

TEXAS SPEECH
COMMUNICATION
ASSOCIATION

Convention 2025

NAVIGATING COMPLEXITY



*Marriott Dallas Allen Hotel & Convention Center
October 2-4, 2025*

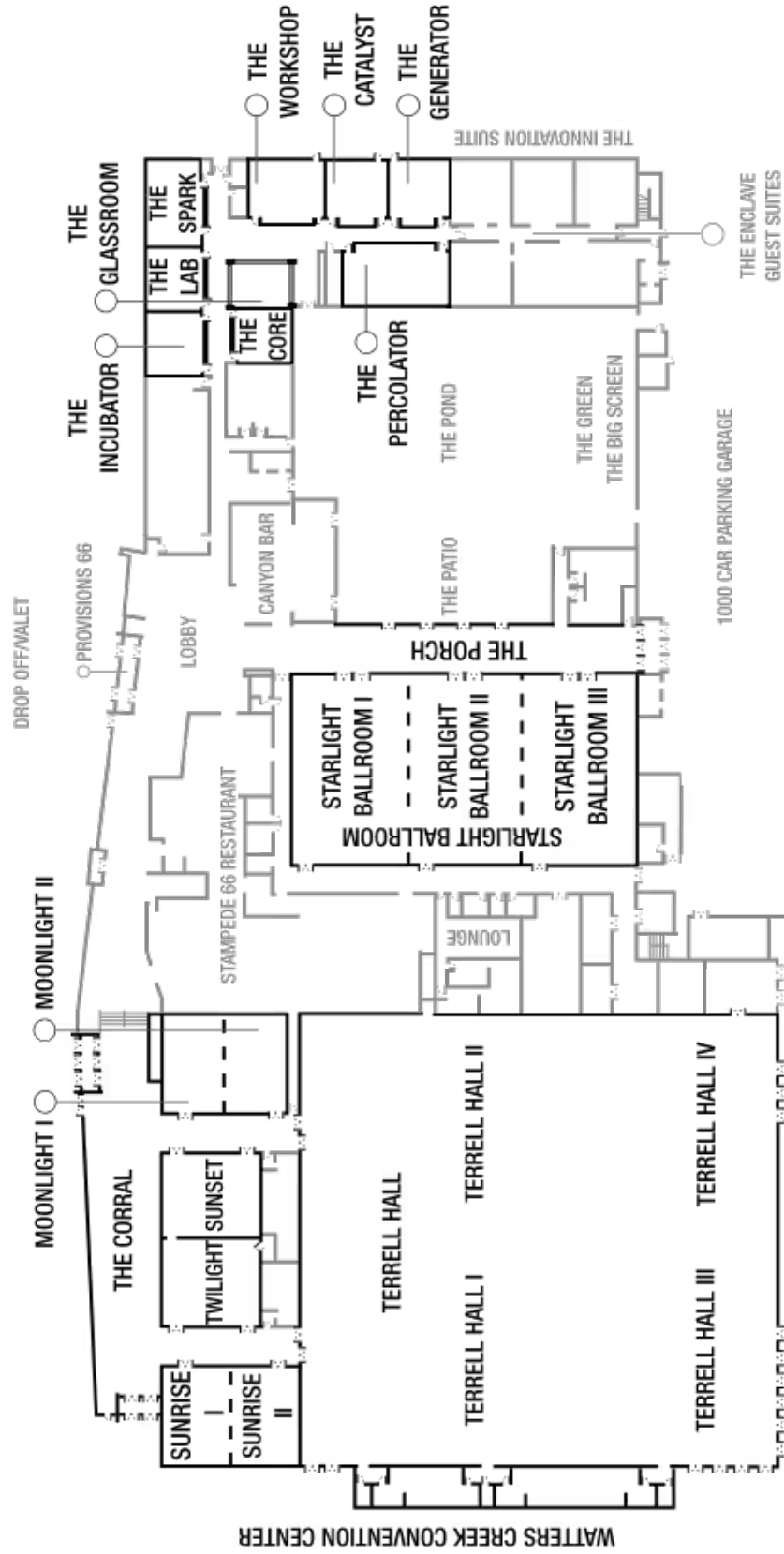
AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

Texas Forensic Association

Texas Community College Forensic Association

Texas Intercollegiate Forensic Association

MEETING ROOMS





Navigating Complexity

Texas Speech Communication Association

Convention 2025

October 2-4, 2025

www.etsca.com

Marriott Dallas Allen Hotel & Convention Center
Allen, Texas

Affiliated organizations meeting in conjunction with TSCA:

Texas Forensic Association

Texas Community College Forensics Association

Texas Intercollegiate Forensic Association

Thursday, October 2nd

10:00-11:50	TSCA Executive Officers Meeting	The Core
12:00-12:50	TFA Executive Council Meeting	Starlight I
12:00-4:00	Convention Registration	Starlight III
1:00-1:50	TFA Committee Meetings	
	Congressional Debate, Constitution, Ad Hoc State Size, Finance, Equity	Starlight I
	Nominating, Professional Relations, Public Relations, Scholarship, Ad Hoc New Coaches	Starlight II
	Ad Hoc Regional Alignment	The Incubator
	Ad Hoc UDL	The Spark
	Ad Hoc IQT Judging	The Catalyst
	Hall of Fame	The Generator
2:00-2:50	TFA EC & Amendment Discussion	Starlight I
3:00-3:50	TFA Regional Meetings	
	Region 1	The Catalyst
	Region 2	The Workshop
	Region 3	The Incubator
	Region 4	The Spark
	Region 5	The Generator
4:00-4:50	New Member Orientation	The Percolator
4:00-4:50	TSCA Standing Committees	
	Bylaws, College and University, Educator Training, Governmental Affairs, Public Relations, Resolutions, Speech and Theatre in Public Schools, UIL Advisory	Starlight II
	Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee	The Spark
	Educator of the Year	The Incubator
	Fiscal Review	The Workshop
	Nominating	The Generator
	Special Awards	The Catalyst
5:00-5:50	TSCA Executive Council Meeting	Starlight II
	All Officers, District Chairs, Committee Chairs, and Interest Group Chairs are encouraged to attend!	
6:00	TFA Business Meeting #1	Starlight I

Friday, October 3rd

8:00-8:30	Late Registration	Starlight III
8:30-9:50	TSCA First General Session (Officer Elections)	Starlight I
10:00-10:50	Panel A Programs	Pages 29-30
11:00-11:50	TSCA District Meetings	
	Districts 1-5	Starlight II
	District 6-8	The Incubator
	Districts 9-11	The Percolator
	Districts 12-14	The Spark
	District 15-20	The Workshop
12:00-1:20	Convention Luncheon	Starlight I
1:30-2:50	Interest Group Session 1	
	ID - Middle Schools	The Spark
	ID - High Schools	The Catalyst
	ID - Colleges & Universities	The Generator
3:00-3:50	Panel B Programs	Pages 34-35
4:00-4:50	Panel C Programs	Pages 36-38
5:00-6:20	Interest Group Session 2	
	Diversity and Inclusion	The Incubator
	Oral Interp & Performance Studies	The Spark
	TIFA/TCCFA	The Workshop
	TJSDA State Planning Meeting 1	The Generator
	University Interscholastic League	The Catalyst
6:30-7:30	President's Reception	The Patio
7:30-10:00	GUSSC Social Event	The Patio -> Frogg Coffee & Crêperie
7:30-10:00	Past Presidents' Dinner	The Lab
7:30	TFA Business Meeting #2	Starlight I

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Saturday, October 4th

7:30-8:00	Late Registration	Starlight III
8:00 - 8:50	TSCA New Executive Council Meeting All Officers, District Chairs, Committee Chairs, and Interest Group Chairs are encouraged to attend!	Starlight I
9:00-9:50	Panel D Programs	Pages 45-47
10:00 - 11:20	Interest Group Session 3 Argumentation & Debate Interpersonal & Organizational Communication Rhetoric and Communication Theory Theater TSJDA State Planning Meeting 2	The Workshop The Incubator The Generator The Spark The Catalyst
11:30 - 12:30	TSCA 2nd General Session (Bylaws Voting and Officer Installation)	Starlight I
12:40-1:20	TFA/TSCA Spotlight Speaker	Starlight I
1:30 - 2:20	Panel E Programs	Pages 49-51
2:30 - 3:30	TSCA Officer Planning Meeting	The Core

REMEMBER THESE SPECIAL EVENTS!

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION: If you are new to TSCA and trying to navigate your way around the convention, don't miss this session on Friday at 4:00 PM in the Percolator.

TSCA GENERAL SESSIONS: During session #1, we'll elect officers and hear about proposed bylaws changes. In session #2, we'll install new officers and vote on bylaws. You might even get lucky and win a door prize!

CONVENTION LUNCHEON: Join us Friday at noon in Starlight I to honor the TSCA Communicator of the Year—**Denise Lee**! Luncheon tickets are available at the registration table.

PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION & AWARDS: Friday at 6:30 PM on The Patio, we'll say thank you to **Rory McKenzie** for his leadership and dedication to TSCA! Educators of the Year, Top GUSSC Student Paper, Membership Milestones, Service Award nominees and winners, and Interest Group Honorees will also be recognized! As a special treat, we will celebrate TSCA's 100th birthday with cake provided by the Harvard Debate Council.

GUSSC PARTICIPANTS SOCIAL HOUR: All GUSSC participants are invited to enjoy a light dinner at the President's Reception. Following the reception, at 7:30 PM, GUSSC participants and college/university faculty will meet outside the reception entrance and walk together to Frogg Coffee and Crêperie for a social hour.

DON STREETER PAST PRESIDENT'S DINNER: On Friday after the reception, all TSCA Past Presidents are invited to a dinner in honor of your service and dedication to the organization.

TFA/TSCA SPOTLIGHT SPEAKER: Attend this session on Saturday at 12:40 PM in Starlight I to hear school law attorney **Jarod Russell** discuss how to navigate the complexities of educating in Texas. Those seeking more guidance can attend Jarod's second session in the Panel E Program time slot.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Welcome to Allen and TSCA 2025!

...and a big Happy Birthday to TSCA! What an incredible milestone it is to celebrate 100 years together. Over the past century, our organization has been shaped by giants who left a lasting impact on this profession we love. Their work reminds us of the continuing importance of speech communication for every student. Texas has produced so many leaders and pioneers in this field, and today we not only honor that history—we also look forward with excitement to the future we will build together.

