Dear Friends in Speech and Debate,

On behalf of the faculty, administration, and students of St. Andrew’s Episcopal School, it is our pleasure to invite you to the Twenty-Sixth edition of the Saints Classic, which we plan to hold in person on our campus on January 6-7, 2023. Over the past two-plus decades, teams from dozens of schools and no fewer than eleven different states have joined us for competition. We hope you will join us this year. We offer the following events, all of which are open divisions (some with specific novice awards)

**Debate Events:** Lincoln-Douglas Debate, Policy Debate, Public Forum Debate, and Student Congress.

**Flight A Speech Events:** Dramatic Interpretation, Duet Acting, Impromptu Speaking, Original Oratory, Program Oral Interpretation, and Prose Interpretation

**Flight B Speech Events:** Declamation, Duo Interpretation, Extemporaneous Speaking, Humorous Interpretation, Informative Speaking, and Poetry Interpretation

If numbers justify, we plan to award specific awards to the top novice performers in Lincoln-Douglas Debate and Public Forum Debate, along with Dramatic Interpretation, Extemporaneous Speaking, Humorous Interpretation, Poetry Interpretation, and Prose Interpretation.

Due to additional fees incurred over the course of the years, we will be imposing a modest increase in entry fees, to $13 for single-person events and $20 for two-person events. For Mississippi schools, we are happy to honor the MHSAA State Championship rate for two-person events. We think you’ll find these fees are still quite competitive compared to other tournaments that are offered.

Since 2010, the Saints Classic has been a qualifying tournament for the National Individual Events Tournament of Champions (NIETOC), followed by bid tournament status for the Kentucky Tournament of Champions (KTOC) in Public Forum (2014, finals bid), Speech (2015, based on entry numbers), and Congress (2017, top six).

In 2013, the Saints Classic introduced the Perry Tyner Tate Memorial Award. Perry compered for Clinton High School and St. Andrew’s, graduating as a Malone Scholar in 2007. We lost Perry on January 2, 2013 after a multiple months battle with Hemophagocytic Lymphohistiocytosis (HLH). In her memory, we offer an award that honors her qualities as a competitor and person, with the most recent award winner being Houston Pugh from Petal High School in the fall of 2019. The form to nominate a deserving student can be found elsewhere on the Tabroom site and we encourage coaches to do so.

The return to in-person competition brings with it the return of space limits, so we will have initial entry caps in place, so please enter early. While we expect to have some hired judges available, we generally prefer your judges to your money – if you have judges available beyond your requirement who are interested in being hired, we are happy to consider them.

We hope to see you at the start of 2023 in Ridgeland, Mississippi.

Best,

Darin Maier and Kerrington Anderson

St. Andrew’s Episcopal School Speech and Debate