



loretonormanhurst

Oratory

Information

Booklet

2018

From the Oratory Coordinator

In 2018, there are sure to be more competitions and events that will be held and are not covered in this document. Please watch out for Oratory Reports in the newsletter and consider discussing these with your daughter. For any further information, please contact the oratory team at Loreto Normanhurst at oratory@loretonh.nsw.edu.au or the Oratory Coordinator at bodwyer@loretonh.nsw.edu

Ms Bernadette O'Dwyer

Oratory Coordinator

From the Academic Activities Captain

Throughout history, the statement 'The pen is mightier than the sword' has been proven time and time again. The ability of an individual to clearly and effectively display their views through spoken word has and always will be, one of the most powerful tools they can be equipped with. This is the reason Loreto Normanhurst places such importance on Oratory extracurricular activities, because as women in the 21st century, the power of the spoken word is unbelievably strong, proven through Julia Gillard's 'Misogyny Speech' to Parliament in 2012 or Oprah Winfrey's address at the 2018 Golden Globes.

Loreto offers a large variety of Oratory activities both within and outside the school. These range from Debating, both CSDA and Archdale, to Mock Trial and Model UN Conferences. These activities allow students to develop and foster skills of communication, leadership, teamwork, and critical thinking in a stimulating and challenging way. These valuable skills, which resonate throughout all components of school life, help to shape strong, compassionate women who are confident within themselves and have the ability to express their opinions clearly and confidently.

And so, at the start of 2018, I encourage every girl to utilize and get involved in an oratory activity that will challenge them to become a stronger, more eloquent version of themselves.

Gabrielle Couter

Academic Activities Captain 2017/2018

Oratory at Loreto Normanhurst

Welcome to Oratory@LN 2018. Loreto Normanhurst has a long and proud history of Oratory involvement. This is a thriving program in our school where we focus on encouraging all students to participate in Oratory programs and events throughout the year. The focus is not on developing the most successful speakers and debaters, but rather providing an opportunity for all students to engage in public speaking and debating in a meaningful and exciting way. In 2017, we had a number of great successes including:

- Festival of Speech, 5th Place Senior Poetry
- Kirby Cup, Semi Finalists
- CSDA Public Speaking, Senior Finalist
- CSDA Public Speaking, Year 10, Year 9, Year 7 Semi-Finalists
- Rostrum Voice of Youth, Jnr and Snr Regional Finals
- CSDA Debating, Year 8 Semi Finalists
- CSDA Debating, 8 from 12 teams in Final Rounds
- Mock Trial, Round 1 of Finals
- United Nations Voice of Youth Competition, Jnr, Semi Finalist.
- United Nations Pacific Tour 2018 – Final Round of Interviews
- IPSHA Public Speaking, Semi-Finalist
- Significant Increase in Student Participation in all areas of Oratory.

Your daughter can become involved in a number of competitions. She can sign up as they are emailed out or advertised through the school newsletter; or come and speak to the Academic Activities Captain or the Oratory Coordinator. In 2018, Loreto Normanhurst will offer the following oratory programs:

- CSDA Public Speaking
- CSDA Debating
- Archdale Debating
- Macquarie University Debating Competitions – Round Robin Days
- Sydney University Debating Society Competition – Round Robin Days

- Interhouse Debating
- Rostrum Voice of Youth
- Plain English Speaking Awards
- Legacy Public Speaking Competition
- Mock Trial
- Kirby Cup
- Festival of Speech
- United Nations NSW Events
- Year 7 and 8 Introduction to High School Debating
- Year 7 and 8 Introduction to High School Public Speaking
- Primary Mentoring Debating Program

Selection Processes

Underpinning the Oratory program at LN, is the mission to provide an inclusive and open environment to all student interested in Oratory, no matter their ability, skill or previous experiences.

We are limited by external factors at times, to the number of entrants we can register and as a result have implemented a selection process for some competitions and events. When this occurs, students will be informed in a timely fashion.

Each student will be required to attend at an appointed time and present a prepared speech and impromptu. Students will be selected according to the specific requirements of the event they are trialing for.

We aim to ensure that all students are given the opportunity to participate in the process fairly and are encouraged to 'have a go'. This process is conducted in conjunction with the House Pastoral System to provide further support and encouragement for each individual student.