When I was thinking about a theme for this convention, I kept coming back to how challenging our work can be. Whether it's navigating a shifting legislature, connecting with students facing unique circumstances, or doing our best with limited resources, the life of a speech educator is anything but simple. Yet, we know just how powerful our work is. We teach theory, application, and skills that employers consistently say are the most valuable qualities in future leaders. That truth keeps me inspired. My hope is that as we face today's challenges, we also find new and creative ways to serve our students, our organization, and our profession.

In my 17 years of teaching, TSCA has always been a place of support. This association has given me mentors, colleagues, and friends who help me navigate the hard parts and celebrate the victories. Together, we can continue to equip our students with the skills they need to think critically, speak confidently, and change the world. And at the heart of it all, we remember why we show up every day—our students.

I am so excited for this year's convention. I'm deeply thankful to everyone who made it possible—the panel organizers, our speakers, and all of you who bring the energy that makes TSCA feel like home. A special thank-you goes to Vice President Jeremy Hutchins for curating this year's convention and putting together this program with such care. I also want to recognize M'Liss Hindman for her tireless work as our Convention Coordinator—she keeps us all moving forward!

For me, TSCA Convention has always been a chance to recharge. My hope is that you walk away with something useful for your classroom or team, and that you leave feeling encouraged about the work we do together. As my time as President comes to an end, I can't thank you enough for the support you've shown me. This role has been one of the greatest honors of my career. I have learned so much, and I leave energized knowing I've had the privilege of working alongside the very best educators in Texas.

Here's to celebrating 100 years of TSCA—and to the next 100 still to come.

Rory McKenzie
TSCA President

FROM OUR HOSTS

FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Hello! And welcome to the 2025 Texas Speech Communication Association Convention! I am proud to have served as this year's convention program planner and **using your amazing submissions** I think we have put together a diverse, engaging, and enlightening set of offerings. I am excited to attend your panels, to hear your ideas, and to listen to your feedback about the convention. Most of all, I am excited to celebrate the organization's 100th birthday with you! I'm told there may even be cake!

This year we welcome two special guest speakers to the convention. First, we are proud to celebrate the work and success of an award-winning actor, singer, producer, and social justice advocate. Denise Lee, CEO of Visions for Change, Inc., is the 2025 TSCA Communicator of the Year and I hope that you will join me at the luncheon on Friday to hear her speak. Second, the Texas Forensic Association and TSCA are excited to sponsor the attendance of Jarod Russell, a former public educator who now works as a school law attorney. On Saturday, he will present two sessions on how to navigate the complexities of communication education in Texas. The first half is a spotlight event which will give everyone a chance to attend.

Of course, convention also gives us the opportunity to celebrate our membership, so I know you won't want to miss the President's Reception on Friday night. Not only will we express our gratitude to Rory McKenzie for his outstanding service to the organization, but we will also recognize our Educators of the Year, the Top GUSSC Student Paper, Memberships Milestones, Service Award winners, and Interest Group honorees.

Some may notice that Interest Group sessions have been given more time in this year's schedule. I hope you will take advantage of this by talking about next year's theme (Communicating for Collaboration: Collaborating for Change), brainstorming panel ideas, and generating feedback on ways that TSCA can better serve you. Interest Groups are critical to the success of the convention, and I want to thank those that have served so diligently as chairs. This event simply would not be possible without your efforts.

In addition to participating in Interest Groups, I want to encourage you to attend the general sessions, district meetings, and your respective committee meetings. This is where you most directly influence the future of TSCA. You can vote on bylaws changes, elect leadership positions, and provide your expertise and input on organizational business. And, if you want to be on a committee during the next year, please let me know. We always need energetic and dedicated folks to serve. Most importantly, if you are a new member, don't miss the orientation on Thursday! That's the best way to get started.

Finally, let me say **"thank you" to everyone in the organizational leadership** who helped me this year. Special thanks go out to Rory, VP-Elect Heather Soltero, the Local Arrangements Committee chaired by Hanna Rodriguez, and M'Liss Hindman, Convention Coordinator. When navigating the complexity of the TSCA program and convention it takes a lot of help from a lot of really smart, dedicated, and caring people. Luckily, there's no shortage of those folks here.

I hope that you will enjoy your time at convention. I hope you reunite with old friends and make new ones. I hope you have amazing experiences that will make TSCA's next century as memorable as the last. And I hope that you will learn a communication strategy or two that make your future navigations less complex!

Jeremy Hutchins
TSCA Vice President

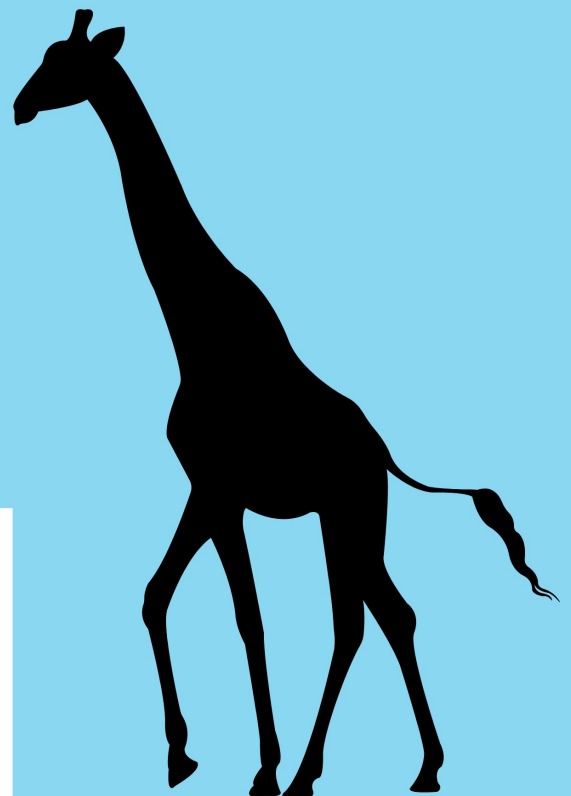
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Student Organizations

Get involved with Lambda Pi Eta, the Communication Guild, and the LBJ Debate Society



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Study Abroad

Communication Studies majors have Domestic & International Study Abroad Opportunities



Scholarship & Conference Funding

Financial support available for research accomplishments and travel for academic conferences

MAJOR IN COMMUNICATION STUDIES AT TXST

The Communication Studies major is designed for students interested in the creation, expression, and analysis of messages in their personal, professional, and public lives. Students explore verbal and nonverbal communication, organizational and professional communication, rhetoric and criticism, argumentation and persuasion, and communication technology.

UNDERGRADUATE CONCENTRATIONS

Relationship Management and Well-Being
Professional & Organizational Advancement
Persuasion, Advocacy, & Civic Engagement

MINORS

Communication Studies, Leadership
Studies, Political Communication, Health
Communication, Science
Communication

CONNECT

COMMUNICATION STUDIES

Texas State University
Centennial Hall, Room 205
601 University Drive
San Marcos, TX 78666
(512) 245-2165

www.commstudies.txst.edu



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Communication Studies
Moody College of Communication



University of Texas National
Institute in Forensics

UTNIF 2026

**Join us for
our 33rd
annual
summer
institute!**

TENTATIVE DATES

Congress	June 28–July 11
Cross-Examination	June 21–July 11
Lincoln Douglas	June 21–July 4
Public Forum	June 28–July 11
Speech/Individual Events	June 28–July 11
World Schools	June 21–July 11

View program listings: **MOODY.UTEXAS.EDU/UTNIF-PROGRAM**

2025 TSCA OFFICERS

President	Rory McKenzie, Lindale High School
Vice President	Jeremy Hutchins, Texas State University
Vice President-Elect	Heather Soltero, Tascosa High School
Executive Secretary	Mellessa Denny, Amarillo High School
Comptroller	Wade Hescht, Lone Star College North Harris
Communications Director	Stef Cambra, Drury University
Journal Editor	Amanda Jo Ratcliff, Tyler Junior College
Archivist	Jana Riggins, University of Texas at Austin
Immediate Past President	Randy Cox, University of Texas at Austin
Webmaster	Brent Hinkle
Convention Coordinator	M'Liss Hindman, Tyler Junior College
Parliamentarian	Lou Ann Seabourn, Retired
TFA Representative	Jenn Melin, Team Texas

2025 DISTRICT CHAIRS

District 1	Chris Esparza	christopher.esparza@hcisd.org
District 2	Salena Pereida	spereida@g-pisd.org
District 3	Bryan Winn	bryan.winn@visd.net
District 4	Eric Porter	eric.porter@thevillageschool.com
District 5	Andre Favors	afavors@lamar.edu
District 6	Heather Strawn	hstrawn@csisd.org
District 7	Kari McKenzie	mckenziekd@lisdeagles.net
District 8	Cody Morris	cmorris@chisddevils.com
District 9	vacant	
District 10	Neal White	neal.white@pisd.edu
District 11	Amberley Tanner	amberley.tanner@nisdtx.org
District 12	Keylynn Boyce	Boycek@ccisd.com
District 13	Bianca Beronio	bianca.beronio@austinisd.org
District 14	LaDonna Watson	ladonna.watson@abileneisd.org
District 15	Zackery Carlock	zackery.carlock@angelo.edu
District 16	Brett Howard	brett.howard@canyonisd.net
District 17	Heather Byars	hbyars@frenship.us
District 18	Joshua Wimberley	joshua.wimberley@midlandisd.net
District 19	Brandon Cohn	bcohn@episd.org
District 20	Justin Blacklock	jblacklock@alamo.edu

2025 INTEREST GROUP CHAIRS

Argumentation & Debate	Chair Harry Yu	Hoi.yu@springbranchisd.com
Diversity & Inclusion	Chair Bianca Beronio	bianca.beronio@austinisd.org
Instructional Development College & University	Chair Andre Favors Vice Chair Randall Fowler	afavors@lamar.edu
Instructional Development High School	Chair Michelle Walker Vice Chair LaDonna Watson	mwalker@fortbendchristian.org
Instructional Development Middle School	Chair George Tennison Vice Chair Franz Hill	gttennis@ga.aliefisd.net
Interpersonal/Organizational Communication	Chair Cristine Beard	christine.beard@cfisd.net
Oral Interp & Performance Studies	Chair Reggie Chapman Vice Chair Terran Duhon	reggie.chapman@pisd.edu
Rhetoric & Communication Theory	Chair Amanda Jo Ratcliff Vice Chair Andre Favors	arat@tjc.edu
TFA	Chair Nathaniel Council Vice Chair Davy Holmes	presidenttxfa@gmail.com
Theater	Chair Kari McKenzie Vice Chair Monique Wallace	mckenziekd@lisdeagles.net
TIFA/TCCFA	Chair Justin Blacklock Vice Chair Wade Hescht	jblacklock@alamo.edu
UIL	Chair Barb Ixba Vice Chair Kyla Brookshier-DeLeon	bixba@eanesisd.net

