



The Demosthenian Classic



21 September 2007

Dear High School Debate Enthusiasts,

The Demosthenian Literary Society at the University of Georgia is pleased to invite you to the third annual Demosthenian Classic to be held on October 12th and 13th. The Demosthenian Classic is a debate/forensics tournament hosted by the oldest student organization at UGA and the oldest such collegiate debate society in the Southeast. The tournament will offer your students an exciting debate experience unlike any other. By attending this tournament students are given an opportunity to practice their craft early in the year in a formal debate environment. Furthermore, your debaters will have the opportunity to visit Georgia's flagship university and one of the most beautiful campuses in the region.

The cost for entry is \$10 per student per event. In addition, we ask that each school bring one judge for every six entries in speaking events and two entries in debate events. A \$30 fee will be assessed for any missing judges at registration, which the DLS will then hire. Please let us know in advance if you will not be able to provide the requisite number of judges!

The debate events will include Lincoln-Douglas and public forum. Our other speaking events will be extemporaneous speaking, original oratory, dramatic interpretation, humorous interpretation, duo interpretation, impromptu, and children's literature. If interest allows, we will also offer Congress. In addition to the standard debating and speaking events, your students can participate in our "Demosthenian Debates" which are formatted to mirror the weekly meetings held by our 204 year-old society.

Also in this packet you will also find information about the DLS, UGA and Athens, GA, as well as directions to campus, information about lodging, and a preliminary schedule of events. Please go online to www.demosthenian.org/tournament to access our tournament page and submit the online registration by *Tuesday, October 9, 2007*. If a team registers after this date, there will be an additional \$30 late fee for registration. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at Demosthenian.classic@gmail.com. You can also reach Tawny by phone at (478)319-0983 or Meg at (864)363-2688.

Thank you and we hope to see you on the 12th!

Tawny Waltz and Meg Turlington
Tournament Directors

About the Demosthenian Literary Society:

The Demosthenian Literary Society, founded in 1803 at the University of Georgia, is an extemporaneous speaking/ debate society. The society, named for the Greek orator Demosthenes, seeks to allow its members to “cultivate a correct mode of speaking and to qualify through practice to express our views in an effective manner,” an objective which would have no doubt pleased our namesake statesman. During Demosthenes’ time, it was traditional for Greeks to act as their own advocates in court proceedings. Therefore, when his father died, Demosthenes had to appear in court and argue for his rightful share of the inheritance. However, Demosthenes suffered from a speech impediment, and was laughed out of the court as he tried to state his case thereby earning nothing. After suffering such humiliation, Demosthenes was determined to become the greatest speaker in all of Greece. Demosthenes secluded himself in a cave by the sea where he could practice his enunciation by speaking with pebbles in his mouth and improve his voice projection and volume by shouting against the crashing waves.

Though we do not use such techniques ourselves, the Demosthenian Literary Society remains committed to the principles and perseverance displayed by Demosthenes. Every Thursday evening, in the upper chamber of Demosthenian Hall, our members can be found debating everything from politics and history to religion and philosophy to pop culture and current events. Past alumni have gone on to serve both our state and nation as senators, judges, governors and more – in part, we believe, from the skills that they learned as members of the Demosthenian Literary Society. In fact, you will probably recognize the names of some of our more well-known alumni: Ralph Reed, formed head of the Christian Coalition; Emilio Pucci, international fashion designer and inventor of the string bikini; Crawford Long, the first doctor to use ether for as an anesthetic; and Robert Toombs, Georgia statesman and Secretary of State of the Confederacy during the Civil War. Of all of the Demosthenian alumni, Toombs is both one of the most infamous and beloved by the society. As the story is told, Toombs was kicked out of the University shortly before graduation for activities of a mildly questionable nature. On the day of what would have been his graduation, Toombs stood outside the University chapel under a great oak tree, and delivered a stirring oration which was to have been his commencement address. People attending the ceremony were so moved by his speech that they exited they left the formal ceremony in the chapel to hear Toombs speak. Legend has it that on the day of Toombs death, the very oak under which he had once stood was struck by lightning. A portion of the stump of that old oak still sits beneath the lectern within our Hall. To honor both his memory and oratorical skill, Demosthenians travel annually to Toombs’ former home in Washington, Georgia. There members bond over legends, history, and fried chicken.

Another tradition that we maintain is the rivalry that exists between the Demosthenian Literary Society and the Phi Kappa Literary Society. As in the Biblical story, wherein Satan was expelled forever from the sanctity of Heaven, thereby bringing about the existence of good and evil, so in 1820 some members broke with the society. Thus was the ignoble birth of the "Society across the way." Though there are no longer fistfights over which society is superior, the name Phi Kappa is never spoken during Demosthenian debate under penalty of harsh fines. The rivalry also lives on in an Intersociety Meeting each fall and an Intersociety Debate during spring semester.

Currently, Demosthenian boasts the most members the society has had since the Civil War. With such a large membership, the society represents a great diversity of personal opinion and experience. While most members’ majors tend to fall within the liberal arts, some members also study subjects like criminal justice, statistics, microbiology, and engineering. Members of the Demosthenian Literary Society also make time to volunteer with Habitat for Humanity and Amnesty International, participate in varsity athletics, lead campus political organizations, work for the Red and Black, socialize with their fraternity or sorority, and somehow still find time to attend classes!

