#### 2.013

#### COMMUNICATORS IN THE CLASSROOM

The new Communicators in the Classroom program was launched in Broward County, Florida, to provide increased access to speech and debate inside and outside of the classroom.

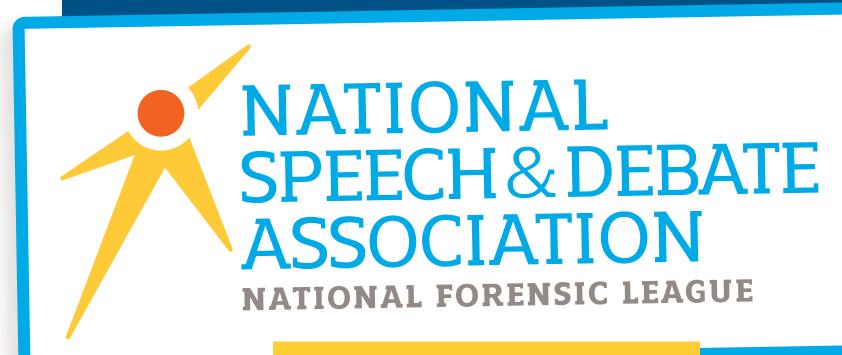


#### 2013

#### SPARK CHANGE

Don Crabtree was elected President of the Board. In a historic vote, the Board of Directors voted unanimously to change the name of the organization to the National Speech & Debate Association. The transition from the NFL to the National Speech & Debate Association (NSDA) rolled out in 2014.





NSDA "Spark" Logo

# 2014

#### STUDENT SOAPBO

The first version of a student-centered leadership group, the Student Leadership Committee, was created to engage young members of the organization and run the student publication, *Soapbox*.



Soapbox website

## 2014

#### BREAKING BARRIERS

During the 2014 National Speech & Debate Tournament, the NSDA became an official GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS® title holder for "Most People Sending a Text Message Simultaneously."

The Road to Nationals Fund, founded by the William Woods Tate, Jr., Memorial Fund, was created to help students attend the National Speech & Debate Tournament. The Road to Nationals Fund provides financial assistance to high schools lacking financial resources to attend the National Tournament. In 2024, more than \$100,000 was awarded to 267 schools.



#### 2015

#### HONORING EXCELLENCE

New district awards were created for recognizing alumni, communicators, administrators, and volunteers at the local level. Many of these awards, including District Alumni of the Year, Communicator of the Year, and more, are still recognized today.



#### 2015

#### WORLD SCHOOLS

To expand access to the National Tournament, the Board added World Schools Debate, allowing students from multiple schools in a district to compete together for the first time.

## 2016-2017

#### MEMBERSHIP REFORM

New membership rules were implemented at the start of the 2016-2017 school year. The Board ruled that all memberships in the NSDA, including middle schools, must be school-based. The membership also passed four Constitutional amendments updating membership eligibility, credit point allocations, voting strength, and Board structure. Three appointed positions were added to the Board of Directors. Monica Silverstein became the first Latina to serve alongside Mike Edmonds and Tom Rollins.

### 2016

# CELEBRATING SPEECH AND DEBATE

The United States Senate recognized National Speech and Debate Education Day on March 4, 2016! Senator Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa), Senator Chris Coons (D-Delaware), and Senator Angus King (I-Maine) served as cosponsors of the legislation. Every year since, thousands of students, coaches, and alumni across the country come together to celebrate the importance of the life changing activity of speech and debate.