INTEREST GROUP CHAIRS

STANDING AND AD HOC COMMITTEES

Bylaws

Ann Shofner '27 (chair)
Cindi Timmons '26
Joanna Hickey '27
Kathy Owens '27
Brian Alford '27

College and University

Justin Blacklock '26 (Chair)
Sarah Contreras '26
Andre Favors '25
Mary Anna Kidd '25
Randall Fowler '25
Trey Guinn '25
Casey Garcia '27
Angela Amina-Korang '27
Kate Mead '27
Ex-Officio: Amanda Jo Ratcliff

Educator Training

Barb Ixba '27 (Chair)
Greg Arp '26
Vicki Beard '26
Leslie Rodriguez '25
Shauna Punch '27
Heather Stringer '27
Hayley Harp '27
David Serna '27

Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee

Heather Huffman
Julie Welker
Sara Jane Barno
Davy Holmes
Christine Beard
Madi Gackenbach

Educator of the Year

Kari McKenzie '27 (Chair)
Eva Margarita '26
Brian Eanes '26
George Tennison '27
Shannon LaBove '27
Franz Hill '27
Amy Jones '27

Fiscal Review

Brent Hinkle '27 (Chair)
Neal White '25
Wayne Kraemer '26
Ex-Officio: Wade Hescht

Governmental Affairs

Ryan Lovell '26 (Chair)
Max Vanderheyden '26
Joshua Wimberly '27
Andrew Gibson '27
Nicole Cornish '27
Linda Alderson '27
Kelsey Abele '27
Monique Wallace '27
Ex-Officio: Ryan Lovell

Local Arrangements

Hanna Rodriguez (Chair)
Hayley Harp
Skyler Walker
Kanza Jafari

Nominating

Yolanda Silva (Chair)
Michael Merritte
Victoria Beard
Reggie Chapman
Eva Margarita
Brian Alford
Brett Howard
Andre Favors

Public Relations

Michael Merritte '26 (Chair)
Peter Dubrule '26
Bekka Berryhill '27
Hannah Rodriguez '27
Melonie Menefee '27
Ex-Officio: Stef Cambra

Resolutions

Kelsey Vincent '25 (Chair)
Courtney Plotts '26
Eric Mears '26
Wendy Curran-Meyer '27
Lindsey Petropoulos '27
Gina Lozano '27

Special Awards

Wade Hescht '25 (Chair)
Ralph Long '27
Connie McKee '27
M'Liss Hindman '27
Aimee Kasprzyk '27

Speech and Theatre in Public Schools

JP Fugler '26 (Chair)
Andrew Eddy '25
Amberley Tanner '25
Ross DeLeon '26
Cassandra De La Vina '27
Kyle Borne '27
Branson Cobb '27
Dillon Rogers '27

UIL Advisory

Yolanda Silva '27 (Chair)
Heath Martin '26
Reggie Chapman '25
Meredith McLeod '26
Kristi Bogy '26
Salena Pereida '27
Brian Darby '27
Will Honea '27
Melissa Witt '27
Ex-Officio: Jana Riggins

*If you're interested in being on a committee after convention, please email **Jeremy Hutchins: jh200@txstate.edu***

Texas Speech Communication Journal

Volume 51

Call for Manuscripts

The Texas Speech Communication Journal issues a call for papers that focus on research in human communication. Contributors may approach topics from multiple perspectives, contexts, and methodologies supported within the discipline. Manuscripts should be received no later than December 31, 2025. Texas Speech Communication Journal (TSCJ) follows a policy of blind review so no author identification should appear in the abstract and body of the manuscript.

Manuscripts should not exceed 30 pages, including references and figures, and should be written according to the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (7th edition). The manuscript and title page should be submitted to the Texas Speech Communication Association website on the Journal page (<https://etsca.com/journal.asp>). Submissions should be divided into the following two (Microsoft Word) documents:

1. Title Page - should include the author's name(s), academic position, institutional affiliation, full mailing address, telephone number, email address, brief author biography, and a history of the manuscript (presentation at conferences). Title page should also indicate the following:
 - A. Methodology/Analysis Technique: (include all that apply) Content Analysis. Ethnography, Qualitative analysis, Quantitative analysis, Rhetorical criticism
 - B. Communication Context (keywords that describe your manuscript's area of study)
2. Abstract and Manuscript - An abstract of not more than 150 words should accompany the manuscript. The author should also include keywords for the articles. **No author identification should appear in this document.** Incomplete manuscripts will be automatically rejected. Include all tables, graphs, appendices, etc...

Call for Book Reviews

Texas Speech Communication Journal invites book reviews of recent (published within the last five years) literature about human communication and/or connection. Reviews should describe the book's content, philosophy, or framework, analyze the arguments or methodology, and clarify how the work may expand upon or contribute to the literature in the field of communication. Book reviews should be no more than 1,000 words in length and conform to APA style guidelines.

The *Texas Speech Communication Journal (TSCJ)* is a state journal published by the Texas Speech Communication Association. The TSCJ produces one print issue per academic year and publishes original scholarship that contributes to the studies of human communication. An external committee blind reviews all submissions. The journal has a 25% acceptance rate.

Acceptance/Rejection Notices: Sent early to mid-April 2026.

Submissions should be uploaded to the Texas Speech Communication Association website (<https://etsca.com/journal.asp>). Click on the blue "Click for Submission Form" button to submit manuscripts and book reviews.

Queries should be sent via email to:

TSCJ Editor, Amanda Jo Ratcliff, Ph.D.

Tyler Junior College

email: tscjeditor@etsca.com

Deadline: December 31, 2025

CALL FOR MANUSCRIPTS

TSCA PAST PRESIDENTS

1923	Bernice Duggan	1960	P. Merville Larson	1997	Trudy Hanson
1924	Jeston Dickey	1961	Betty Hughes	1998	Jana Riggins
1925	Olivia Hobgood	1962	Angus Springer	1999	President Not Recognized
1926	Jesse Millsaps	1963	Rex Fleming	2000	R. Scott Allen
1927	Mary E. Latimer	1964	Ted Skinner	2001	June Smith
1928	Gladys de Silva Bate	1965	Mabel Wyatt	2002	Teresa Galiazzo
1929	Marjorie E. Will	1966	R.V. Holland	2003	Russell Lowery-Hart
1930	Unknown	1967	June Prentice	2004	Ann Shofner
1931	Earl C. Bryan	1968	Don Streeter	2005	Natalie Bryant
1932	Alma Copelin	1969	Billie Etheridge	2006	Joe Trevino
1933	Unknown	1970	James Barton	2007	Barbara Mayo
1934	Nena Kate Ramsey	1971	Chloe Armstrong	2008	Lois Davis
1935	Minnie L. Blundell	1972	Noyce Burleson	2009	Ralph Long
1936	Sara Lowery	1973	George Tade	2010	Kandi King
1937	Sara Lowery	1974	Ed Thompson	2011	Connie McKee
1938	Yetta Mitchell	1975	Ted Colson	2012	Russell Kirkscey
1939	Florence Horton	1976	Virginia Myers	2013	M'Liss S. Hindman
1940	Emory G. Horger	1977	Vernon McGuire	2014	Mellessa Denny
1941	Emory G. Horger	1978	Pat Rogers	2015	Amy Tilton Jones
1942	Thomas A. Rousse	1979	Helen Schafer	2016	Melissa Witt
1943	Thomas A. Rousse	1980	Rita Harlien	2017	Wade Hescht
1944	Thomas A. Rousse	1981	John Wilson	2018	Colin Malinak
1945	Thomas A. Rousse	1982	Maridell Fryar	2019	Mendy Meurer-Busby
1946	Wilhelmina G. Heede	1983	George Grice	2020	Aimee Kasprzyk
1947	Anna Jo Pendleton	1984	L. D. Naegelin	2021	Lacy Cannon
1948	Jesse Ray Holcomb	1985	Rosanna Herndon	2022	Ryan Lovell
1949	Jesse J. Villarreal	1986	Pat Jurek	2023	Randy Cox
1950	Oretha Whitworth	1987	Tyler Tindall	2024	Rory McKenzie
1951	Harold Weiss	1988	Ronald Dodson		
1952	Fred J. Barton	1989	John Gossett		
1953	Jeanne Lennard	1990	Debra Dehlinger		
1954	Elton Abernathy	1991	Marilyn Swinton		
1955	Verna Harris	1992	Jackie Jarrett		
1956	E.L. Pros	1993	Robert Stewart		
1957	Nan Elkins	1994	Ann Shofner		
1958	Crannell Toliver	1995	R. Neal Rieke		
1959	Jonnie Ross Elzner	1996	Kerry Moore		

1935-38.....	Emory G. Horger
1938-41.....	J. Clark Weaver
1941-46.....	Hugh Seabury
1946.....	P. Melville Larson
1946-47.....	F. L. Winship
1947-49.....	Bruce Roach
1947-52.....	Crandell Tolliver
1952-55.....	Robert Cape
1955-58.....	Ted Skinner
1958-61.....	R. B. Holland
1961-64.....	Don Streeter
1964-67.....	P. Melville Larson
1967-69.....	Curtis L. Pope
1969-70.....	C. L. Farr
1970-79.....	Robert Jeffrey
1979-82.....	William DeMougeot
1982-83.....	Ray Ewing
1983.....	William DeMougeot
1983-88.....	Ann Harrell
1988-89.....	Carrol Haggard
1989-91.....	Tyler Tindall
1991-95.....	June H. Smith
1995-98.....	Ralph Long
1998-01.....	Lou Ann Seabourn
2001-07.....	Randy Cox
2007-12.....	Brent Hinkle
2012-16.....	Lou Ann Seabourn
2016-22.....	Carolyn Baum

We value the dedicated service of our current Executive Secretary, Mellessa Denny, (since 2022) as well as those that have preceded her.

TSCA MEMBER MILESTONES

Twenty-Five Year Honorees

Brent Hinkle

Bonnie Bonnette

Melissa Witt

Thirty-Five Year Honorees

Delight Justice

Thanks to these members for their dedication & commitment to TSCA over the years!

