



Speech and Debate

**Cottonwood Creek School Speech and
Debate Team Orientation**

Guru's Education East Bay

Teaching Youth Vital Life Skills!!

- Public Speaking
- Creative Writing
- Personal Finance
- Young Entrepreneurship
- Debates
- TED Talks
- MediKids (Health Matters)



Gurus Education



Introductions

Course Instructor: Keshav Haranath

My Experience:

2x Finalist at the Stanford University Invitational

2x Finalist at the UC Berkeley Invitational

Top 6 at the Apple Valley Minnesota Invitational and the ASU Forensics Invitational

Qualifier to the 2019 Tournament of Champions - Congressional Debate

Top 30 at the 2019 National Speech and Debate Tournament in Dallas TX



Benefits of Speech and Debate

- **Improved Communication Skills**
- **Boost Confidence**
- **Personal Development**
- **Increased Self-esteem**
- **Build Leadership Skills**
- **The Power of Persuasion**
- **Overcome Fear of Nervousness**
- **Create Effective Arguments**
- **Active Listening**
- **Become Confident Orator**
- **Master Non verbal Communication Skills**
- **Helps in College Applications (just saying! :)**

Student Expectations

- **Be prepared and ready to learn**
 - Completing HW assignments on time, practicing speeches, having all class material
- **Have stable internet, microphone and camera**
 - Contact us if you have any problems with this!
- **Attend as many classes as possible**
 - Remember, practice makes perfect - especially true in Speech/Debate!
- **Be ready to take *constructive criticism***
 - Everyone's first speech is a bad speech! But we learn...
- **Enjoy the Journey and Have Fun!**

Tournament Opportunities

Both Sections:

- Two in-house tournaments
- 1 in December (Winter Classic)
 - more informal, "getting adjusted to the event"
- 1 in Spring (Spring Tournament)
 - formal, "go for the gold"

Varsity Section:

- Possible outside tournament opportunities, TBA
- Extra costs may be involved, TBA
- Earliest would be Late Fall/Early Winter

Program Goals

- **Gain experience with NSDA HS Speech and Debate Events**
 - By doing so, students are prepared to compete in High School invitationals
 - **Freshman year**
 - More focused and relevant than other Speech and Debate programs
- **Debate Events**
 - Congressional Debate
 - Lincoln Douglas (1 v 1)
 - World Schools (3 v 3)
- **Speech Events**
 - Limited Prep (Extemp/Impromptu)
 - Prepared (Original Oratory/Original Advocacy)



Program Goals

- **Master fundamental oratory and debate skills**
- **Learn how to be an EXCELLENT competitor at Speech and Debate**
- **Develop Soft Skills**
 - Communication, Advocacy, Collaboration
 - Not just limited to the Workplace! (i.e. convincing/persuading friends, family, par
- **Develop skills required to be an informed citizen**
 - Research
 - Critical analysis of arguments
 - Understanding major world issues through the perspective of “what should we d
- **TO HAVE FUN!**
 - Nothing is really worth it unless it's a bit of fun too, right? :)
 - Lifelong friends