

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Recipients of the Keith West Memorial Fund School Grant Announced for the 2024-2025 Speech and Debate Season

The Keith West Memorial Fund school grants are given annually by the National Speech & Debate Association to teams who show strong potential but lack financial resources.

December 5, 2024 – The National Speech & Debate Association (NSDA) is proud to announce the Keith West Memorial Fund school grant recipients for the 2024-2025 school year.

Out of more than 150 applications, these teams were chosen based on their strong potential, their capacity to make a meaningful impact in their schools and communities, and a significant lack of financial resources needed to support their speech and debate participation.

Congratulations to the 2024-2025 school grant recipients:

\$5,000 Grant

Skiatook High School, Oklahoma

- Coach: Keith Denslow

\$2,500 Grant

Marion C. Early High School, Missouri

- Coach: Traci Dunn

New Manchester High School, Georgia

- Coach: Serena Robertson

\$1,000 Grant

Angleton High School, Texas

- Coach: Christine Williams

John I Leonard High School, Florida

- Coach: Quentin Scruggs

Post High School, Texas

- Coach: Deborah Garoui

San Elizario High School, Texas

- Coach: Justin Del Valle

William Henry Harrison High School, Indiana

- Coach: Savannah Staples

The Keith West Memorial Fund was established in 2021 by Keith West's family and friends in order to honor his life and legacy. Keith West lived with compassion and care as cornerstone characteristics of his personality. Upon graduation from high school as a three-time Iowa state champion and a finalist at the 2000 NSDA National Tournament in Congressional Debate, Keith went to college to pursue his future as an educator, coach, and scholar. Keith dedicated his life to coaching and teaching youth in the ways of argumentation and debate.

Learn more about the Keith West Memorial Fund at www.speechanddebate.org/keith-west-memorial-fund.

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About the National Speech & Debate Association

The National Speech & Debate Association is the largest interscholastic speech and debate organization serving middle school, high school, and collegiate students in the United States. The Association provides competitive speech and debate activities, high-quality resources, comprehensive training, scholarship opportunities, and advanced recognition to more than 130,000 students and coaches every year. For 100 years, the National Speech & Debate Association has empowered nearly two million members to become engaged citizens, skilled professionals, and honorable leaders in our society. For more information, visit www.speechanddebate.org.