



# SWIFT

FEBRUARY 27, 2020

SPEECH WORKERS OF IOWA FEATURE THEMSELVES

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And so much more!

District Large Group started with a winter storm on Friday with many schools in the state not having class, however, by Saturday we had sun, clear roads, and every contest running on time and on that day. It was the first time that happened in 2 years! I started my day at Sioux City East with the contest hosted by Nathan Irwin and Kendal Todd. This was a spacious contest location with performance rooms more than adequately separated. One of the great things at this site was their giant video board (shown to the right) in the commons area for maps, signage, ratings, and other important items.



Then I headed to Storm Lake and the contest held by Sara Carlson. What an exciting environment they have with a new theatre and remodeling of the building.

There are lots of larger spaces to place the bigger groups in. One of my highlights was to chat with an 86 year old judge doing a great job. In fact, she was at the LG All-State Festival watching students she previously judged and enjoying their performances again. IHSSA keeps you full of life at all ages! I was soon off to Fort Dodge and the contest hosted by Lindey Krug. Again, a brand new performance space at Fort Dodge and a great facility to host contest. At this site I visited with a judge who is in law school and judging for the IHSSA. I asked, "Why are you judging in such a hectic time for you?" They stated, "I love working in the positive excitement the IHSSA students and coaches have, and I need this day more than ever." My last stop on the District Saturday trail was at the first-time-hosted-contest at Woodward-Granger. Their contest went so smoothly they were ahead of time and I got there just in time to see some of the schools getting last comment sheets. Jen McDaniel and Jacie Ommen were the hosts and did a super job! Plus, their administration had helped out, and several of them were still there when I ended my day at their site.

My State Contest day started bright and early at the Northeast site, Dubuque Senior, in another brand new environment. Wow! What a treat it was to be there. Aaron Dean and his staff do a super job making sure everyone is welcome, and I do not think I have ever seen more parent volunteers at a contest site ... they were everywhere! I next went to CR Washington and the contest held by Carrie Tinkham. This is also a great place to have contest and it is supported by so many folks. In fact, the Superintendent of Cedar Rapids schools was there checking things out and supporting Carrie with the work she was doing. Also, HOF coach Mary Campbell was the friendly face greeting all coaches as they came into the office. My last stop that day was at Waukee for the SW site. Jacki Pleggenkuhle does a super job in preparing Waukee H.S. to be a great place for all to perform. One of the neatest things I noticed was how much fun they were having closing down the rooms after a successful day.

The final leg of the Large Group season took me to the Iowa State Center on the ISU campus in Ames for the All-State Festival. We had such a brilliant day! If you have not taken the opportunity to go watch the Festival in Ames, or Cedar Falls for Individuals, please be sure to do that. As one of the All-State Critics stated in their bio, "This is truly a gem in the state of Iowa and you don't want to miss it!"

A special bonus this year is that Mediacom will broadcast the Opening and Closing Ceremonies plus most of the Group Improv day. This is only available on Mediacom cable throughout the state, and we thank Mediacom for their support of IHSSA activities.

This has been a great start to the contest season. See you on the contest trail!



The Closing Ceremony for IHSSA Large Group All-State Festival



# CONTEST NOTES

## SPECIAL REQUESTS

By direction of the Executive Committee of the IHSSA, all special requests must be called in to the State Office by the date listed below:

State Individual Events - March 4, 2020

Special requests after this deadline will only be accepted on an emergency basis. Do not call the contest manager for special requests in scheduling as they cannot accept any calls of this nature.

## JUDGE EVALUATION FORMS

Remember to take time to complete the Judge Evaluation Form for judges you had this year. That form is on-line and is very easy to fill in and submit, no paper or mail! By doing this task we can all work to improve the judging of the IHSSA students. Be sure to look for judges for the future. This fall there will be another series of Judge Certification Meetings.

## STATE CONTEST JUDGES

Special thanks goes to the coaches who have followed the directive in naming an IE State Contest judge from their school. Your positive support in helping contest managers has been effective and is much appreciated. In fact, some schools put down 3 or 4 names! This is just another example of how great the coaches of the IHSSA are to work with. Your understanding of how we all must work together to make the contest situation better for our managers and students can really make a difference!

