**[School Name] Celebrates**

**National Speech and Debate Education Day!**

**City, State (Month Day, Year) –** [School Name/Speech and Debate Team] is proud to celebrate National Speech and Debate Education Day on March 1, 2019.

[School Name/Speech and Debate Team] will celebrate this life changing activity by [insert details on event, ways you are celebrating, etc.].

[Insert quote from coach/teacher/educator/administrator about why it’s important to celebrate at your school.]

National Speech and Debate Education Day was created by the National Speech & Debate Association (NSDA) to recognize and celebrate the positive impact of speech and debate activities on students, schools, and communities. The NSDA is the largest interscholastic organization servicing middle school, high school, and collegiate students in the United States. On March 2, 2018, there will be more than 1.5 million speech and debate alumni celebrating speech and debate education nationwide.

“Speech and debate changes lives,” said J. Scott Wunn, Executive Director of the National Speech & Debate Association. “From increased attendance to higher test scores and a rise in college acceptance, speech and debate prepares young people for college, the work force, and beyond.”

From local celebrations, to the halls of Congress in Washington, D.C., the educational value of speech and debate will be celebrated near and far on March 1, 2019. In addition to special events and programs, thousands will share personal stories of how speech and debate changed their life on social media using the hashtag #WeAreSpeechAndDebate.

[Insert quote/testimonial from local student on how this activity changed their life.]

[Include additional information about upcoming events, tournaments, etc.] For more information on National Speech and Debate Education Day, visit [www.SpeechandDebateDay.org](http://www.speechanddebateday.org). To learn more about joining the National Speech & Debate Association, visit [www.speechanddebate.org](http://www.speechanddebate.org).

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***About the National Speech & Debate Association***

The National Speech & Debate Association is the largest interscholastic speech and debate organization serving middle school, high school, and collegiate students in the United States. The Association provides competitive speech and debate activities, high-quality resources, comprehensive training, scholarship opportunities, and advanced recognition to more than 150,000 students and coaches every year. For 90 years, the National Speech & Debate Association has empowered more than 1.5 million members to become engaged citizens, skilled professionals, and honorable leaders in our society. For more information, visit www.speechanddebate.org.

**MEDIA CONTACTS:**

[Insert Your Contact Information]

Grace Rogers

Marketing Communications Specialist, National Speech & Debate Association

grace.rogers@speechanddebate.org

(920) 249-5365