There are many benefits to being a member of the Demosthenian Literary Society. It provides members with an opportunity to leave their respective comfort zones, meet new people, and learn how to

advocate both sides of an issue. But most importantly, Demosthenian gives each member the opportunity to become a better public speaker. Demosthenian is debate.

Preliminary Schedule of Events:

Friday, October 12th

2:00 -5:00 pm	Check-in at Demosthenian Hall
5:00 pm	DINNER (on your own)
6:00 pm	Welcome and Introductions
6:30 pm	Hat Debate

Saturday, October 13th

8:00 am	Late Check-in
8:30 am	First Extemporaneous Draw
9:00 am	Round 1
10:45 am	Round 2
12:15 pm	LUNCH
1:30 pm	Round 3
3:15 pm	Round 4
5:00 pm	Demosthenian Debate @ Hall
6:30 pm	Awards Ceremony

Events Offered:

NLF Sponsored Debate Events

All students entered in debating events will still have the opportunity to participate in the Demosthenian Debate Event.

Varsity Lincoln-Douglas Debate

This division is designed for experienced LD debaters with more than one year of experience in the event. While we plan to also offer a novice division, if there is not enough participation, the two groups (varsity and novice) will be condensed.

Contestants will debate the October/November NFL topic (announced by the National Forensics League.)

The Demosthenian Classic will use the following format:

IAC	6 minutes
INC	7 minutes
IAR	4 minutes
NR	6 minutes
2AR	3 minutes
Prep Time	3 minutes for each team

Judges are encouraged to deduct the speaker points of participants who “spread” during the course of the debate.

Awards will be given to the top speakers in the Varsity LD Debate.

Public Forum Debate

Public Forum Debate, which is one of the fastest growing forensic events in the United States, pits two teams of two against one another in a debate that is modeled after Crossfire and other cable news debate shows. It uses a minimal amount of debate jargon and MUST be judged by people with no debate experience.

The Demosthenian Classic will use the October 2007 topic established by the NLF.

The Demosthenian Classic will use the following format:

Speaker A1	4 minutes
Speaker B1	4 minutes
Cross-fire (A1 & B1)	3 minutes
Speaker 2A	4 minutes
Speaker 2B	4 minutes
Cross-fire (A2 & B2)	3 minutes
Summary A1	2 minutes
Summary B1	2 minutes
Grand Cross-fire	3 minutes
Last Shot A2	1 minute

Last Shot B2	1 minute
PREPERATION TIME FOR EACH TEAM	2 minutes

NFL Sponsored Individual Events

Students may participate in up to two of any of the NFL-Sponsored Individual Events or Special Individual Events. All students will have the opportunity to participate in the Demosthenian Debates. Unfortunately, students participating in Public Forum or LD will not be able to participate in any Individual Events.

Extemporaneous Speaking

Participants will randomly draw three questions relating to current events. They will then be given thirty minutes to prepare a seven minute speech that answers one of the questions. Contestants are strongly encouraged to bring tubs of evidence or laptops, although they may not use computers with internet access. Speakers who exceed the seven minute time limit will be penalized at the judge's discretion.

Original Oratory

Participants will create and deliver an oration (10 minute limit) that can be either persuasive or expository in nature. Do not use a piece that is more than one year old. Speeches should be memorized, although competitors may reference a written manuscript if needed. Judges are encouraged to penalize speakers who violate the ten minute time limit.

Dramatic Interpretation

Contestants will present an interpretation of material of literary value from a dramatic work. Generally speaking, the interpretation is based off a work that is more serious in its tone. Individuals may use one selection or create a program that develops a theme using two or more selections. Participants may not use costumes, props, or make-up. They may, however, use a manuscript. The time limit for this event is ten minutes. Individuals who exceed the allotted time will be penalized at the judge's discretion. The Demosthenian Literary Society assumes no liability for copyright infringements.

Humorous Interpretation

Contestants will present an interpretation of material of literary value or humorous nature. Competitors may interpret one selection or develop a general theme using multiple selections. As with Dramatic Interpretation, students are allowed to use manuscripts. The time limit for this event is ten minutes. Individuals who exceed the allotted time will be penalized at the judge's discretion. The Demosthenian Literary Society assumes no liability for copyright infringements.

Duo Interpretation

Participants should follow the same rules outlined above for Dramatic and Humorous Interpretation. The one exception, of course, is that the contestants will perform in pairs. Once again, the Demosthenian Literary Society assumes no liability for copyright infringements.

Special Events Offered

These events require very little pre-tournament preparation. Even students with no forensic experience can perform very well in these events.

Impromptu Speaking

Contestants will each draw three topics. They will then speak on one of these topics. Speakers will have a total of seven minutes to BOTH prepare and speak on the issue. Judges should assign higher ranks to speakers who spend a majority of their allotted time (5-6 ½ minutes) speaking as opposed to preparing. Speeches should be analytical and well-organized. Participants should not use newspapers, magazines, internet articles, briefs, books, or other reference tools when preparing speeches.