## NOISE AT CONTEST

Coaches and performers are asked to remember that noise in the hallway near a performance center can be very distracting for the group or individual performing. This problem can be solved with all of us taking the time to discuss it with our students before the contest day.

## VIDEO RECORDING

Let this serve as notice that if you wish to use a camera of any type in a performance center you must have permission from the State Office. This includes any type of recording device. This policy is in effect for every contest and festival of the IHSSA. Please pass this important information on to your parents and spectators. Remind parents and friends to be early at contest because centers may run ahead of time.

## HOSTING CONTEST

We need all schools to think about hosting an IHSSA contest either next year or the year after. If it has been a while since you hosted or if you have never hosted it is your turn! Hosting a contest is a good experience and you help all the speech coaches in your area. You also help your school, town, and speech program by being one of the sites for the state contest series. Plus, you will even earn some money for your school and your speech program. Each year we have many schools that host for the first time and many that repeat.

## ALL-STATE BANNERS

You may still purchase an All-State Banner at the IE All-State this year. Please understand that after this spring a 2020 banner will not be available for purchase. We will continue to take orders for this banner through May.

## SOLO MUSICAL THEATRE

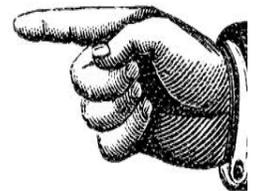
Take time to read those changes ... the student does not give the intro anymore... the Room Chair does!!

## STORYTELLING

Take time to read those changes ... the student does not have to give the title. The roomchair must give title and author now.

## NOTICE!!

Coaches are advised that you **can't switch your entries at the contest site without approval of the IHSSA State Office** or the local contest manager. An example of this would be School A has three Prose events at contest. Number 1 is at 10:00, Number 2 is at 11:30 and Number 3 is at 3:30. School A coach goes into the contest office and says that Prose Number 3 will now be at 10:00 and Number 1 will now be at 3:30. Unless School A's coach has written permission from the State Office, he/she cannot switch times.



Rationale for this rule is that contest managers have a very difficult job putting a contest together and then reporting it correctly to the IHSSA State Office. When schools switch performing times among themselves, it causes the contest manager's job to become even more difficult! We all understand emergency situations arise and the State Office can be reached every day from 8:00 through 4:30-5:00. On the Friday night before contest, you can reach Craig through the local contest manager, for they will have Craig's phone number from 6:30 Friday night through the end of the contest day. Please realize how many problems switching times the day of the contest causes the contest manager, plus the problems it causes in the All-State tabulations process! Let's all contribute to making the contest manager's and All-State Committee's work a bit easier by following this rule.

## SPECIAL THANKS

To the following groups for their help in funding the Large Group All-State Festival: The Ames Convention and Visitors Bureau, Donna Reed Foundation, Des Moines Playhouse, Des Moines Performing Arts, Iowa Central Community College, Greater Iowa Credit Union, IMT Insurance, Hy-Vee, and Iowa State University. With their help we are able to have new venues, programs, and critics for the Large Group All-State Festival. Please write them a note of thanks!

Just to give you an idea of some of the costs, the medals alone for the 2,100 outstanding performers came to over \$9,800 and the programs for students and coaches cost over \$3,600. All of this is given free to the students/coaches at the All-State Festival. Thank you from the IHSSA and the students attending the All-State Festival.



Some of the Critics with students at the LG All State Festival.