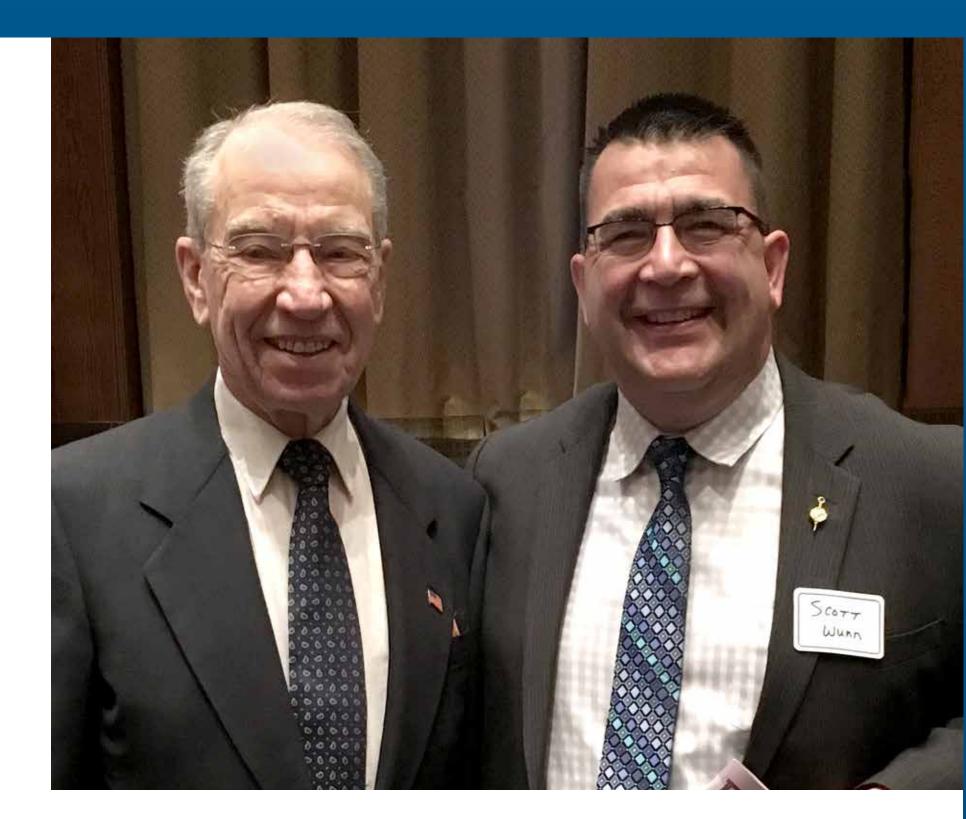
NFORMATIVE

SPEAKA

PROGRAM ORAL INTERPRETATION

Photos from Nats16

Big Questions Debate Final, Nats17



Senator Chuck Grassley and Scott Wunn, 2016

▼ Iowa State NSDE Day Resolution passed, 2017

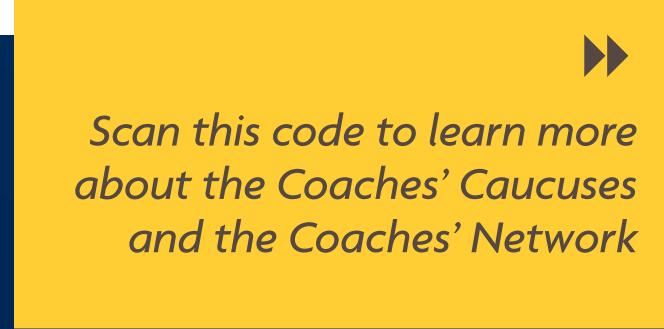


# 2016-2017

#### NEW EVENTS DEBUT

The 2016 National Tournament was held in Salt Lake City, Utah, featuring two new pilot events, Program Oral Interpretation and Informative Speaking. Coaches also participated in the first coaches' caucuses at the National Tournament.

Thanks to a generous grant from the John Templeton Foundation, Big Questions Debate was introduced to student members across the county. This style of debate is designed to open minds and encourage students to engage in discussions that may not align with their previously held beliefs. Today, thousands of students have participated in Big Questions through the John Templeton Foundation grant.