If you are approaching a benchmark year of membership (25, 40 or 50 years) contact Jana Riggins.

TSCA RISING STAR RECIPIENTS

2023 Kelsey Vincent, Bushland High School

2024 Brett Howard, Canyon High School

TSCA TOP PAPER AWARD STUDENT RESEARCH CONFERENCE

2016 Stephanie Williams, West Texas A&M Univ

2017 Rachel Riggs, Angelo State University

2018 Amanda Brookhart, West Texas A&M Univ

2019 Dane Glenn, West Texas A&M Univ

2020 Cynthia Callahan, West Texas A&M Univ

2021 Jan Chitsey, Angelo State University

2022 Melissa Haynes, East Texas Baptist Univ

2023 Sebastian Nichols, East Texas Baptist Univ

2024 Mary Tinuoye, Texas Tech University

1974	Alonez Blackburn, Hawley HS	2007	Mary Jane Grant, Morehead MS
1975	Marjorie Best		Myrna Bass, Athens HS
1976	Pamela McDaniel, Boswell HS		Sarah Contreras, Del Mar College
1981	Lanny Naegelin, Churchill HS		Michael Elkins, Texas A&M Univ. Kingsville
1982	Jackie Jarrett, Coronado HS	2008	Sandra Jones, Killough MS
1984	Opal Hall, Denton HS		Barbara Garner, Duncanville HS
1985	Jean Clough, Ball HS		Amy Tilton Jones, Del Mar College
1986	Ron Dodson, Westlake HS		Shawn Wahl, Texas A&M, Corpus Christi
1987	Kerry Moore, Muleshoe HS	2009	Cheryl Miller, Henderson MS
1988	Ann Shofner, Tascosa HS		Robert Shepard, Creekview HS
1989	Paula Moeller, Hays HS		Wade Hescht, Lone Star College, North Harris
1990	Mildred Peveto, Newman Smith HS		Debbie Hatton, Sam Houston State Univ.
1991	Charlotte Brown, Gregory-Portland HS	2010	Gilbert Casas, McCollum HS
1992	Kandi King, Clark HS		Mike Jones, Del Mar College
1993	Robertta Grenfell, Klein HS	2011	George Pacheco, Jr., Angelo State University
1994	Sandra Lucas, Skyline HS		Karen Wilbanks, Plano Senior HS
	M'Liss S. Hindman, Tyler Junior College	2012	George Tennison, E. A. Olle MS
1995	Lana Hall, Hereford HS		Gay Hollis, James E. Taylor HS
	Linda Long, Northlake College		Jim Towns, Stephen F. Austin University
1996	Jana Riggins, Kaufman HS	2013	Stacy Thomas, The Kincaid School
	Leann Ellis, South Plains College		Kim Falco, Franklin HS
	Virginia Myers, Wayland Baptist Univ.		Victoria Beard, Spring Woods HS
1997	Joe D. Trevino, Jr., Bishop HS	2014	Kelly Kimball, Carroll HS
	Glynis Holm Strause, Coastal Bend College		Danny Moss, North Texas CC
	June H. Smith, Angelo State University		Wayne Kraemer, Texas State University
1998	Connie McKee, Amarillo HS	2015	Melissa Witt, Dimmitt HS
	Ralph Long, Collin County Comm College		Mendy Meurer, Del Mar College
	Trudy Hanson, West Texas A&M Univ.		Michelle Maresh-Fuehrer, Texas A&M, CC
1999	Mary C. Green, Pasadena HS	2016	Eloise Blair, Lamar Consolidated
	Claude Caffee, Brookhaven College		Patrick Ralls, Wharton Junior College
	Martha J. Haun, University of Houston	2017	Aimee Kasprzyk, Blooming Grove HS
2000	William Schuetz, Gregory-Portland HS		Kathy Owens, Univ of Mary Hardin-Baylor
	Natalie Bryant, South Plains College		Barbara Mayo, Northeast College
	Carley Dodd, Abilene Christian University	2018	Mellessa Denny, Amarillo High School
2001	Randy Ellis, Spring HS		Amy Aldridge Sanford, Texas A&M, CC
	Lou Ann Seabourn, Amarillo College	2019	Noah Recker, La Vernia High School
	Terry Thibodeaux, Sam Houston State Univ.		Justin Blacklock, San Antonio College
2002	Teresa Galiazzo, Alief Hastings HS		Leslie Rodriguez, Angelo State University
	Jackie Ganschow, Del Mar College	2020	Lyn Esquivel, Tuloso-Midway MS
2003	R. Scott Allen, Humble ISD		Lindsey Petropoulos, Rice MS
	Janna Holt-Day, South Plains College		Michael Merritte, Galveston Ball HS
	John Gossett, University of North Texas	2021	Brian Eanes, Ronald Reagan High School
2004	Linda Alderson, Boling HS		Amanda Jo Ratcliff, Tyler Junior College
	Catherine Gragg, San Jacinto College	2022	Ryan Lovell, Tascosa High School
	Robin Williamson, University of St. Thomas		Carolyn Baum, West Texas A&M University
2005	Sammy Green, Spring HS	2023	JP Fugler, Lindale High School
	Marla Chisholm, Del Mar College		Lacy Cannon, West Texas A&M University
	Mary Trejo, University of Texas, El Paso	2024	Rory McKenzie, Lindale High School
2006	Sara Jane Barno, Hornedo MS		
	Barbara McCain, Plano East Senior HS		
	Charles Wise, St. Philip's College		
	Randy Cox, University of Texas, Austin		

LIFE MEMBERS

Linda Alderson
Chris Arnold
James Barnes
Andrew Barrett
Carolyn Baum
Darlene Bellinghausen
Kristina Bilban
Justin Blacklock
Jane Boyd
Robert Boyd
George Bradley
Elaine Brink
Joseph Brown
Lacy Cannon
Christina Cardenas
Catherine Carroll
Gilbert Casas
Richard Cheatham
Deanne Christensen
Gene Taylor Clough
Cynthia Cone
Sarah Contreras
Dondi Cooks II
Jason Courville
Nicole Cornish
Martin (Randy) Cox
Jason Crane
Mellessa Denny
Vanessa Dirksmeyer
Christina Dodd
Claire Dodillet
Ashley Donahue
Judy Dorset
Paul Duffy
Tim C. Edgerly
Jennifer Edwards
Millard Eiland
Michael Elkins
Tolline Enger
Keith V. Erickson
Charles L. Etheridge
Ira Evers
Tanya Evers

Paige Frost
JP Fugler
Maridell Fryar
Alice Gabbard
Casey Garcia
Marsha Gephart
J.S. (Jack) Gibson
Karen Gossett
Robert Gratz
Lou Greenwood
George L. Grice
Trudy Hanson
Michael Harlan
Carrol Haggard
Ann Harrell
Sandra Hile Hart
Karen Hatley
Martha J. Haun
Wade Hescht
M'Liss S. Hindman
Sonya Hopkins
Dolly Hudgins
Jo Hudson
Jeremy Hutchins
Tim Jackubek
Kathleen Jamieson
Amy Tilton Jones
Lavoy Jones
Mike Jones
Aimee Kasprzyk
Marilyn S. Kelly
Tania Kelley
Genell Kelso
Nanette Kelton
Kandi King
Russell Kirkscey
Elizabeth Kizer
Wayne Kraemer
Shannon LaBove
Brian Lain
Ralph Long
Laverne Loving
Russel Lowery-Hart
Tim Mahoney

Carol Malloy
Bernita Mansfield
Paul May
Barbara J. Mayo
Karin McCallum
Candace McConnell
Floyd McConnell
Martha McDaniel
Connie McKee
Kari McKenzie
Rory McKenzie
Carol Malloy
Michael Merritte
Mendy Meurer-Busby
Nora Moreno Jarrell
Danny Moss
Bonnie Mutschler
Dwight Mutschler
Lacye Odam-Matejowsky
Adesuwa Omoruyi
Melondy Ojeda
Kathy Owens
George Pacheco Jr
Krin Brooks Perry
David Peters
Seth Pietsek
Eric Pinon
Sally Ponzio
Larry Preas
J.B. Prior
Todd Rainey
Clydene Reep
Jana Riggins
La Anna Rodrigs
Edwin Rowley
Robert Salm
Ivan Sandlin
Helen Schafer
William Schatte
Julie Schniers
Cynthia Shade
Ann Shofner

Ted Skinner
Gary Smith
Lawrence R. Smith
Nancy Smith
Cindy M. SoRelle
Kevin Steinberg
Glynis Holm Strause
Charlene Strickland
Carolyn Strohkirch
Jason Sykes
Carlos Tarin
Jane Terrell
Terry Thibodeaux
David Thomas
Max Thompson
Tyler Tindall
Jim Towns
Michael Trynosky
Linda M. Vancil
Beverly Wakefield
Gwen Waldrop
Gloria Walter
Julie Welker
Gloria White
Toby Whisenhunt
Janice C. Wieland
E.L. Williamson
Joseph A. Willis
Walter Willis
Joshua Wimberley
Debbie Winkler
Charles N. Wise
Melissa Witt
John Wright
Mabel Wyatt
Patricia Wysong
Judith Zaffirini

If you'd like to become a life member, you can find more information at the registration booth or on the TSCA website.

TSCA EMERITUS MEMBERS

Guy Bizzel*	Jackie Jarrett*	Ted Skinner
Jean Boles*	Beverly Martin*	June Smith
Faye Carpenter*	Dell McComb	V. A. Smith
Ted Colson*	Vernon McGuire*	Zell SoRelle*
Ronald Dodson	Miff Mendoza*	Don C. Streeter*
Billie Etheridge*	Kerry Moore*	Frances Swinny*
C.L. Etheridge	Virginia Myers*	Donna Ray Tobias*
Noni Ford	B.J. Naegelin*	Victoria Townsend
Maridell Fryar	Anna Jo Pendleton*	Emerson Turner*
Opal Hall*	Jana Riggins	Jack Walker*
Rosanna Herndon*	Lester Schilling*	Harold Weis
M'Liss Hindman	Lou Ann Seabourn	Charles Wise
Florence Horton	Helen Shafer*	Guy P. Yates*
Betty Hughes	Ann Shofner	
Mary Ireland	Vera Simpson*	<i>*In Remembrance</i>

Over the 100 year existence of the Texas Speech Communication Association, we have been so blessed to be served by such wonderful individuals who truly understood the embrace of leadership. As we move into the next century of our organization, we're ready to embrace our new generation of leaders as well. We are grateful for the contributions of our membership and how it has molded and impacted TSCA and the entire state of Texas.

