do not bring slippers/blankets/pillows on to the school grounds
* No music without earphones at the tournament
* Only bring your team bag to the tournament
* Do not yell at or chase each other
* Do not ever talk badly about anyone at the tournament
* Do not try to guess your rank in the round
* If you must practice, do so in an isolated area where you won’t be seen

# During the Round

* Write down all possible round information before you walk in the room
* Quickly write down title and author of your competitors
* Do not write anything while anyone is performing
* Be polite with the judges/competitors, but not chatty
* Be a good, supportive audience member
* Do not do anything that might distract a performer (this includes, reading, writing, talking, excessive moving, drinking, sleeping, loud sighing, etc…)
* No scripts on your desk in the room
* Be confident, no matter what!
* Do not get up to speak before the judge calls your name

# Awards

* Remain interested
* Remain in full tournament dress (no tie loosening, shoes on, etc…)
* Support everyone
* Polite applause for all; Standing ovation for all WC and 1st place winners
* Do not complain to me about anything at the awards ceremony
* Stay until the end of awards

**Winston Churchill High School Forensics**

**Warm-ups**

# **Physical**

Sixteens

Punch the Air

Isolations

Stretch up – over – raise slowly

Lips Tongue

Big Face/ Little Face; Big Body/Little Body; Expand Little-Big-Little

Breathe In -- Exhale

# **Vocal**

Pops

Counting (1-10: Soft-loud-soft; Loud-soft-loud; Soft-medium-loud)

E-O

Vowels (AEIOU; EIOUA; IOUAE; OUAEI; UAEIO; AEIOU)

Ax4, Ahx8, Ex4, Ehx8, Ix4, Ihx8, Ox4, Oox8; Ux4, Uhx8

Consonants

Unique New York/You know you need unique New York

Particularly the Tip of the Tongue the Teeth and the Gums

Cinnamon Aluminum Linoleum Petroleum

Red Leather Yellow Leather

What a to do to die today at a minute or two ‘til two.

A thing distinctly hard to say but harder still to do.

They’ll beat a tattoo at twenty to two with a rat-a-tat-tat-a-tattoo at two

And the dragon will come when he hears the drum

At a minute or two ‘til two today at a minute or two ‘til two.

Moses Supposes his Toeses are Roses but Moses Supposes Erroneously

For Moses he Knowses his Toeses aren’t Roses As Moses Supposes his Toeses to be.

How Is Our Jail Cell? (5x with emphasis on a different word for each)

Where are all our oars?

Through Which Swift Rivers Rush

How are our hors d’oeuvres?

He went to Kent and Spent a Cent to buy a Tent which had a Rent.

Round and Round the Rugged Rock the Ragged Rascal Ran.

A Wet, Red Work Rag

A Big Black Bug Bit a Big Black Bear and the Big Black Bear Bled Blood.

A Box of Biscuits, a Box of Mixed Biscuits and a Biscuit Mixer.

I am a mother pheasant plucker. I pluck mother pheasants. I am the best mother pheasant plucker to have ever plucked a mother pheasant. I am not the mother pheasant plucker. I am the mother pheasant plucker’s son. And I’ll be plucking mother pheasants ‘til the pheasant plucking’s done.

I slit a sheet, a sheet I slit, and on the slitted sheet I sit.

To sit in solemn silence on a dull, dark dock

In a pestilential prison with a lifelong lock

Awaiting the sensation of a short, sharp shock

From a cheap and chippy chopper on a big, black block

A big, black block

A short, sharp shock

From a cheap and chippy chopper on a big, black block

**Energy**

Arms out, thumbs up, wrists together, elbows in, knees bent, bum out – Arugachuh, Arugachuh, arugachuh-chuh, Whooooo! Arugachuh, Arugachuh, arugachuh-chuh. I’m singing in the rain! Just singing in the rain! What a glorious feeling, I’m hap-hap-happy again. Arms out, thumbs up, wrists together, elbows in, knees bent, bum out, tongue out – Arugachuh, Arugachuh, arugachuh-chuh, Whooooo! Arugachuh, Arugachuh, arugachuh-chuh. I’m singing in the rain! Just singing in the rain! What a glorious feeling, I’m hap-hap-happy again.

Yes!

Little Bitter Butter Ball

Whether the weather be cold, whether the weather be hot,

We’ll be together whatever the weather and whether we like it or not.

Old Friend. Catch your breath. Take your time. I want the whole tale. Every gesture and cry. I have labored for this.

**Winston Churchill High School Forensics**

**Expectations**

This year I expect the following from every member of the oral interpretation team:

* Attend at least one practice per week (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 7:45am-8:45am and 4:15pm-5:15pm). You will sign in for these practices and your minimum attendance is mandatory.
* Attend at least one personalized work session per nine weeks with Mr. Forinash during rehearsal times or class time. You will need to sign up for these in advance, and it will be a part of your grade.
* Attend and compete at the minimum number of tournaments for your level (1st year = 3; 2nd year = 4; 3rd year = 5; 4th year = 6) over the course of the competitive year.
* Novice competitors must prepare at least two events, some combination of one reading event (prose or poetry) and at least one memorized event.
* Varsity competitors must prepare at least two memorized events. Oratory and Informative will be handled on a case by case basis.