WHAT IS IN THIS ISSUE OF SWIFT

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**IHSSA Conferences Convention**
**IHSSA Administrator Award**

**Contest sites and dates for 2021**

And so much more, so let the new school year begin!
CONTEST DATES FOR 2021

Be sure to check in this issue of SWIFT or the web site for the dates of the 2020-2021 IHSSA events. Please communicate these dates to other individuals on your staff and to your students. If you plan these dates for next year there will be less conflict during the year.

2018-2021 CONSTITUTION and BY-LAWS

This is NOT a rule change year for the IHSSA. Please remember all the changes you made to your constitutions will be in effect for this year, too. The next changes will be in the fall of 2021. All schools received the supplement with the new changes for your constitution in the fall of 2019. Because of Covid outbreak last Spring all rules will be the same as they were last year.

ACT/SAT CONFLICTS IN THE 2021 CONTEST SEASON

There ARE conflicts with ACT and SAT testing this year. Feb 6th is an ACT test date and March 13th is a SAT testing day. Please remember NO SPECIAL REQUESTS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR SAT OR ACT TESTING!!! Be sure to tell your students to take their test on another date. There are 3 other dates in the fall and another one in the spring. PLEASE BE AWARE OF THIS NOW!!!

MEMBERSHIP DUES PAID?

Make sure your membership dues have been paid for the 2020-2021 school year. Membership cards were mailed from this office in August. This year they were sent directly to the speech coach of each school. Please send in the dues by November 15, 2020. After November 15, a $15.00 penalty is assessed. Remember, dues for the year are $50.00 for a regular membership and $25.00 for a Junior (9th grade) membership. Membership closes December 1st. We would like to encourage schools to get their Junior membership in at the same time as the regular membership.

If you know of a school that is not a member, please encourage them to join. We continue to work towards our goal to have every school in the state as a member of the IHSSA! If we can help encourage a school near you, please contact the State Office.

2020-2021 TOPICS FOR POLICY, L-D, AND PUBLIC FORUM

Topics are posted at the following link: http://www.speechanddebate.org/topics. Many helpful links are included on their web site for the classroom educator, too!!

A NOTE ABOUT USERNAME AND PASSWORDS

Welcome Back!! The usernames and passwords for the on-line forms and registration are the same as last year. If you do not have / remember / know your username and password, you can call the State Office 515-401-1833. Please keep your username and password handy, as you will be using it several times during speech season. If you have a new coach, be sure to share your information with them! Have a great year and feel free to call with questions and concerns anytime!

In Memoriam

Our speech community lost a friend and colleague with the death of long time Hall of Fame member Steve Story of West Union in July. Since 1969 Mr. Story was involved in every aspect of the IHSSA as an Executive Committee member for the NE District until 1994, and then served the district as chair for many years after that for every State LG Contest. He was a masterful administrator and made such a lasting impact on the lives of many coaches and students from the NE District and statewide. Mr. Story was inducted into the IHSSA Hall of Fame in 1993. In my very first Ex. Committee meeting, the Committee asked what new things I would like to see happen. One item I suggested was that the IHSSA should have term limits for all committees so more individuals could experience committee work. Now, Mr. Story was always trying to make our lives better with IHSSA activities. Every fall when the Hall of Fame members walk into the banquet and are honored, I stand at the door and tell them when to enter. It is a very nice moment. Every year when he was in attendance, Mr. Story would enter and always say to me quietly, “Thank you so much for this, Craig. This is truly a special moment for me”. Didn’t Steve give all of us special moments with his life? He made a life-long commitment to the IHSSA and what a wonderful gift that was! Certainly a life well lived. Rest in peace, Steve. Craig Ihnen
an e-mail to deb@ihssa.org and put in an e-mail. We will use the one from last year for changed from last year you do NOT have to send.

When making payments please put on the check what event that check is for. This is just a reminder to help in our bookkeeping and also will help with you and your PO work at your schools.

REMINDER!
When making payments please put on the check what event that check is for. If your e-mail has not been written e-mail reminders to those schools. Thank you for your attention to these matters and have a great year!

