

# Rules for Argumentative Speech Contest

- 1) To enter the contest, you must be a registered student at North Hennepin Community College during spring semester 2018.
- 2) Your speech's topic must be argumentative. This means that you must take a stance on a challenging issue and persuade your audience to consider your view. Make sure your stance is clear, but also be sure to recognize and respond to opposing viewpoints.
- 3) Your speech must be 5-10 minutes long. If your speech doesn't meet the 5 minutes minimum, you will be ineligible to place 1st, 2nd, or 3rd. If your speech goes past 10 minutes, expect to be cut off.
- 4) Your speech must directly reference *Between the World and Me*. You can check out a copy of this book from NHCC's library. You can also attend Common Book Club discussion on Wednesdays from 2-3pm in CLA 118 for more ideas.
- 5) You are also required to complete outside research, and the speech must include at least five verbal citations. *Between the World and Me* will be one of your required sources.
- 6) You must incorporate at least one visual aid.
- 7) Your speech should be extemporaneous. You are allowed one 4 x 6 note card. For more information about crafting an extemporaneous speech, review the documents "Argumentative Speech Tips" and "Extemporaneous Speaking Tips" posted to the D2L Content Page.
- 8) You may seek the help a tutor or a professor when crafting your entry for this contest. If you have questions about the nature of the competition and its rules or are looking for some advice on basic speechwriting, feel free to contact the members of the committee:

## Communication Studies Department

Stacy Fitzpatrick  
Sean Larson  
Brian Timm

## English Department

Kaelie Farrah  
Kelly Lundquist  
Brian Baumgart  
Sarah Babbitt

- 9) To enter the argumentative speech competition, you must enter your performance by Monday, April 2nd.

To Audition in person:

- Email Kaelie Farrah at [kfarrah@nhcc.edu](mailto:kfarrah@nhcc.edu) by Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup> to schedule an audition

To submit you entry electronically:

- You have until 11:59pm on April 2nd to upload your video to the appropriate D2L Assignment folder.
- For more information about how to upload a video submission, review the documents in the "Uploading Your Contest Entry" section on the D2L Content page.

- 10) The Common Book Committee will select the top speakers, and finalists will be announced no later than April 4th. Notification will be sent to students' NHCC email addresses unless another email has been provided with the submission.

- 11) If you make the final cut, you will perform in the final round, which will be in the Black Box Theater (CC 242) from 2:30pm to 4:00pm on Wednesday, April 11th. You must be available for this time and should expect that you will be presenting your speech to a public audience and a panel of judges.

**12)** For information about how Argumentative Speeches will be judged, go to the document titled “Judge’s Ballot for Argumentative Speech” posted to the D2L Content page.