Attendance Policy

In 2018, the Oratory department will be implementing an attendance policy. This policy will be published in the coming weeks and will align with the Sport Attendance Policy. It is important the students are provided with the best opportunity to strengthen both their individual skills and team skills. This can only occur when students consistently engage in the provided training opportunities.

CSDA Public Speaking

Round One will be held at various schools across the Sydney Metropolitan area on the 2nd of March. Entry for 2 students per year group from Year's 7-12. This competition requires students to complete a prepared speech and an impromptu speech. Students will need to provide their own transport to the venue. We are unable to provide supervision for your daughter at this event as our staff will be involved in adjudication. Students will receive 1-2 sessions of coaching with a staff member in the lead up to the event. Please note, that due to increased costs of this event, students in 2018 will now be charged a fee, amount to be confirmed.

CSDA Debating

Beginning Friday night the 4th of May. CSDA is a debating competition that is run in various forms across Australia. In NSW and Sydney Metro area, students are given a topic area in the lead up to the debate. Students are given the actual topic on the night, have one hour to prepare and then debate the opposing team. Coaching generally occurs on Friday afternoon from 3:30pm to 5:00pm before the debate. CSDA Debating normally begins at approximately 6pm and generally concludes between 7:30pm and 8:30pm. There are 6 rounds and then finals. We aim to have one coach per team, but sometimes this is not possible and there will be one coach for 2 teams. Registration for CSDA will be in Week 3 Term 1, with coaching to begin in Week 7. All students are eligible to enter and we aim to have 4 people per team. It is important that if your daughter signs up, every endeavour is made to ensure she is present at all debates. Rounds will be held at both home and away and draws are not released until late Week 7. Transport to away venues needs to be organised by students, unless arrangements are made for group train travel or bus. Parents are more than welcome to attend debates and must collect their daughter in a timely manner at the conclusion of the evening. For more information about this competition, please follow this link: <http://www.csdansw.edu.au/>

Please note that there is a fee associated with this extra-curricular to cover the costs of coaching, adjudicators and catering. This fee will be charged to your daughters account.

Archdale Debating

This competition starts on the Tuesday the 22nd of May, in Term 2, rotating between home and away games. Registration for this competition will be in Term 1 and coaching starting in Term 2. Students are given a topic area in the lead up to the debate. Students are given the actual topic on the night, have one hour to prepare and then debate the opposing team. Coaching generally occurs on Tuesday afternoon before the debate. Year 7 and 8 debate around 4:30pm, with remaining years debating after this and the night concluding between 8:30pm and 9:30pm depending on location of debates. Away debates do have organised transport to ensure that all students arrive together. Parents are more than welcome to attend and to watch their daughter's debate. Students are to be collected from the school in a timely manner at the conclusion of the night. For more information about the Archdale competition, please follow this link: <http://www.ahigs.nsw.edu.au/AHIGS/ArchdaleDebating.aspx>

Please note that there is a fee associated with this extra-curricular to cover the costs of coaching, transport and catering. This fee will be charged to your daughters account.

Macquarie University Debating Competitions

Round Robin Days

These are one day events for Years 7-8, Years 9-10 and Years 11-12 and occur during the school year. The event is open to all students and is a great taster competition. The first debate topic is prepared and the other two are impromptu. Loreto Normanhurst enters this day to provide students a taster of debating. There is minimal preparation for the event prior and the focus is on having fun and challenging yourself. A great fun day of debating. <http://muds.org.au/>

Please note, that due to increased costs of this event, students in 2018 will now be charged a fee, amount to be confirmed.

Sydney University Debating Society Competition

Round Robin Days.

These are one day events for Year 7-8, Year 9 The event is open to all students and is a great taster competition. The first debate topic is prepared and the other two are impromptu. There is minimal preparation for the event prior and the focus is on having fun and challenging yourself. A great fun day of debating.

Please note, that due to increased costs of this event, students in 2018 will now be charged a fee, amount to be confirmed.

<http://www.usu.edu.au/Get-Involved/Debates.aspx>

Training Days.

Loreto Normanhurst in 2015 introduced an Introduction to High School Debating for Year 7 and Year 8 students. It was highly successful and will run again this year. The training session is run by senior students and overseen by the Oratory Coordinator. Dates for the Debating training session will be released in early 2018 and the Public Speaking Training Session to be released later in Term 1.