TSCA OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

Linda Alderson	Wade Hescht	Danny Moss
Sara Jane Barno	M'Liss S. Hindman	Virginia Myers
Charolette Brown	Robert Jeffery	Krin Brooks Perry
Natalie Bryant	Brent Hinkle	Jana Riggins
Faye Carpenter	Kandi King	W.E. Schuetz
Richard Cheatham	Ralpha Long	Lou Ann Seabourn
Norma Coston	Sandra Lucaa	Ann Shofner
Mellessa Denny	Beverly Martin	June H. Smith
Ronald Dodson	Connie McKee	Glynis Holm Strause
Kim Falco	Dan Mendoza	Charlene Strickland
Maridell Fryar	Michael Merritte	Frances Sweeny
Trudy Hanson	Kerry Moore	Amy Tilton Jones
Martha Haun		Guy P. Yates

TFA HALL OF FAME

2006 Randy Ellis Cindi Timmons David Baker J.E. Masters	2012 Robert Shepard Kim Falco Billye Lucas Cheryl Potts	2016 Tim Cook Connie McKee Terri Robinson Sally Squibb-Tate	2020 Jason Sykes Renita Johnson
2007 Kandi King Bill Schuetz	2013 Lee Ann Ince Michael Merritt Jane Boyd Sammy Green	2017 Brian Eanes Rhonda Smith Gay Hollis Cecil Trent	2021 Deborah Taylor Michelle Watkins Perry Beard
2008 Joe Trevino Charlotte Brown Ann Shofner	2014 Diane Forbes Brent Hinkle Eloise Blair Dr. Rich Edwards	2018 Grant Hahn Jay Stubbs Debbie Johnson	2022 Vicki Beard Norma Coston Kirsten Nash Yolanda Silva
2009 Dave Huston Gary Boeger Barbara McCain Shawn Mena Aaron Timmons Karen Wilbanks	2015 Chris Agee Dan Lingel Kay Magill Janet Melton	2019 Scott Baker Michael Harlan	2023 Eric Porter Jonathan Robertson Joseph Uhler
			2024 Mellessa Denny

TIFA EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

1991	M'Liss S. Hindman, Tyler Junior College
1992	Guy P. Yates, West Texas A&M University
1993	James Mammerella, San Antonio College
1994	Carol & Barbara Hickey, University of Texas, Arlington
1995	Ron Ragston, University of Houston
1999	Dan West, Rice University
2003	Wade Hescht, Lone Star College, North Harris
2005	Wayne Kraemer, Texas State University
2006	Mary Trejo, University of Texas, El Paso
2007	Connie McKee, West Texas A&M University
2008	Randy Cox, University of Texas, Austin
2009	Jolinda Ramsey, San Antonio College
2010	Kathy Owens, Mary Hardin Baylor University
2011	Collier Patton, Lone Star College, Kingwood
2012	Leigh-Anne Williams, San Jacinto College
2013	David Worth, Rice University
2014	Sarah Contreras, Del Mar College
2017	Floyd McConnell, San Jacinto College – North
2018	Jeremy Hutchins, Texas State University
2019	Shannon LaBove, Rice University
2020	Julie Welker, Howard Payne University
2021	Justin Blacklock, San Antonio College
2022	Carlos Tarin, University of Texas at El Paso
2023	Robert Markstrom, McNeese State University
2024	Joan Andrews, Tyler Junior College

TIFA Graduate Student of the Year

2024	Eva Margarita, University of Texas, Austin
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TSCA CONVENTION 2026

October 7-10 in Rockwall, Texas

Call for Panels

Communicating for Collaboration: Collaborating for Change

The Texas Speech Communication Association invites your submissions for its 2026 convention that will be centered on the theme of “Communicating for Collaboration: Collaborating for Change.” In an environment that feels dominated by intransigent polarization and contentious public discourse, we seek to advance scholarly conversations on the centrality of communication to collaboration across interpersonal, organizational, and societal contexts. In part, the purpose of the theme is to remind us that it is through communicative practices that people negotiate shared meanings, sustain coalitions, and enact transformative change. To that end, possible areas of inquiry include, but are not limited to:

- Coalition building across communities, disciplines, and institutions.
- Relational skills and practices needed for impactful collaboration.
- Collegiality and professional collaboration in academic/organizational settings.
- The dynamics of team teaching and co-learning in educational contexts.
- Interdisciplinary academic alliances and cross-institutional partnerships.
- Organizational practices that facilitate or constrain collaboration.
- Performative approaches to building/sustaining collaborative relationships.
- Barriers, tensions, and ethics in collaborative communication.

We welcome a range of formats, including presented papers, panel discussions, and short courses. We also welcome performance panels addressing the convention theme.

Submissions should be made through an Interest Group Chair or sent directly to Heather Soltero: heather.soltero@amaisd.org. A complete call will be available online at www.etsca.com.

Deadline for Initial Program Panel Submissions: April 15, 2025

CALL FOR PANELS

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GAME.**

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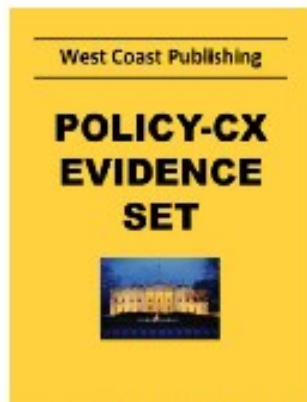
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PREPARATION
GAME CREATED
IN TEXAS!**

West Coast Publishing

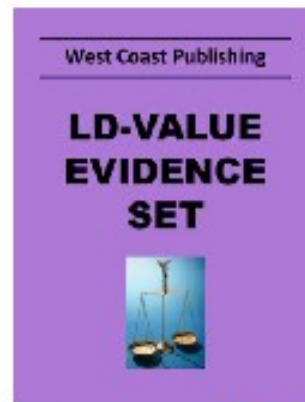
Jump Start Preparation for the Year

Topic specific, quality arguments

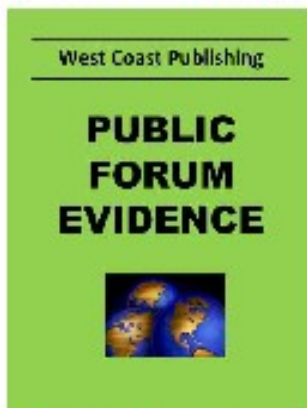
Provide excellent models of argument & presentation



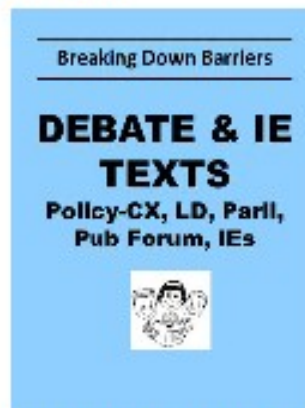
The high quality **Policy-CX** evidence your debaters need to jump start their research. Affirmatives, disadvantages, counterplans, kritiks, topicality arguments. Aff, Neg, Sept, Oct-March and May supplements.



Excellent topic specific **LD** evidence and topic analysis for your LD debaters. Aff and neg cases, definitions, topic arguments. We cover the **NSDA & UIL** LD topics for the year.



Public Forum debate: high quality evidence, topic analysis, and definitions for the **NSDA Public Forum** Topics. Includes multiple case contentions and rebuttals.



Clear, step by step instruction for LD, Policy-CX, Parli, Pub Forum debate, and Individual Events. Prepbooks are great handouts to help students prepare and Teacher Materials make instruction easier.



Go to www.wcdebate.com

View Samples of our Products
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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3RD AT A GLANCE

8:00-8:30	Late Registration	Starlight III
8:30-9:50	TSCA First General Session (Officer Elections)	Starlight I
10:00-10:50	Panel A Programs	Pages 29-30
11:00-11:50	TSCA District Meetings	Page 31
12:00-1:20	Convention Luncheon	Starlight I
1:30-2:50	Interest Group Session 1	Page 33
3:00-3:50	Panel B Programs	Pages 34-35
4:00-4:50	Panel C Programs	Pages 36-38
5:00-6:20	Interest Group Session 2	Page 38
6:30-7:30	President's Reception	The Patio
7:30-10:00	GUSSC Social Event	The Patio -> Frogg Coffee & Crêperie
7:30-10:00	Past Presidents' Dinner	The Lab
7:30	TFA Business Meeting #2	Starlight I

A01 Teaching Taylor Swift: Using Popular Culture to Teach Communication Studies

Room: The Incubator

Sponsor: Instructional Development in Colleges & Universities

Coordinator: E. Michele Ramsey, Penn State Berks

Chair: E. Michele Ramsey, Penn State Berks

Taylor Swift is a global entertainment phenomenon like we've never seen before. This panel will discuss each panelist's experience with teaching and researching Taylor Swift. Popular culture is important to teach for a number of reasons, but the most important reasons are its ability to engage students in course content using something they are interested in and the fact that ideology is most powerful when its least visible and popular culture is chock full of ideologies. This panel wants to engage people in a discussion of how we used Taylor Swift in our classrooms and our experiences in doing so. We want to then open up discussion to others who may be interested in teaching Taylor at some point so that we can all inform and challenge each other as we prepare for another round of teaching the class, continue our research into Swift and/or start thinking about what we might do to teach Taylor. Given just one professor on this panel had her college mentioned 45 million times in the media because of the class, we think it will be a well-attended panel discussion that is also fun and engaging.

Presenters: E. Michele Ramsey, Penn State Berks
Emily Maly, University of North Texas
Ryan Galloway, Samford University

A02 Roundtable with the EC

Room: Starlight I

Sponsor: Texas Forensic Association

Coordinator: Jenn Melin, Team Texas

Chair: Nathaniel Council, Pampa High School



Jokingly referred to as 'yell at the EC,' this panel is intended to provide members with space to bring up any questions, comments, or concerns with the state of speech and debate in Texas or any other TFA initiatives. The hope is that this panel provides an opportunity for the state to come together outside of tournaments and the business meeting to discuss issues relevant to our profession.