# 2016-2017

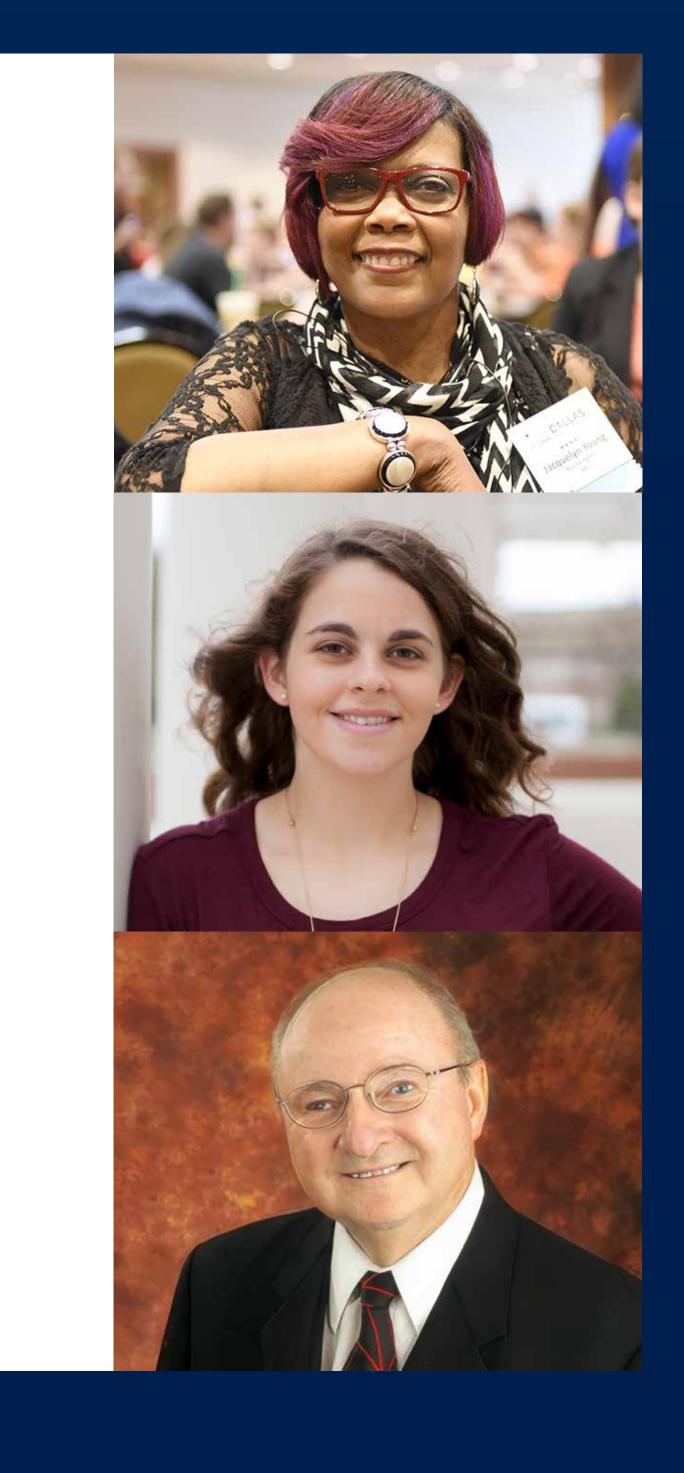
# PAVING THE WAY

Jacquelyn "Jacci" Langston became the first African American woman elected to the NSDA Hall of Fame.

National Student of the Year finalist Jordyn Zimmerman from Ohio became one of the first students to compete at the National Tournament using assistive technology.

Donus Roberts was recognized for being the first coach in NSDA history to earn an eleventh diamond! Today, the Donus D. Roberts Coaching Excellence Award honors his legacy by recognizing coaches who earn 10,000 points.

(top to bottom) Jacci Langston | Jordyn Zimmerman | Donus Roberts |



NATIONAL SPEECH & DEBATE ASSOCIATION

# 165 YEARS

A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

NATIONAL SPEECH & DEBATE ASSOCIATION

# 165 YEARS

A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION