

PUBLIC SPEAKING AND DEBATE PROGRAMS

1st – 8th grade students

*Bay Area Debate
Club*



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Rationale (Why)

Benefits to the Students

Learning how to express oneself in groups with skill and confidence has immeasurable benefits in school, family and life. The goal of our programs is to build confidence in students so that they can speak surely, write effectively, think clearly and connect with their audience. Our programs enhance students' reasoning, research, writing, active listening and critical thinking skills. Debates teach some of the important life skills to the students. Presenting your point is important but it is equally important to listen to the other side. They become better listeners; get better with their note-taking abilities and know the world!

There is very little emphasis on developing such important skills in our education system. Some teachers and schools implement some lessons on public speaking and debates in their lessons, but teaching these topics with well-defined standards, rubrics and curriculum will bring consistency and benefits our students.





Curriculum (What will Students Learn)





Pre-Public Speaking Series

This series teaches first through third graders the beginning building blocks of public speaking. Starting with being ready, practiced and focused, they'll learn the importance of body language and varying the tempo and tone of their voice. They'll also learn the value of good openings and closes. Within the fun milieu of show and tell, storytelling and poetry recitals, the goal is for your child to start developing more confidence and skill in expressing themselves to a group. The Level 2 class teaches young students how to write a good speech in six easy steps. They learn the importance of writing like they talk, making it personal and creating interesting openings and memorable finishes, and with topics like *My Favorite Animal* and our encouraging them to use props, stories, jokes and pictures, we make learning all of this easy and fun!

Public Speaking Series

Learning how to express oneself in groups with skill and confidence has immeasurable benefits in school, family and life. The goal of this series is to build confidence in students so that they can speak surely, write effectively, think clearly and connect with their audience. . Kids at this age usually find it challenging to organize their many! ideas. This class focuses in helping participants give a clear structure to their thoughts to write effectively and present with confidence. Students study how to write speeches on different kinds of topics and for different occasions. They practice speaking with confidence.



Debating Series

This series teaches 5th through 8th graders the essentials of debating. The students learn how to make strong arguments, rebuttals and practice note-taking. This course helps build reasoning, finding and weighing pros, cons and evidence and ultimately critical thinking. It also introduces various popular debate formats used in high schools.

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Participants debate on a variety of age-appropriate topics in various formats. They begin to do research and debate more involved topics including current events. It not only improves their speaking and critical thinking skills but they also learn about current issues that may affect them, their families and community.

Combo Series Public Speaking and Debate

This series prepares students on speaking with confidence and debate. It has a mix of Public Speaking Series courses and Debates courses.

Workshops

The workshops help students give a quick overview and update them about the rules and judges' ballots in various speech and debate tournaments. They practice writing, speaking and preparing for tournaments.



Public Speaking Standards/Rubric

The goal is each student should understand and demonstrate the following important aspects of Public speaking upon completion of Public Speaking Series. We have five different ribbons, which students can earn by demonstrating various checkpoints.

Public Speaking Standards PS#

1. Power of Voice: Volume, Speed: Students are easily heard and understood.
2. Body Language – 1: Eye Contact: Students try to maintain eye contact with audience.
3. Body Language – 2: Posture and gestures: Students maintain good posture and use hands to persuade. They must not sway or distract audience with their posture or body language.
4. Body Language – 3: Facial expressions: Students use facial expressions to show emotions
5. Power of Voice: Students demonstrate variation in pitch and pace. They should not be monotonous.
6. Fluency – counting the numbers of ums, ers, likes, long pauses: Students do not use any of the prohibited filler words in their delivery.
7. Confidence – Students appear to be calm and confident. They enjoy talking to the group.
8. Structure of a speech -1: A good beginning: Students demonstrate a good and memorable beginning of the speech.
9. Structure of a speech -2: A strong finish: Students exhibit a strong and memorable finish of the speech.
10. Structure of a speech -3: Students show a well-organized speech that is easy to follow. It should be interesting with sufficient details.
11. Structure of a speech -4: Timing Students should have an appropriate length of speech (not too short or long).
12. Use of index cards: Students should be able to deliver a speech using index cards.
13. Speaking through memory (no paper or index cards): Students should be able to deliver a speech without the use of paper.
14. Different types of speeches -1: Presenting a story (narrative): Students write and present a story.
15. Different types of speeches -2: Presenting poetry: Students write and present poetry.
16. Different types of speeches -3: Presenting persuasive/argumentative speech: Students are able to write and present persuasive speeches.
17. Different types of speeches -4: Introducing someone/thank you speech: Students are able to write the speeches of these kinds.



18. Different types of speeches -5: Impromptu speeches: Students are able to write and present speeches quickly (5 minutes of prep time to present 2 minutes of speech).
19. Using A/V aids- 1: Presenting the speech with charts/props : Students are able to write and present speeches with charts/props
20. Using A/V aids- 2: Presenting the speech with power point: Students are able to make power points and write accompanying speeches and then present them.
21. Research and General Knowledge: student must know and heard some of the classic speeches example I have a dream. They must have some knowledge of good speakers.

Public Speaking Skills Ribbons

- **White:** Student earns a white ribbon on demonstrating standard PS #1, 2, 3
- **Yellow:** Student earns a yellow ribbon on demonstrating standard PS# 4, 5 and 6, and 7
- **Green:** Student earns a green ribbon on demonstrating standard PS#8, 9, 10
- **Orange:** Student earns an orange ribbon on demonstrating standards #11, 12, 13
- **Brown:** Student earns a brown ribbon on demonstrating standards PS#14, 15, 16, 17
- **Gold:** Student earns a gold ribbon on demonstrating standards PS# 18, 19, 20
- **Striped:** Student earns a striped ribbon on demonstrating all the above standards.



