

Menachem Begin Heritage Center | Sia'h VaSig - Israel Debating Society | Cohen-Idov Center for Debate and Rhetoric

The Harry Hurwitz National Public Speaking Competition

“A New World: Challenges of the Future”

2016-2017 School Year

We are glad to invite you to participate in The Public Speaking Israeli National Competition for **Junior and Senior High School students** wishing to speak in Hebrew, in English or in Arabic

Studying rhetoric develops self-esteem, confidence and powers of persuasion. It also improves language skills, the ability to analyze issues logically, and to build strong arguments. **The goal of the competition** is to give students the opportunity to develop these skills, aside with developing skills of research, analytical and critical thinking, and presentation before an audience.

The competition takes place in two stages – the regional and the final one, which take place on different dates and places. Regional preparation sessions are held upon request.

A student presents only one speech, related to the umbrella topic of the competition:

A New World: Challenges of the Future

Speeches can address different issues regarding Technology and Innovation, Ethics, Environment, Science, Medicine, Social Networks, etc. Each student has to define a sub-topic under the chosen general subject, and has to **take a stand** and deliver a **clear message**, for example:

- Global Decisions Should Incorporate Ethical Considerations (Cloning, Artificial Intelligence, Lack of Privacy, etc.)
- Networks are One of Humanity's Greatest Threats / Opportunities
- Countries Should be Sanctioned Until they Provide Equal Rights for Women
- Robots Replacing Human Beings - a Blessing or a Curse
- Animals Should be Taken Off the Menu
- Developed Countries Should Be Obligated to Welcome Refugees

The Competition Guidelines are fully detailed below

Registration

Registration and topic approvals should take place no later than November 15th, 2016.

Registration fee is 60 NIS per student.

Links for registration:

[Central District](#) | [Jerusalem District](#) | [Southern District](#) | [Northern District](#)

Rules of the Competition

1. Competitors may compete in only one language – Hebrew or English, not both.
2. Competitors write only one speech to be presented at all of the competition stages.
3. Competitors must get their speech topics approved.

Rules for the Speech

1. Speeches are to be opinion speeches, conveying a clear message, and not lectures.
2. Speech length required: Junior High –4-5 minutes; Senior High-5-6 minutes.
3. Students must author their own speeches.
4. No technological accessories or other accessories are allowed.
5. Quoting sources is allowed.
6. Speeches must be delivered, not read, but the use of cue cards is allowed.
7. Formal dress code is in order.
8. Speakers must maintain eye contact with audience, and use appropriate body language.

Violation of the rules results in deduction of points or disqualification

Schedule of the Competition

| District | Venue | Training session (upon request) | Competition |
|-------------------|---|------------------------------------|--|
| Center | Atid Lod High School for sciences, Lod | November 20,2016 17:00-20:00 | December 8, 2016 17.00-20.00 |
| Jerusalem | Faculty of Law, Hebrew University (yet to be confirmed) | Mid- November | the beginning of December (yet to be confirmed) |
| Southern District | Sha'ar Ha Negev High School, Sappir College Campus | Mid-November | December 4,2016 17.00-19.00 |
| Northern District | The Hebrew Reali School in Haifa, Beit Biram Campus | Mid-November | December 4, 2016 17.00-19.00 |
| National Finals | Begin Center, Jerusalem | | December 18, 2016, 17.00-20:00: |

For any question or request you may contact us: Email: PSpeaking.Israel@gmail.com

Convener: Tamar Perechodnik: 054-9712008 (No voice mail)

Director: Bronia Kabakovitch 0523954625 (call/text), genady_b@bezeqint.net



Appendix A: Speech Criteria

Under or over- speech time: 10 points off the final grade

| Persuasive Speech Rubric | Received | Possible |
|--|----------|------------|
| Introduction Attention Getting Device; Preview or "Roadmap" | | 15 |
| Body & Organization | | 20 |
| At least 2 Substantial Points or Sub-arguments are clearly articulated and supported | | 15 |
| Effective transitioning between points | | 5 |
| Research & Argumentation | | 35 |
| Research skills are clearly presented in the speech | | 10 |
| Arguments are well-established and properly explained | | 25 |
| Style & Delivery | | 20 |
| Effective eye contact is maintained | | 5 |
| Appropriate volume, projection, rate and tone are used | | 5 |
| Body language - standing, hands, facial expression, movement | | 5 |
| Words are clearly articulated and pronounced correctly | | 5 |
| Conclusion Effective summary of major points | | 10 |
| Total Points | | 100 |

Abridged from: [Principles of Public Speaking](#)

<https://sites.google.com/site/cheekcomm1020/syllabus/persuasive-speech-grade-rubric>

Appendix B: Recommended links and sources

- <http://www.speechgems.com/persuaders.html>
- http://www.slideshare.net/gmurphy_tvo.org/15-oral-persuasion-techniques
- <http://www.publicspeakinginternational.com/public-speaking-tips-persuade/>
- <http://www.publicspeakinginternational.com/blog/bid/173551/For-Persuasive-Speaking-Use-These-Four-Powerful-Techniques>
- <http://homeworktips.about.com/od/speechclass/a/How-To-Write-A-Persuasive-Speech.htm>