Presenters: Texas Forensic Association Executive Council

A03 Expedition Interp: Brainstorm New Prose & Poetry Category Ideas

Room: The Workshop

Sponsor: University Interscholastic League

Coordinator: Barb Ixba, Westlake High School

Chair: Jana Riggins, University Interscholastic League



This will be the last year for our current UIL Prose & Poetry categories. If you would like to pitch an idea or two for the next set of categories, join this lively and creative discussion group.

Presenters: Jana Riggins, University Interscholastic League
M'Liss Hindman, Tyler Junior College

A04 Debate Workshop: Teaching Debate in the Middle School Classroom

Room: The Catalyst
Sponsor: Instructional Development in Middle Schools
Coordinator: Franz Hill, Bob Lanier Middle School
Chair: Franz Hill, Bob Lanier Middle School

Ask any sixth grader if they had art or music in elementary and you'll see nearly every hand go up. But ask if they had debate in elementary and you'll have maybe one or two who did UIL. We will lead a discussion on best practices for the beginner student all the way to the MS State Champion.

Presenters: Franz Hill, Bob Lanier Middle School
 Lindsey Petropoulos, Rice Middle School

A05 Trimming the Tale: Cutting Literature for Interp Success

Room: The Spark
Sponsor: University Interscholastic League
Coordinator: Barb Ixba, Westlake High School
Chair: Barb Ixba, Westlake High School



Cutting a performance piece can be daunting for even the most experienced of Interpers. This panel will share how to break this process down into manageable tasks for students.

Presenters: Barb Ixba, Westlake High School
 Skylar Walker, Caddo Mills High School

A06 Creative Resistance: Literary Discovery Under Anti DEI Pressures

Room: The Generator
Sponsor: Texas Intercollegiate Forensic Association
Coordinator: Justin Blacklock, San Antonio College
Chair: Justin Blacklock, San Antonio College



In response to the shifting political landscape at both state and national levels, this panel addresses the increasing efforts to censor or delegitimize literature and scholarship associated with Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives. Such developments pose particular challenges for educators engaged in creative and research-driven disciplines like competitive speech, where access to a wide range of texts is critical for both intellectual inquiry and performance development. This discussion will explore how educators can navigate these restrictions while maintaining academic integrity and fostering inclusive, critical learning environments. Panelists will consider strategies for ensuring student access to marginalized voices and for sustaining pedagogical spaces that prioritize growth, representation, and resistance through performance.

Presenters: Justin Blacklock, San Antonio College
 Casey Garcia, Lone Star College-North Harris
 Wade Hescht, Lone Star College-North Harris

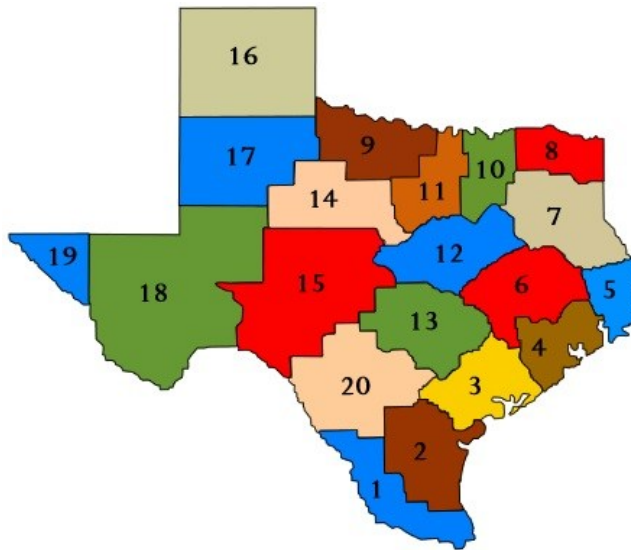
DISTRICT MEETINGS

Friday, 11:00-11:50 AM

Please meet with your District to make connections with those in your area, brainstorm convention ideas, start the nomination process for Educator of the Year, and more! Your district number correlates with your Education Service Center number. Please note that several districts meet simultaneously in some spaces.

Odd numbered districts elect a new chair this year.

District 1	Starlight II
District 2	Starlight II
District 3	Starlight II
District 4	Starlight II
District 5	Starlight II
District 6	The Incubator
District 7	The Incubator
District 8	The Incubator
District 9	The Percolator
District 10	The Percolator
District 11	The Percolator
District 12	The Spark
District 13	The Spark
District 14	The Spark
District 15	The Workshop
District 16	The Workshop
District 17	The Workshop
District 18	The Workshop
District 19	The Workshop
District 20	The Workshop



FRIDAY—DISTRICT MEETINGS
11:00-11:50AM

CONVENTION LUNCHEON

Friday || 12:00-1:20 PM || Starlight I

Guest of Honor

Texas Speech Communication Association
2025 Communicator of the Year

Denise Lee



"Everything begins with engagement. We don't always have to agree, but if we are open to an exchange of ideas, that can be a starting point that changes our society for the better. And that's where the Vision begins."

Denise Lee is an award-winning actor, singer, producer, and passionate advocate for social justice. After the tragic 2016 Dallas police shootings, Denise launched Community Conversation, the first initiative of its kind in North Texas, bringing diverse individuals together for raw, meaningful discussions about race, equity, and healing. Recognizing the need for deeper, sustained work, she founded Visions For Change, Inc., a nonprofit rooted in connection, empathy, and action.

A self-described Artist, Denise uses her cabaret productions and festivals to explore identity, justice, and belonging through performance. She also serves as Theater as Social Justice Strategist, helping artists and organizations connect their work to meaningful community change. Denise's commitment to the arts and advocacy extends into leadership roles. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for the AT&T Performing Arts Center and has contributed her expertise to Dallas Children's Theater. She also served as a member and Board Chair of the Dallas Street Choir, an ensemble giving voice to those experiencing homelessness.

Her work has earned numerous honors, including the Rudy Eastman Diversity Award, the 2019 Hero of Hope Award, the 2022 Broadway Dallas Fullinwider Award, the 2022 Dale Hansen Ally of the Year Award, the 2024 Irma P. Hall Award, and the Dallas Voice "Best Community Ally" in both 2024 and 2025.

INTEREST GROUP SESSION ONE

Friday, 1:30-2:50

The TSCA Convention provides the membership opportunities to connect and learn. Interest Groups ensure that professional development offerings are relevant to academic classrooms, competition teams, and speech educators. Planning for 2026 convention will begin in these meetings. Chairs and Vice-Chairs should generate panel ideas and get commitments from individuals willing to present. Based on those efforts, Chairs will create proposals to send to the Vice President. Planning should continue throughout the year to ensure the best possible offerings. This year, time has been added to these sessions to facilitate theme discussion, panel brainstorming, coordination between Interest Groups, and completion of the online report form. It should also give time to generate feedback on how to make the program development process better!

Instructional Development—Middle School

The Spark

Instructional Development—High School

The Catalyst

Instructional Development—College & University

The Generator

FRIDAY—INTEREST GROUP SESSION
1:30-2:50PM

B01 Student Research Spotlight

Room: The Percolator
Sponsor: Graduate and Undergraduate Student Scholarship Conference
Coordinator: Amanda Jo Ratcliff, Tyler Junior College
Chair: Tracey Holley, Tarleton State University

This student research panel will highlight undergraduate research from graduate and undergraduate students across the state. Student research papers address various issues within the communication field. Participation in this conference will give participating students an outlet for their scholarship. The top student paper will receive the Top Student Paper Award from the GUSS-C and TSCA.

Presenters: **Nathan Hellman, Iowa State University**, "Shake, Rattle, and Debate: The Rhetoric of Handshakes in Presidential Politics"
Krystal Cantu-Cuate, University of the Incarnate Word, "'We're the Superhumans': How the Media Prioritizes Disabilities over Athleticism – 2016 Rio Paralympic Games"
Noah Tew, University of Texas at Tyler, "From Acclaims to Attacks: Rhetorical Shifts in U.S. Presidential Debates, 2012 vs. 2024"
Favour Adeola, Oklahoma State University, "Effects of Generative Artificial Intelligence of Creative Processes Within Local Advertising Agencies"
Andrea Hernandez, Abilene Christian University, "Text Anatomy of a Failed Ideograph 'Hugs Not Bullets'"

B02 Teaching Communication Theory: Challenges and Successes

Room: The Catalyst
Sponsor: Rhetoric and Communication Theory
Coordinator: Carolyn Baum, West Texas A&M
Chair: Carolyn Baum, West Texas A&M

A panel discussion of teaching communication theory at varying levels including dual credit, community college, undergraduate, and graduate courses. The panel will examine challenges, successes, and how teaching theory can be presented in different timelines and modalities.

Presenters: **Tanya Frolick Carter, Victoria College**
Kate Mead, East Texas Baptist University
Dorothy Andreas, Abilene Christian University

B03 Congressional Kaleidoscope

Room: Starlight I
Sponsor: University Interscholastic League
Coordinator: Barb Ixba, Westlake High School
Chair: Gina Lozano, Hays High School



The College Board launched the AP Capstone program in 2014 to help students more thoroughly prepare for the rigors of college-level research. The first class in the Capstone program, AP Seminar, teaches students how to observe and analyze various issues through a variety of different perspectives. In this session, participants will explore how to apply this model of different perspectives to help students engage in more rigorous and unique argumentation in Congressional Debate.

Presenters: **Ryan Lovell, Tascosa High School**
Gina Lozano, Hays High School

B04 Addressing the Mental and Emotional Sides of Students: Steps Coaches Can Take to Teach the Whole Student

Room: The Workshop
Sponsor: Texas Forensic Association
Coordinator: Jenn Melin, Team Texas
Chair: Joe Uhler, Flower Mound High School



Coaches focus so much on competitive skills but often ignore the mental and emotional parts of competition. This session will help high school coaches assist their students in strengthening their mental and emotional attributes.

Presenters: Joe Uhler, Flower Mound High School

B05 National Board Service

Room: The Incubator
Sponsor: Texas Forensic Association
Coordinator: Jenn Melin, Team Texas
Chair: Dave Huston, Plano West High School



This panel will discuss the qualifications and challenges of national board service. Attendees will learn about crafting mission statements, the qualifications necessary to meaningfully participate in national board service, and the time commitment necessary to serve.

Presenters: Dave Huston, Plano West High School
 Reggie Chapman, Plano West High School

B06 Accounting for Neurodivergent Students

Room: The Generator
Sponsor: Instructional Development in Middle Schools
Coordinator: George Tennison, E. A. Olle Middle School
Chair: George Tennison, E. A. Olle Middle School

ADD/ADHD. Anxiety. Autism. Many of our students bring these challenges and more into the classroom but we will discuss and workshop methods and activities to change those challenges into assets across the events offered in competitive speech and debate.

