

Join the Debate Outreach Network Today!

National Debate Outreach Charter Document Middle School Public Debate Program/High School Public Debate Program

Mission

The Claremont Colleges Debate Union (CCDU) supports class and contest debating through its National Debate Outreach network, including the Middle School Public Debate Program (MSPDP) and High School Public Debate Program (HSPDP). The Debate Union pursues its mission of promoting critical thinking, public speaking, and argumentation skill development through class, public, and contest speech, debate, and discussion events. Programming educates students for academic, leadership, and professional success. Through debate, argumentation, conflict resolution, and performance instruction and practice, debate outreach efforts help its participants foster critical inquiry, investigate contemporary public affairs, promote public discussion for citizen participation in democratic governance, and energize intercultural communication and discussion and debate across borders.

Membership

Any national or international college or university, primary or secondary school, speech or debate organization, education ministry or public department of education, educational enrichment center or academy program, homeschool group, non-profit educational institution, business, or CCDU-approved organization is eligible to become a member of the network.

Active members may participate in designated contest debate leagues, sanctioned public debates and discussions, international exchanges, demonstration teams, video productions, essay and academic competitions, and other designated activities and events. Active members are eligible to receive supplemental public speaking, argumentation, refutation, and debate and education curricular materials. Institutional membership for contest debating – competitive debate league participation – is open to any educational institution or approved public speaking or debating club representing students from Grades 5-12 (within USA) or ages 10-18 (outside USA). The charter fee for contest debate leagues will be established each year. There is no membership fee for institutions exclusively participating in non-contest programming. The Debate Union has the right to cancel membership at any time.

TO JOIN, PLEASE COMPLETE THE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND EMAIL TO JOHN MEANY, DIRECTOR OF FORENSICS, CLAREMONT MCKENNA COLLEGE/CLAREMONT COLLEGES DEBATE UNION, JOHN.MEANY@CMC.EDU.