Interhouse Debating

A fun school based competition where students debate each other in their house groups during a lunch time. This event is organised by the Academic Activities Captain and is a popular way for students who are busy with other extra-curricular activities, to be involved in Oratory. There are no coaching sessions, just fun topics and an opportunity to see how debating works.

Rostrum Voice of Youth

A Public Speaking Competition organised by Rostrum. Entry is open to all students and includes a prepared and impromptu speech. Please follow this link for more information, <http://www.rostrum.com.au/voy>

Registration Fees are charged to the student's account

Plain English Speaking Awards

A public speaking competition that is organised by the NSW Government. Two contestants per school can enter the competition. Students will be nominated to participate in this competition. Please follow this link. <https://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/speaking-competitions/public-speaking/plain-english-speaking-award>.

Please note, that due to increased costs of this event, students in 2018 will now be charged a fee, amount to be confirmed upon registration.

Legacy Public Speaking Competition

Open to students 14 yrs and under in 2018. Two contestants per school can enter the competition. Students will be nominated to participate in this competition.

<http://www.legacy.com.au/LegacyJuniorPublicSpeakingAwardNationalGuidelines>

Please note, that due to increased costs of this event, students in 2018 will now be charged a fee, amount to be confirmed upon registration.

Mock Trial

Mock Trial is organised and run by the Law Society of NSW and is open to years 10-11 students. Students are selected to participate in this program which aims to expose high school students to the judicial system. Coaching is from a registered Solicitor, Magistrate or Barrister, who meets with the students in the lead up to the Trial. Trials are both home and away and require commitment from the student to the program. Students are given roles and scripts and the competition is judged by a registered Solicitor, Magistrate or Barrister. For more information, please follow this link. <http://www.lawsociety.com.au/community/forschools/mocktrial/Mocktrial>

Please note, that due to increased costs of this event, students in 2018 will now be charged a fee, amount to be confirmed.

Kirby Cup

A Mooting Competition run by Western Sydney University, Faculty of Law. Loreto Normanhurst participated in this event in 2017 for the first time and walked away Semi-Finalists. Students work with staff to prepare for a moot using case material provided by the University. There is a selection process for students to participate and information regarding this process will be released in early Term 2. Students who are the Overall Winners are awarded with Pre-selection into WSU, Faculty of Law. The Honorable High Court Judge Kirby presides over the competition and the Grand Final. Students who are selected into the team must demonstrate a keen interest in law and analytical thinking. The preparation required occurs outside of school hours.

Festival of Speech

This is an event organised through the Association of Heads of Independent Girls Schools, (AHIGS). It was started as an opportunity to showcase all things Oratory. This event is invitational to students who have participated in the oratory program in some manner in the year. This is a wonderful event, one which we have achieved great success in previous years. This year's Festival of Speech will be a full program and will include the following events.

- Public Speaking
- A Current Affairs
- Religion and Ethics
- Poetry Reading
- Readings
- Debating

- Drama

This event is held on a Friday afternoon/night and Saturday. Students are coached for this event by school staff in the lead-up. Please follow this link for more information
<http://www.ahigs.nsw.edu.au/AHIGS/FestivalofSpeech.aspx>

United Nations

The United Nations Youth Program includes:

- Youth UN Conference
- UN Evatt
- UN Voice of Youth

Both of these events are open to all students in different age categories. The event occurs after school hours and students receive some coaching from staff in preparation for the event. Both events provide students with the opportunity to learn about Global Issues, International Relationships, whilst strengthening public speaking and debating skills. No supervision can be provided by Loreto Normanhurst staff and therefore students must make their own way to and from the event.

Registration Fees are covered by the student upon registration.

IPSHA Debating and Primary Mentoring Debating Program

The Independent Primary School Heads of Association runs a debating day once a year in Term 4. The aim is to introduce Year 6 students to debating in a fun environment. In Term 3, students nominate to be a part of the Primary Mentoring Debating Program and during the course of the term, Year 10 students work with Year 6 students at one lunch time a week. Students learn about the basics of debating, such as the roles of speakers, the importance of definitions and team lines, breaking down a topic area and rebuttal. Teams are then selected and then prepare for the IPSHA Debating Day in Term 4. The program is coordinated between Primary Teaching Staff and the Oratory Coordinator



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