Presenters: Franz Hill, Bob Lanier Middle School
 Lillian Adeyemi, Alief Hastings High School

B07 Conquering the Complexities of Coaching

Room: The Spark
Sponsor: University Interscholastic League
Coordinator: Barb Ixba, Westlake High School
Chair: Barb Ixba, Westlake High School



Sometimes it feels like the work of a Speech & Debate Coach never ends, and that makes it difficult to know where to start. Join this panel to share tips and tricks for navigating the school year.

Presenters: Barb Ixba, Westlake High School

C01 TSCA: Celebrating Memories and 100 Years

Room: Starlight I
Sponsor: Rhetoric and Communication Theory
Coordinator: Amanda Jo Ratcliff, Tyler Junior College
Chair: Amanda Jo Ratcliff, Tyler Junior College

Join us for a walk down memory lane! As TSCA celebrates its 100th year, long-standing members will be interviewed about their memories of the organization. The interview will be recorded and portions will be transcribed to be included in the Golden Volume of the TSCJ.

Presenters: Marydell Fryar
 Lou Ann Seabourn
 Ann Shofner

C02 Legislative Responses to Recent Supreme Court Decisions

Room: The Workshop
Sponsor: Texas Forensic Association
Coordinator: Jenn Melin, Team Texas
Chair: Ryan Lovell, Tascosa High School



Last year, we took a deep dive into several rulings of the Supreme Court under Chief Justice John Roberts. In this session, we will continue this exploration and focus on Supreme Court rulings this past year. Participants will leave with an enhanced understanding of rulings as well as a list of possible legislative responses to those rulings. The end goal is for teachers to be prepared to guide students in crafting unique and timely Congress legislation for the Spring 2026 TFA docket.

Presenters: Ryan Lovell, Tascosa High School

C03 From AI to Agricultural: Communication in the University Classroom and Beyond

Room: The Catalyst
Sponsor: Sponsor: Instructional Development – College & University
Coordinator: Coordinator: Andre Favors, Lamar University
Chair: Chair: Andre Favors, Lamar University

This panel offers various perspectives on active communication research by our panelists.

Presenters: Ama Quansah, Texas Tech University
 "The role of communication in promoting agricultural development: A study of sustainable farming practices in the western region of Ghana"
Megan Cox and Jennifer White, University of Central Oklahoma
 "AI in Higher Education: Faculty and student perspectives on grading fairness and efficiency"
Randall Fowler, Abilene Christian University
 "Integrating Agriculture Communication into the Curriculum: An Abilene-to-D.C. Case Study"

C04 Interpretation Workshop: Teaching Oral Interpretation in the Middle School Classroom

Room: The Generator

Sponsor: Instructional Development – Middle School

Coordinator: Heather Huffman, The Village School

Chair: Heather Huffman, The Village School

Learn how to teach/coach oral interpretation events at the middle school level.

Presenters: Heather Huffman, The Village School

Casey Garcia, Lone Star College Online

C05 Coaching from Day 1- A Tool Kit!

Room: The Spark

Sponsor: Texas Forensic Association

Coordinator: Jenn Melin, Team Texas

Chair: Hannah Rodriguez, Prosper High School



Panelists will share effective tools for organization, communication, practice planning, judging recruitment, and student development—everything a coach needs to survive (and thrive) in those crucial early days. Whether you're starting a program from scratch or stepping into an established one, this session will help you build a strong foundation from Day 1. Expect shared templates, lesson ideas, calendars, checklists, and real-world advice from experienced coaches who've been there.

Presenters: Brian Darby, Clear Creek High School

Hannah Rodriguez, Prosper High School

C06 Is There Anything More Complex than Speechwire?

Room: The Incubator

Sponsor: University Interscholastic League

Coordinator: Barb Ixba, Westlake High School

Chair: Kyla DeLeon, Wimberly High School



Learn how to run a UIL Speech Meet using everybody's favorite tab software.

Presenters: Kyla DeLeon, Wimberley High School

Skylar Walker, Caddo Mills High School

C07 Making MS Policy Debate Accessible: Using AI and Scaffolding to Lower Barriers

Room: The Percolator

Sponsor: Texas Forensic Association

Coordinator: Jenn Melin, Team Texas

Chair: Cindi Timmons, Dallas Urban Debate Alliance



The Dallas Urban Debate Alliance, the second-largest UDL in the country, shows how they make middle school policy debate accessible to younger debaters across the UDL network by using AI to lower reading barriers and utilizing scaffolding techniques to ensure students have a greater chance of success in the format. These techniques could be used to expand middle school policy debate across the state, particularly timely considering the introduction of Middle School Policy Debate by UIL.

Presenters: Cindi Timmons, Dallas Urban Debate Alliance
Evan Gilbert, Dallas Urban Debate Alliance

INTEREST GROUP SESSION TWO Friday, 5:00-6:20

The TSCA Convention provides the membership opportunities to connect and learn. Interest Groups ensure that professional development offerings are relevant to academic classrooms, competition teams, and speech educators. Planning for 2026 convention will begin in these meetings. Chairs and Vice-Chairs should generate panel ideas and get commitments from individuals willing to present. Based on those efforts, Chairs will create proposals to send to the Vice President. Planning should continue throughout the year to ensure the best possible offerings. This year, time has been added to these sessions to facilitate theme discussion, panel brainstorming, coordination between Interest Groups, and completion of the online report form. It should also give time to generate feedback on how to make the program development process better!

Diversity & Inclusion

Oral Interp & Performance Studies

TIFA/TCCFA

University Interscholastic League

TJSDA State Planning Meeting 1

The Incubator

The Spark

The Workshop

The Catalyst

The Generator

PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION

Friday || 6:30-7:30 PM || The Patio

We owe a huge debt of gratitude to our President, Rory McKenzie. His leadership has been inspiring. His service and dedication to TSCA and care for its members have been beyond compare. The organization is stronger and its future is brighter because of his efforts. So, join us at the President's Reception to help us celebrate Rory. Add your voice to ours as we say THANK YOU for all you do!

In addition to expressing our gratitude to Rory, we will also recognize Educators of the Year, Top GUSSC Student Paper, Membership Milestones, Service Award nominees and winners, and Interest Group Honorees.

2025 Educator of the Year Nominees

SPECIAL EVENT



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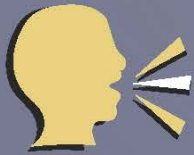


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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4TH AT A GLANCE

7:30-8:00	Late Registration	Starlight III
8:00 - 8:50	TSCA New Executive Council Meeting All Officers, District Chairs, Committee Chairs, and Interest Group Chairs are encour- aged to attend!	Starlight I
9:00-9:50	Panel D Programs	Pages 45-47
10:00 - 11:20	Interest Group Session 3	Page 47
11:30 - 12:30	TSCA 2nd General Session (Bylaws Voting and Officer Installation)	Starlight I
12:40-1:20	TFA/TSCA Spotlight Speaker	Starlight I
1:30 - 2:20	Panel E Programs	Pages 49-51
2:30 - 3:30	TSCA Officer Planning Meeting for 2026	The Core

D01 Starting and Refining a Middle School Circuit in Your Area

Room: The Catalyst

Sponsor: Instructional Development—Middle Schools

Coordinator: George Tennison, E. A. Olle Middle School

Chair: George Tennison, E. A. Olle Middle School

Learn how to start a middle school circuit in your area if you don't already have one.

Presenters: George Tennison, E. A. Olle Middle School

D02 Rhetorical Fieldwork: Assessing the 2025 Inauguration in D.C.

Room: The Generator

Sponsor: Rhetoric and Communication Theory

Coordinator: Randall Fowler, Abilene Christian University

Chair: Randall Fowler, Abilene Christian University

Come hear the insights and observations of an ACU graduate student research team led by Dr. Randall Fowler that (tried to) attend the presidential inauguration in person. During their time in DC, this team took a civic communication course facilitated by The Washington Center, visited the National Archives to immerse themselves in past inaugurations, studied the symbolic landscape of the National Mall, and participated in the rhetorically charged events on inauguration weekend to better grasp the significance of the moment. While not everyone can go to D.C., the methods of evaluation they used—in situ rhetorical criticism—are accessible to anyone with an interest in understanding how communication events shape public discourse, shared memory, and political meaning in real time. Come hear about their experience and join the discussion!

Presenters: Randall Fowler, Abilene Christian University
Jodeyah Mills, Abilene Christian University
Amelia Little, Duquesne University
Thomas Sorensen, Abilene Christian University
Sutton Welch, Abilene Christian University
Hannah Knier, Abilene Christian University

D03 Beyond the Flow: Reframing How We Teach Framework

Room: Starlight I

Sponsor: Texas Forensic Association

Coordinator: Jenn Melin, Team Texas

Chair: Cindi Timmons, Dallas Urban Debate Alliance



Framework isn't just for flowing—it's for life. This session flips the script on how we teach it, using headline-grabbing current events, powerful visuals, and the sharp edges of political rhetoric. Discover how to help students craft persuasive lenses that work just as well in a final round as in a job interview, a community meeting, or a social media post. Walk away with activities that make the concept of framework relevant, memorable, and impossible to ignore.

Presenters: Cindi Timmons, Dallas Urban Debate Alliance
Aaron Timmons, Greenhill School

D04 Finding Your Voice in a New but Familiar World: Student and Coach Perspectives on the Differences Between High School and College Forensics

Room: The Percolator
Sponsor: Texas Intercollegiate Forensic Association
Coordinator: Justin Blacklock, San Antonio College
Chair: Justin Blacklock, San Antonio College



While the structures of competitive speech in high school and collegiate share objectives, important distinctions that can create challenges for students navigating the transition. This panel will examine these dynamics by inviting student participants to reflect on their experiences and asking coaches to articulate key pedagogical and structural differences. Through this dialogue, the panel seeks to offer insights and strategies to support both emerging competitors and educators new to the collegiate forensics landscape.

Presenters: Justin Blacklock, San Antonio College
Casey Garcia, Lone Star College-North Harris
Wade Hescht, Lone Star College-North Harris
Logan Wells, Tyler Junior College
Sarah Sundholm, Tyler Junior College
Natti Garcia, Tyler Junior College

D05 Charting the Course: How Forensics Shapes Campus Culture and Success

Room: The Incubator
Sponsor: University Interscholastic League
Coordinator: Barb Ixba, Westlake High School
Chair: Barb Ixba, Westlake High School



Geared for campus administrators. Allow us to share the impact of forensics on your campus' academic growth, college and career readiness, and community culture.