Home of the Judge/Coaches Workshop & IHSSA State Offices

(Craig was the only one at the office this year!)
THANKS.....
To all who attended the 27th Annual Judges/Coaches Workshop this August via the zoom meeting. Approximately 225 judges and coaches attended from across the state that day with over 250 watching the video later. It was an informative and exciting day put together by the Judge Certification Committee. The workshop leaders were:

- Carl Lindberg, Head of the Theatre, DMACC Ankeny
- Sue Danielson, Assistant News Director, HeartMedia
- Tina Bakehouse, Chief Creative Officer, Malvern Bank

Special Thanks to Tom Florian of the IGHSAU for his work in setting up and moderating this truly wonderful event. One of the best stories of the day was that Ms. Bakehouse’s internet went down that morning, but - doing only what IHSSA folks do - she found a way to get on line. She remembered that her husband’s tractor cab had GPS and a hot spot in it. So they pulled the tractor up next to the house and she did her session via the tractor hot spot! IHSSA can make that happen!!!

Thanks to the Judge Certification team of Mark Morehead, Gehlen Catholic; Dirk Weller, CB Abe Lincoln; Vince Hrusky, Tri-County; Lisa Pflue, Waverly-Shell Rock; Debbie DeVore, Maquoketa Valley, and Stacy Hansen, WDM Valley. Their work in putting together this positive event is outstanding. Please send suggestions to them or the State Office if you wish to have an area that you would like to see and hear about in 2021!

**GO TO WWW. IHSSA.ORG FOR SWIFT ONLINE EACH MONTH**

If you wish to have a notification sent to your e-mail when SWIFT is published each month send an e-mail to deb@ihssa.org and put SWIFT online notification in the title. If your e-mail has not changed from last year you DO NOT have to send in an e-mail. We will use the one from last year for notification.

Quick Note from Deb and the IHSSA
Welcome Back!! Just a reminder to make sure your fees are paid from last year. There are some schools that still need to pay their fees from the 2020 contest season. I have written e-mail reminders to those schools. Thank you for your attention to these matters and have a great year!!

2020-2021 JUDGE CERTIFICATION CLINICS

**VIRTUAL SESSION**
October 10 at 10:00 a.m. virtual webinar.
This is open to anyone who wishes to become an IHSSA judge. Please contact the state office (craig@ihssa.org) for the registration link. This must be done by Oct. 7th. IF YOU ATTENDED THE AUGUST WORKSHOP, THAT COUNTS AS CERTIFICATION IF YOU TOOK THE TEST. Please contact the State Office on this option.

**IN-PERSON SESSIONS**
If you attend one of the following sessions you will be required to wear a mask and practice social distancing throughout the event. Please check the web site(ihssa.org) if the site will be running due to concerns with Covid-19.

- **SOUTHWEST**
  - West Des Moines: WDM Valley High School
  - Council Bluffs: Council Bluffs Abe Lincoln
  - Anota: CAM (building TBA)

- **SOUTHEAST**
  - North Scott: North Scott High School
  - Marion: Linn Mar High School
  - Grinnell: Grinnell High School

- **NORTHWEST**
  - Sheldon: Sheldon High School
  - Le Mars: Le Mars Community High School
  - Manson: Manson NW Webster High School

- **NORTHEAST**
  - Britt: West Hancock High School
  - Decorah: Decorah High School
  - Jesup: Jesup High School

Please indicate on the outside of the envelope that it is a nomination for IHSSA Fine Arts Administrator of the year. This person can be any administrator in your district ie: Supt., Principal, AD, Assistant Principal and so on. They also must be an active administrator at this time. Be sure to include details such as their position in your school district and examples of their work to make the IHSSA better in your school district. Deadline for application is September 28th. Letters of recommendation can be sent at this time to the IHSSA. Please indicate on the outside of the envelope that you are nominating for IHSSA Fine Arts Administrator of the year. Be sure to honor those who have made your life better through their support!
IHSSA Coaches Convention Update

After numerous meetings and careful deliberation among the IHSSA Coaches Convention Committee, the Executive Committee, and the State Office staff, the IHSSA Executive Committee has made the decision that the IHSSA cannot hold the in-person Coaches Convention for 2020. We arrived at this decision in light of the increasingly concerning news about the wide-ranging effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and human susceptibility to it, limitations by the hotel on numbers we could have for a banquet, numbers of those in rooms for sessions and in the sleeping rooms, and with the very best interests of the health of IHSSA convention attendees, presenters and staff foremost in our minds. These considerations took precedence in our deliberations over what we know is one of the most important events of the year for many of you. Please click on this link for insight from the Coaches Convention Committee.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aZhN64RXMtc&feature=youtu.be

IT IS SO MUCH FUN!!!