# 45th ANNUAL LARGE GROUP ALL-STATE FESTIVAL



## CRITIC'S CHOICE FOR 2020

ONE ACT PLAY  
READERS THEATRE  
CHORAL READING  
ENSEMBLE ACTING  
SOLO MIME  
GROUP MIME  
TELEVISION NEWSCASTING  
RADIO BROADCASTING  
GROUP IMPROVISATION  
MUSICAL THEATRE  
SHORT FILM  
E. WAYNE COOLEY SWEEPSTAKES

CLARINDA  
PELLA CHRISTIAN  
SIOUXLAND CHRISTIAN  
SIOUXLAND CHRISTIAN  
WDM VALLEY  
FAIRFIELD  
CHEROKEE WASHINGTON  
LEWIS CENTRAL  
CARROLL  
WDM VALLEY  
DES MOINES ROOSEVELT  
WDM VALLEY

# OUTSTANDING

Sincere thanks to these individuals and schools for their willingness to host a Large Group contest:



**Southwest:** D.J. Erkenbrack, Fremont Mills; Tyler Stough, Johnston; Laura Granger, Creston; Jen McDaniel & Jacie Ommen, Woodward-Granger; and Jacki Pleggenkuhle, Waukee.

**Northwest:** Lindey Krug & Amber Rouse, Fort Dodge; Becky Koenig, Spencer; Nathan Irwin & Kindall Todd, SC East; Sara Carlson, Storm Lake; and Erin Ohrlund & Sherri Permeswaran, LeMars Community.

**Northeast:** Angie Manternach, Cascade; Emileigh Eilderts & Wendy Buseman, Hampton-Dumont; Molly Holkesvik & Gabe Twedt, Decorah; Aaron Dean, Dubuque Senior.

**Southeast:** Deb Bowman and Kim Carlson, Monticello; Liesl Roorda, Montezuma; Spencer Sones, Ottumwa; Tanya McCarty, Lone Tree; and Carrie Tinkham, CR Washington.

Without their help the IHSSA contest series would not be able to run as effectively as it does. THANKS from all of us!

If you are interested in hosting a contest in the future please contact the IHSSA State Office. At this time we already have many sites for the 2021 and 2022 contest seasons. Please call to host in the future.

### Why Become a All State Roomchair?

Each year the All State Committees ask coaches and judges to be room chairs for the Festivals. These great volunteers help the Festivals run efficiently. If you have not been a room chair please say yes when asked. It makes such a huge difference for the students and the Festival. Vince Hrasky (room chair at All State and former member of the All State Committee) gives some good reasons why:

1. Seeing the very best is incredibly motivating.
2. It always gives me ideas for scripts and staging for the next year.
3. It gives me a day of interaction with an expert in the field.
4. I get to see other coaches at work.
5. Free Lunch!

(Thanks Vince!)

## SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Craig Wiebke, Tammy Koolbeck, and their staff at the Iowa State Center for their gracious help at this year's All State Festival. We would also like to extend a thank you to Kevin Bourke, Kim Abels, and Rachel Patnaud of the Ames Convention and Visitors Bureau for their support of this Festival. Plus, thanks goes to Craig Kaufman at the Ames Civic Auditorium. All who attended this year's Festival were ENTHUSIASTICALLY welcomed by Ames and the Iowa State Center staff and workers. During our 22nd visit to the Iowa State Center they were a super host and provided an avenue to make this Festival the showcase we could only dream of 45 years ago.

Special consideration should be given to the coaches that worked as room chairpersons: Jennifer Burton, Ann Fry, Kevin Fry, Ryan Brown, Liz Meier, Jodi Grant, Beth Bellinghausen, William Myatt, Amy Toyle, Jerry Woods, Kim Carlson, and Jackye Bowlin. What a wonderful job they did with a challenging task considering all the individuals attending this year's All State Festival.

The Large Group All-State Committee, consisting of Erin Ohrlund, Jennifer Brinkmeyer, Allison Koontz, Angie Manternach, and Brad Nesbitt, put in many hours of hard work and effort to organize the Festival. One of the reasons the IHSSA is so successful is the dedication of committee members and speech coaches in Iowa.

We would like to congratulate most participants and spectators on their excellent behavior as well as adapting to changes in the environment at Iowa State Center and Ames City Auditorium. You made the day flow as smoothly as planned.

Coaches, take a bow! You did a super job making sure your parents and spectators had the wristbands, and turning unsold wristbands and money in on time Saturday morning.