Presenters: Nicole Cornish, Quitman High School
Barb Ixba, Westlake High School

D06 Best Practices: Boundaries Between College Professors & Collegiate Students

Room: The Spark
Sponsor: Instructional Development – Colleges & Universities / Vice President
Coordinator: Karley Goen, Tarleton State University
Chair: Karley Goen, Tarleton State University

Setting boundaries with students can be a difficult and taxing experience with Generation Z. The utilization of office hours as counseling sessions, demands of meeting up before or after classes, the onslaught of personal requests, scheduling and providing accommodations within students' expectations can lead to time suck. We will be discussing practical boundary hacks and anecdotal evidence on how two college professors are navigating and handling the evolving expectations and pressures of the current classroom demographics.

Presenters: Karley Goen, Tarleton State University
Tracy Holley, Tarleton State University

D07 Navigating Student Choice in Speech Topics in the Classroom

Room: The Workshop

Sponsor: Texas Forensic Association

Coordinator: Jenn Melin, Team Texas

Chair: Hannah Rodriguez, Prosper High School



This panel explores how to effectively guide students in selecting speech topics that are meaningful, appropriate, and academically enriching. Panelists will discuss strategies for balancing student autonomy with curricular goals, addressing sensitive or controversial subject matter, and fostering inclusive classroom discussions. The session will offer practical tools for scaffolding topic selection, managing parent or administrative concerns, and encouraging students to find their voice while remaining mindful of audience and context. Ideal for new and experienced educators alike, this panel helps bridge the gap between freedom and responsibility in student speech.

Presenters: Brian Darby, Clear Creek High School
Hannah Rodriguez, Prosper High School

INTEREST GROUP SESSION THREE

Saturday, 10:00-11:20

The TSCA Convention provides the membership opportunities to connect and learn. Interest Groups ensure that professional development offerings are relevant to academic classrooms, competition teams, and speech educators. Planning for 2026 convention will begin in these meetings. Chairs and Vice-Chairs should generate panel ideas and get commitments from individuals willing to present. Based on those efforts, Chairs will create proposals to send to the Vice President. Planning should continue throughout the year to ensure the best possible offerings. This year, time has been added to these sessions to facilitate theme discussion, panel brainstorming, coordination between Interest Groups, and completion of the online report form. It should also give time to generate feedback on how to make the program development process better!

Argumentation and Debate

Interpersonal & Organizational Communication

Rhetoric & Communication Theory

Theater

TJSDA State Planning Meeting 2

The Workshop

The Incubator

The Generator

The Spark

The Catalyst

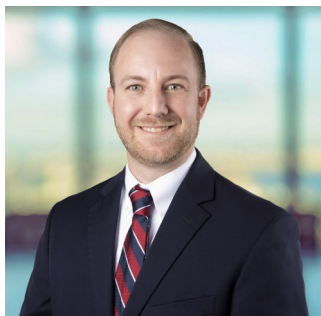
SATURDAY—PANEL D PROGRAMS
9:00-9:50AM

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT

Saturday || 12:40-1:20 || Starlight I

INVITED GUEST SPEAKER

Jarod Russell



Navigating the Complexities of Speech Education in Texas

The Texas Forensic Association and Texas Speech Communication Association are excited to welcome Jarod Russell, the 2025 Invited Guest Lecturer. Jarod served as a public educator for seven years before going to law school. This experience, coupled with a master's degree in Educational Leadership, allows him to skillfully guide school officials through the legal requirements and complexities involved in operating a school district. He now counsels public schools and offers legal advice based on his invaluable experience in public education. He regularly gives presentations to school administrators and school board members on a variety of school law topics.

Jarod's expertise made him a perfect choice for this year's convention as we discuss navigating complexity. His training and background will provide unique guidance for members experiencing the challenges of a changing legislative landscape for education.

E01 Navigating the Requirements and Prohibitions of SB 12 in the Speech Classroom , Part II

Room: Starlight I

Sponsor: Texas Forensic Association / Texas Speech Communication Association

Coordinator: Jenn Melin, Team Texas and Ryan Lovell, Tascosa High School



Join a school law attorney to explore Senate Bill 12's requirements and prohibitions regarding classroom instruction and diversity, equity, and inclusion duties. We will examine hypothetical scenarios that illustrate the legal issues involved and review student and employee rights under the First Amendment.

Presenters: Jarod Russell

E02 Working Smarter Not Harder: Embracing AI in the Speech and Debate World

Room: The Generator

Sponsor: Instructional Development – Middle School

Coordinator: Lindsey Petropoulos, Rice Middle School

Chair: Lindsey Petropoulos, Rice Middle School

Like it or not, artificial intelligence is here to stay. Work smarter, not harder, by embracing artificial intelligence.

Presenters: Casey Garcia, Lone Star College Online
Lindsey Petropoulos, Rice Middle School

E03 Debate, Discussion, and Dialogue: Comparative Discourse Models

Room: The Spark

Sponsor: Texas Forensic Association

Coordinator: Jenn Melin, Team Texas

Chair: Aaron Timmons, Greenhill School



The activity of debate has faced challenges in the past, but now it faces attacks from outside groups seeking its displacement. Discussion and dialogue have been proposed as alternatives. Consultants are being hired by districts and schools to advocate for replacing debate with "softer" options. However, debate offers unique benefits because it offers structure, rigor, and a demand for evidence-based reasoning that fosters critical thinking and persuasive communication. A deconstruction of the three discourse models shows the importance debate holds in our classrooms and communities.

Presenters: Aaron Timmons, Greenhill School
Cindi Timmons, Dallas Urban Debate Alliance

SATURDAY—PANEL PROGRAMS
1:30-2:20PM

E04 Great Ideas for Teaching Communication Theory

Room: The Incubator
Sponsor: Rhetoric and Communication, Instructional Development—College & University
Coordinator: Amanda Jo Ratcliff, Tyler Junior College
Chair: Carolyn Baum, West Texas A&M

A GIFTS session in which panelists provide application guidance to implementing communication theory across the curriculum.

Presenters: Klaire Smith, East Texas Baptist University
 J.D. Wallace, Abilene Christian University

E05 Onboarding Adjuncts and GTAs

Room: The Catalyst
Sponsor: Instructional Development – College & University
Coordinator: Andre Favors, Lamar University
Chair: Mark Paz, Texas State University

This panel will explore the challenges of onboarding adjunct instructors and graduate teaching assistants who are tasked with teaching general education communication and/or public speaking courses. These challenges include effectively training individuals with varying levels of teaching experience, establishing stable grading norms across sections, ensuring consistency in course delivery, and addressing the unique needs of students who are often apprehensive about speaking in front of their peers. By discussing strategies for preparation, training, mentorship, and ongoing support, this panel aims to provide practical solutions to enhance the success of course directors, instructors, and students in the communication classroom.

Presenters: Randall Fowler, Abilene Christian University
 Leslie Rodriguez, Angelo State University
 Amy Tilton Jones, Del Mar CC

E06 Advocacy in the Real World: Using Forensics as a Bridge to Real Advocacy Work

Room: The Workshop
Sponsor: Texas Intercollegiate Forensic Association
Coordinator: Justin Blacklock, San Antonio College
Chair: Justin Blacklock, San Antonio College



In recent years, students within the forensics community have increasingly approached their speech performances as a form of advocacy, using the platform to engage with and effect change within their local and broader communities. This is not to suggest that earlier forensics performances lacked impact or conviction; rather, it highlights a recurring challenge wherein the discursive practices of competitive speech often remain insular, confined to the competitive circuit. This panel seeks to explore how topic selection, composition, and performance can be strategically oriented to support and amplify students' existing or ongoing advocacy efforts, thereby bridging the gap between competitive speech and sustained civic engagement.

Presenters: Justin Blacklock, San Antonio College
 Dillon McCoy, San Antonio College

E07 Emergency Planning for Coaches

Room: The Percolator

Sponsor: Texas Forensic Association

Coordinator: Jenn Melin, Team Texas

Chair: Andy Zeigler, Caprock High School



Tournament travel and tournament hosting offer unique opportunities for student growth and success. However, modern realities necessitate careful planning to ensure the safety of all participants to the greatest extent possible. This session will present ideas for best practices when planning for safety, both when traveling to a tournament, and when hosting a tournament. These suggestions are built on guidance from school district and city police departments.

Presenters: Mellessa Denny, Amarillo High School
Brett Howard, Canyon High School
Ryan Lovell, Tascosa High School
Heather Soltero, Tascosa High School
Andy Zeigler, Caprock High School

SATURDAY—PANEL E PROGRAMS
1:30-2:20PM

THANK YOU!

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TSCA Convention 2026

October 7-10

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A

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Adeyemi, Lillian B6
Andreas, Dorothy B2

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Soltero, Heather E7
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T

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U

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W

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Wallace, J.D. E4
Welch, Sutton D2
Wells, Logan D2
White, Jennifer C3

Z

Ziegler, Andy E7



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TEXAS STATE
 COMMUNICATION STUDIES

NOTES

NOTES

Texas Speech Communication Association

Convention 2025: Navigating Complexity

October 2-4, 2025

Marriott Dallas Allen Hotel & Convention Center

Attendance Record and Verification Sheet

Participant's Name: _____

Date	Session Title	Facilitator Label Chair Signature
10/2/2025	TFA Regional Meetings (1 hour)	
10/2/2025	New Members Orientation (1 hour)	
10/2/2025	TSCA Standing & Ad Hoc Committees (1 hour)	
10/2/2025	TFA Interest Group Meeting #1 (3 hours)	
10/3/2025	Panel A Program (1 hour)	
10/3/2025	TSCA District Meetings (1 hour)	
10/3/2025	Panel B Program (1 hour)	
10/3/2025	Interest Group #1 (1 hour)	
10/3/2025	Panel C Program (1 hour)	
10/3/2025	Interest Group #2 (1 hour)	
10/3/2024	TFA Interest Group Meeting #2 (2 hours)	
10/4/2025	Panel D Program (1 hour)	
10/4/2025	Interest Group #3 (1 hour)	
10/4/2024	Panel E Program (1 hour)	
10/4/2024	Spotlight Speaker (1 hour)	

Total number of Conference CPE Hours _____ (Maximum of 16 hours)



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