Therefore, the Coaches Convention Committee is continuing to work hard to create the best possible educational IHSSA experience for you, and they have developed a 6 week convention experience. Not just one or two days, but two sessions every two weeks to help develop your skills as an IHSSA coach. Specific details about virtual session sign up procedures, activities, and ways to participate will be forthcoming on the IHSSA website and the August issue of SWIFT over the coming weeks. The line up of sessions was in the video presentation, will be listed on the website, and can be found in the August issue of SWIFT.

IE All-State Nominations are posted

The nominations for the 2020 IE All-State Speakers have been posted on the IHSSA web site. These nominations were selected from many in person and virtual contests this past Spring and Summer until the middle of August. Over 120 virtual contests were held with over 250 schools participating in that format. Over 80 in-person contests were held with over 100 schools using this format. Special congratulations to those students for being named Individual Events All-State speakers for 2020!

A Note from Coach at Large Stacy Hansen on the start of this new year!

JUMP!

Last week, a veteran 25 + year teacher introduced himself at a meeting as “Hello! I’m a first-year teacher!” He captured exactly how I was feeling not only during those first years of teaching but also how I am navigating this new terrain in education: nervous, off balance, full of uncertainty and still, very gleeful to (finally) connect with students. A metaphorical vertigo.

I recall Year 1 of teaching was figuring out WHAT to teach. Year 2 transformed into HOW to teach it. And Year 3 challenged me to articulate WHY I teach it. We all know WHAT we teach. (Speech/Drama) We undoubtedly know our WHY. (Students!) But how? Especially right now? HOW? How do we negotiate being 100% synchronous learning with 100% asynchronous learning? How do we mitigate 50 students safely and socially-distanced on a stage? 50 students who, like their teachers, thrive on real human connection and physical understanding? How do we stream a performance? How do we teach pitch/pause/pace/power/precision with masks on? How do we ensure the safety of our loved ones and our own children at home? How do we even begin to take care of our own social emotional learning?

HOW?

If you know your WHY, any HOW is possible.

I propose we JUMP.

High.

We jump high over these hurdles.
We remind ourselves that although, yes, these are hurdles, these are not walls.
And yes, collectively and united and together, we jump high. That’s who we are as the IHSSA! We’ve got strong legs and even stronger hearts.
I also recall during Year 1, 2, & 3 of teaching how I was always authentically and whole heartedly on board to try anything new. So open! Those were truly the “creative failure” years and every semester felt like I was “failing forward.” It was AWESOME!
I will mitigate our fall production of A MIDSUMMER NIGHT’S DREAM with great care.
I will continue to tweak/trial with all the options Canvas and Flipgrid and Google Hyperlinks and Screencastify and WeVideo (connected to Canvas) has to offer me.
I will encourage myself to pivot—to look for the wishes among the weeds.
And I will remind myself that although we are not holding hands this year, we are holding hearts.
And yes, just like a first-year teacher, I will jump. That’s the “how” of it!

Stacy Hansen

Covid-19 Info, Suggestions and Guidance

The IHSSA is working to provide information, suggestions and guidance for you to work with speech, theatre and debate students this coming year. On our web site is a dedicated link to providing that information. Please take a moment to check out that link listed below:


More guidance and suggestions for working with Theatre, Speech, and Debate activities will be posted as we move along. Guidelines, mandates, requirements, and/or orders from federal, local or county government entities, health departments, and school districts should take precedence.

NFHS Performing Arts Covid -19 Resource info
Suggestions and Guidance for the Drama Classroom and/or Theatre work from IHSSA
Guidance for reopening Theatre from EdTA
Concord Theatricals Resources for Innovative and Flexible shows for 2020-2021
DOE Covid - 19 Guidance page for schools
DIY Masks for Singers (theatre performers)
Ludus Safety Checklist:Hosting a Safe, Socially Distant Show
Performing Arts Aerosol Study results/guidance (NFHS/CBDNA) - updated 8/14/2020
Performing Arts Signs for Posting
MTI Webinar workshops for producing shows online

PLEASE CHECK OUT OFTEN .. WE WILL UPDATE ALL FALL LONG