Over 131 schools earned Outstanding nominations at State Large Group contest this year. It is a tremendous testament to the fine work being done by the students and coaches in our state. We congratulate all those who participated in the 45th annual IHSSA All-State Festival.

THANKS

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

**Apply for The IHSSA Hall of Fame Scholarship!**

Each IHSSA member school is entitled to one applicant for four **\$1,000** scholarships offered by the Association's Hall of Fame. Two more scholarships were added this year. The speech coach of a member school should give the application form to a student who best exemplifies a candidate; who, in his/her estimation would benefit from such a scholarship and meets the stated qualifications.



**Qualifications**

1. The applicant must be a senior in good standing.
2. The applicant should have participated in various speech/drama activities during high school.
3. One applicant per IHSSA school.

The application form is enclosed and must be in the IHSSA State Office no later than April 15th. No consideration will be given an application received after this date. The winner will be announced by the IHSSA Hall of Fame.

.....  
***Application for***

**The IHSSA Hall of Fame Scholarship**

Name of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

This application must be mailed to the IHSSA State Office and received no later than April 15th to be eligible.

When application is received, Hall of Fame Scholarship materials will be sent to each applicant from the State Office.



2020

### SPONTANEOUS SPEAKING AREAS

These 10 areas will produce the questions for the 2020 Spontaneous Speaking category for both District and State contest. Please note these are not the questions, just areas for your students to do their research in.

1. National government issues and how they will affect the average person in America.
2. Homeland security issues.
3. The economy in America and the world.
4. Laws and rules that relate to students.
5. Current/Past national level sporting events.
6. Social unrest in America.
7. The President, Congress and the state of government in the United States.
8. The effects of media in our lives.
9. Business issues ... local, state, national, international.
10. Educational issues that face our youth.

#### Possible questions could be:

How has social media changed the way we react to experiences in our lives? Do sporting events in America control our lives?

### Welcome! 2020 Middle School Speech Contest



Grades 5-8    March 28, 2020  
 Snow date: April 4    Time: 9:00-3:00  
 (longer if needed - depending on number of schools enrolled)

Host: Sacred Heart School  
 1111 Marshall St  
 Boone, Iowa 50036

Middle School Students Welcome!  
 Storytelling, Improvisation, Poetry/Prose, Original Oratory,  
 and Duo Interpretation, and newly added short film

Original Oratory Topics:

1. What freedom means to me
2. What can we learn from making mistakes
3. Role models help to...
4. Open...

~Registration \$10 ~ Medals ~ Great experience ~ Fun ~  
 Registration due: March 9, 2020  
 Rules taken from IHSSA guidelines (all except Duo Interp.), with adaptations for middle school experience

Round one - 1's advance to the second round - top winners from 2nd round placed into 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place - short awards ceremony following contest  
For more information contact: Cheryl - Middleschoolspeechcontest@gmail.com

Note: Website with information  
<https://annajewell.wixsite.com/mysite>

### Coaches and Students - Read the Rules!!!

Every year a student is given a DQ because the school did not carefully read the rules for the event. It is best to review the rules for each category as students begin their rehearsals. If not already done, please take a moment before you travel to contest to go over all the rules together - it will be worth the time and you will be glad you did. Plus, many eyes looking at the rules makes for correct application of the rules for your events. Also, be sure to read the rules and regulations in the front part of the Constitution.

#### TAKE THE TIME TO READ THE RULES!!!

There were several new rules initiated in the 2019 season that are current for the 2020 season.

### Invoice for contest entry fees

Please remember to make a copy of your on-line entry form and give to the office that pays your fees. This form is the invoice for your contest entry fees. Nothing will be sent from this office for payment of contest fees. Please do your part and get that form to the office that handles your finances. Many times we have to contact schools requesting payment of the fee.

Please submit your fees in a timely manner.

Be sure to put what your check is for in the memo area of the check to help us process your fees!!