Debating Standards/Rubric

The goal is each student should understand and demonstrate the following important aspects of Debating at the end of our Debate Instructional Program Series.

Debate Standards DS#

1. Reasoning Skills: Students should be able to provide good reasoning in support of their points they make in debates.
2. Structure: Students demonstrate a good structure in their debates by listing the important points first and maintain a good flow throughout the debate.
3. Listening Skills: Student should be able to make flow diagram of debates noting the points of their opponent. Students should be able to refer the flow to refute the opponent's points clearly in their refutation.
4. Critical Thinking: Student should be able to come up with good rebuttal of the opponents points.
5. Timing: Student should be able to use the allotted time effectively for each of the speeches and prep time.
6. Research: Students should be able to collect and provide evidences, data and cite sources in support of their side of debates in their speeches.
7. General Knowledge: Students should be able to demonstrate understanding of the current affairs debates and list points on both sides of the topics.
8. Research and Organization Skills: Student should maintain a binder/note book with reference articles, research material on important debates.
9. Impromptu Debates: Student must be able to debate if the topic is given 15-20 minutes before the debate.
10. Presentation and Delivery Skills
 - a. Power of Voice: Volume, Speed: Students are easily heard and understood.
 - b. Body Language – 1: Eye Contact: Students try to maintain eye contact with audience and judges.
 - c. Body Language – 2: Posture and gestures: Students must maintain good posture and use hands to persuade.
 - d. Body Language – 3: Facial expressions: Students use facial expressions to show emotions
 - e. Power of Voice: Students demonstrate variation in pitch and pace. They should not be monotonous.
 - f. Fluency – counting the numbers of ums, ers, likes, long pauses: Students should not use any of the prohibited filler words in their delivery.
11. Confidence – Students appear to be calm and confident. They enjoy talking to the group.



12. Formats: Students demonstrate to have some basic knowledge of the various formats of debates.

Debating Skills Ribbons

- **Blue: (Essentials of Debating):** Student earns a Blue ribbon on demonstrating standards DS #1, 2, 3, 4, 5
- **Red: (Research and Advanced Debates)** Student earns a red ribbon on demonstrating standards DS# 6, 7, 8
- **Purple: (Persuasive and Confident Speaking)** Student earns a purple ribbon on demonstrating standards and DS# 10, 11
- **Striped:** (Overall Debating Skills) Student earns a striped ribbon on demonstrating all the above standards.



Implementation Details

We implement our program mainly in two formats at schools:

- An hourly enrichment period during school hours once a week
- After-school Program hourly once a week.

An hourly enrichment period during school hours

As an option to provide enrichment for all students, we become an integral part of the school curriculum. The teachers of Bay Area Debate Club will go to the classrooms and teach this period. The club will provide the books and other material necessary for the class. The class teachers can use this time as a prep time in class. The Public Speaking/Debate enrichment period is typically one hour once a week.

Pricing

Bay Area Debate Club invoices schools/districts once a month.

TEACHING CHARGES: \$100 / hour

BOOKS: \$10 per book (once a year)

After-School Program

As an option to provide an option to selected group of students, we offer our programs as after school activity. This is a very good option for parents who are looking for such an enrichment activity for their children. The parents don't have to drive their children to take to another location. Students enjoy taking the class with their classmates and on their familiar school campus.

Pricing

Parents pay \$80 per month per child. Registration can be done online/ over the phone by fax or mail.



About us

Bay Area Debate Club conducts basic and advanced courses and tournaments in Public Speaking and Debates throughout the Bay Area. Our classes are held at various public school campuses and city locations for students from 6 years – 14 years of age. We are contracted by various cities like City of Mountain View, Livermore, San Ramon, Pleasanton, San Carlos, Newark and Moraga. We are approved by many school districts to run during school hours or after school program on the public school campuses, including Fremont unified, Burlingame School District, Milpitas Unified, Sunnyvale Unified, Mountain View Whisman School District and Berryessa Unified. We are also welcomed by community and tutorial centers wanting to expand their services like India Community Center, Nirmitee Tutorial Center, Pleasanton, Best in Class, Fremont, TLC, San Jose and others. We also offer workshops for Gifted and Talented student's organizations like Lyceum, Santa Clara and TGIF. We have helped thousands of students overcome the fear of public speaking and provide forums to engage in constructive debating. Our classes and especially summer camps are very well attended.

Faculty

Ms. Ritu Khurana is the founder and CEO of Bay Area Debate Club. Her philosophy: It is impossible to fear any trait if one takes professional training and practices it regularly in a fun conducive environment under the right guidance. This is the basis of Bay Area Debate Club courses. Bay Area Debate Club team consists of very well qualified and energetic professionals who are experts in their fields but all of them share a common passion of empowering the young generation. They provide the direction and leadership in assisting children attain these life-changing skills: Building Confidence!

Please visit our website www.bayareadebateclub.com and on Facebook Bayareadebateclub to know more about us. All the teachers have been live scanned and current on their TB test.

Locations

Burlingame, Fremont, San Carlos, Santa Clara, San Jose, Newark, Pleasanton, Walnut Creek, Livermore, San Ramon, Milpitas, Sunnyvale, Los Altos, Mountain View, Tracy and others.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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