Children's Literature

This event requires the use of a manuscript. The student should present material designed to read to children so that it may be understood and appreciated by a young child or children. (Note: This does not mean the literature must fall under nursery level only). The selection must be from a single published fictional or non-fictional story, play, a single long poem or a program of poetry. The author's words as published in the literature may not be altered for this presentation with the exception that cutting is permitted. The student may use vocal skills, facial expressions, and/or hand gestures to develop a narrator and character(s). The presentation should include an introduction that cites the name of the piece and the author. The presentation should not exceed ten minutes, including the introduction.

Poetry/Prose

Like Children's Literature, Poetry/Prose requires a manuscript. The material presented can be any selection(s) of published poetry or prose or a mix of the two. The program should be united under a single theme that relates the pieces selected. Again, the author's words as published in the literature may not be altered for this presentation with the exception that cutting is permitted. The student may use vocal skills, facial expressions, and/or hand gestures to develop a narrator and character(s). The presentation should include an introduction that cites the name of the piece(s) and the author(s). Poetry/Prose can be a collaboration of several works. There is a time limit of ten minutes, including the introduction.

Demosthenian Debate

Demosthenian Debate is the signature event of the Demosthenian Classic. It can be best described as a combination of Model United Nations and Student Congress.

Here is how it works:

A member of the Demosthenian Literary Society will present a resolution. One in the room will know what the resolution is beforehand.

The presiding president (also a Demosthenian) will then "open the floor." In order to speak on the resolution (either for or against) students should jump up and scream "Mr./Ms. President." The presiding president will then call on a participant and the contestant will be allowed to speak for a maximum of five minutes. When the participant "yields the floor," the rest of the contestants should once again jump up and follow the procedure just laid out.

During the course of the debate, each participant may interrupt the speaker “holding the floor” up to two times in order to ask questions. This will be explained in more detail by the presiding officer prior to the start of the Demosthenian Debate round.

Each participant will be judged based on three criteria:

- The overall quality of the speech given
- How early in the debate he/she begins to ask for the floor
- How he/she responds to questions posed by the audience

About UGA and Athens, GA:

ATHENS, GEORGIA. Chosen in 1801 to be the home of the University of Georgia primarily because of its distance from the loose women and alcohol of the big cities, Athens is now a city in own right, and a fun one at that. As Rolling Stone magazine's pick for best college music scene in the nation and having once played host to bands R.E.M. and the B-52s, Athens continues to draw busy college students downtown on most Saturday nights. Athens's downtown is thriving, and filled with eclectic restaurants like The Grit, East West Bistro, and the Demosthenians's favorite, Little Italy.

Besides being an exciting college town, Athens is known as the Classic City. Indeed, Athens's rich history and culture can be seen all around, from the antebellum architecture and the double-barreled cannon that graces the lawn of City Hall, to the Georgia Museum of Art and the Museum of Natural History. The beautiful 313 acre State Botanical Garden is in Athens, as is "The Tree That Owns Itself," an oak that was willed its own ownership and the eight feet of land surrounding its trunk. Much of Athens's claims to fame come from the University of Georgia; every year the prestigious Peabody Award for journalistic excellence is given out on the university's behalf. And of course, Athens would not be the same without the flood of red and black jerseys that migrate here every fall to watch the Bulldogs destroy their opponents.

No description of Athens is complete without mentioning the University of Georgia. Founded in 1801, UGA is the oldest state-chartered university in the nation. The University began with just one college, the Franklin college of Arts and Sciences, in just one building (today called Old College) and has now expanded into fifteen colleges with majors ranging from English and History to Poultry Science, Fashion Merchandising, and International Business, spread out in 372 buildings over 614 acres. U.S. News and World Reports ranks UGA 19th best public school in the nation, and 6th for "best value" among American public universities. The total enrollment at UGA in 2004 is 33,405 students, with an average SAT of 1233 and average GPA of 3.71. With faculty and students engaged in teaching, research and service, just one visit to our historic university is evidence enough that it is one of the best and institutions of higher learning in the nation.

The Classic City experience is a mixture of entertainment and edification, and the two combine to make Athens residents proud of the town's nightlife, culture, and history. The University of Georgia fits perfectly with Athens, and we invite you to come to see if you fit with it, too.

Hotels:

It is important to reserve rooms before traveling to Athens. The Holiday Inn and the Holiday Inn Express are the closest to the UGA campus. However, below is a list of a few of the hotels which are located within the Athens area. You can also search for other accommodations online.

Hotel Information

The Holiday Inn	197 East Broad Street	(706)549-4433
The Holiday Inn Express	513 West Broad Street	(706) 546-8122
Best Western Colonial Inn	170 N. Milledge Ave.	(706)546-7311
Comfort Inn	3890 Atlanta Highway	1-800-228-5150
Courtyard by Marriott	166 Finley Street	(706)369-7000
Hampton Inn	2220 West Broad Street	(706)546-8122
Howard Johnson Inn	2465 West Broad Street	1-800-951-7829