### A Letter to All IHSSA Coaches:

Be sure to take a moment and nominate someone for the IHSSA Hall of Fame. Induction into the Iowa High School Speech Association Hall of Fame is the highest honor the Speech Association may confer on an individual. It is presented to a distinguished individual of state wide reputation and outstanding accomplishments. The contribution and service given by the inductee stem from dedication and commitment to the Iowa High School Speech programs beyond normally expected and superlative identification. By the model of their lifetime work they have exemplified most clearly and forcefully the ideas and purposes to which high school speech programs and competitions are dedicated.

If you are aware of a **speech coach, administrator, or judge** who fulfills the above criteria, please send the IHSSA a letter for recommendation. Your nomination will be held in strict confidence and forwarded to the Hall of Fame Jury for their consideration.

Please include a paragraph or two in which you justify why you believe this individual is worthy of being inducted into the IHSSA Hall of Fame.

Thank you - Hall of Fame Jury



## All-State Nominations

On Monday evening, March 16, the nominations will be posted on the IHSSA web site. Please go to IE /All-State nominations or to General Information. Also, in the same area, the All-State Program will be available for viewing. Do not bookmark the All-State page since we will change that page address on the 11th before we post. Plus, there could be other modifications made during the day of the 16th.

### AWARDS

Please take note that all awards will be shipped directly to your school from the factory, therefore, allow 2-3 weeks for delivery. **It is important to know that the State Office will have no awards on hand for emergency requests.** Please use the form from the ON-LINE AREA for ordering awards. You will need your password for this area. Read the order form carefully. Plan ahead for your award ceremonies. After April 30, you will not be able to use a purchase order for buying awards. You will still be able to purchase awards with a check after the 30th of April. Please remember that the **IHSSA Logo is a trademark symbol** and cannot be used unless you have permission from the IHSSA State Office.

### New Age note taking for Individual Events

**Coaches: note the change in the Constitution about note taking for Individual Events. Students can now use electronic devices (iPads, itouch, etc.) for their notes in some Individual Events. However, they need to remember NOT to exceed the fifty word limit. The judge may ask to see their notes on their electronic devices just as they would ask to see notecards. YOU need to remind students not to delete their notes until their speech has been approved. This is an ethical issue as well as a performance issue. Obviously, if students are too dependent on their notes, they are not communicating effectively and will receive the appropriate rating. Also remember in Original Oratory a paper copy of the speech MUST be in the room to hand to the judge after the speech. You can use the electronic device but you have to have a paper copy too!**

### IHSSA INFO

Web site [www.ihssa.org](http://www.ihssa.org)

e-mail [craig@ihssa.org](mailto:craig@ihssa.org)  
[deb@ihssa.org](mailto:deb@ihssa.org)

phone # 515-288-9741(main)  
Toll Free (new) 888-985-6547  
Direct Craig 515-401-1834  
Direct Deb 515-401-1833

Address IHSSA  
5000 Westown Parkway  
Suite 150  
West Des Moines, Ia. 50266  
Office hours 8 - 4:30 M-F  
Deb will take lunch from 12:00 -1:00  
and Craig will take lunch from 1:00 - 2:00.

### JUDGING DIRECTIVE

Members of every district will provide the name of a judge for the State IE contest. Every school in the IHSSA that qualifies 5 or more entries for the IHSSA State IE contest on March 14, 2020 must provide the name of a certified judge on behalf of their school for that state contest site. This program will only be put into effect if the state contest managers in any district have trouble locating judges for that state contest. Then said judge from each school will be called upon to judge at the state contest. This is a constitutional item! There will be no exceptions to this item!!!

Be sure to have one of your students apply for the IHSSA Hall of Fame Scholarship.

The scholarship form is in this issue of SWIFT. Deadline for this scholarship is April 15, 2020.

**BE SURE TO REGISTER FOR STATE CONTEST RIGHT AFTER DISTRICT CONTEST. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO HAVE YOUR PAYMENT IN RIGHT AWAY BUT YOU MUST REGISTER YOUR PERFORMERS RIGHT AWAY AFTER THE DISTRICT CONTEST!**

Special thanks to Sioux City East for providing the National Anthem.  
All singers were also All State performers that day, too.

