In many ways I did not know how to start this SWIFT article for you. Our IHSSA community has experienced a 'new normal' in our lives. The lines, “We are living in unprecedented times.” “We are all in this together.” “We will get through this.” Those lines have been repeated by many leaders and individuals over the last couple of months as we learn to transition and adapt. During these difficult days it is tough for us to deal with our normal lives and continue to provide for our families and our students. We continue to pray daily for those who contract the disease and for those special individuals around the state who are risking their own lives each day helping those who have this virus. We all look forward to the day when this pandemic ends and we have the opportunity to celebrate the performances of our Debators, Large Group performers and Individual Events speakers. That day will come and together we can strive for a brighter future. This will take something we all need to have and that is patience. It also demands an understanding that ‘things’ may not be what we are used to, but they can and will make us grow and be better individuals in this endeavor we call the IHSSA. I would like to take you back to that week of March 9th. Starting the Monday of State IE week, the Ex. Committee was looking at the situation we might be facing heading into the coming weekend. In fact, meetings were held on this topic every day and sometimes twice a day during that week. A survey went out to every Superintendent in the state on Tuesday asking if they would support holding the contest that coming weekend, and plans were starting to be put in place for how to host a contest with concerns for the health of students, coaches and judges. Then another conference call was held very early on Thursday morning and the decision to cancel the in-person State Contest for March 14th was made. Please know this decision was very difficult and one that the Ex. Committee did not take lightly. Also cancelled was the IE All-State Festival. This was all done before 9 a.m. that morning. By noon that day almost every major event for that coming weekend was cancelled from national basketball tournaments to national/state state music and speech events.

Next we allowed schools for the first time to host their own ‘mini-State’ contests. Many schools took advantage of that before the shut down of the entire state on March 17. After a great deal of work with companies that hold rights for materials, we allowed schools to host virtual contests on April 23rd. As of today, we have had over 67 virtual contests and well over 100 schools participating in those contests. Later this summer a listing of the students who earned All-State nominations from those contests will be posted on the IHSSA web site. We are very proud of the work of the IHSSA coaches who put these events together for their students and the judges who judged them from all over the state. For example, HOF coaches and judges David Wendt, Liz Hansen, and Mary Fasse-Shaw were the judges at one virtual contest - how is that for a star panel of judges! We even have a Finnish foreign exchange student who will be participating in the virtual contest for her school from her home in Finland! I have told folks, “If she receives a Division I award I need to deliver that in person to her”! Besides the wonderful virtual contests that are still happening through the month of June, we have had many schools do their award ceremonies in the virtual world, too. In fact, I was able to participate in several by sending a virtual welcome to the awards night. I have never been to so many award nights in my career!

If there is one special thing about IHSSA students, coaches and judges, it is that we know how to look to the future and see how we can make things work for us all. So, as we move towards the summer and then to the fall enjoy what is in this SWIFT and the opportunities that you have for the summer. Let’s all hope for the day that we can all get on that bus at 5 a.m. in the morning, sit by the student who is drinking a soda and eating nacho chips, and think once again .... THIS IS A GREAT DAY FOR SPEECH IN IOWA!!!

Be safe, take care of your families and continue to watch the web site for updates. We will be even better at what we do in the future!!
CONTEST NOTES

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Information regarding the Academic Achievement program for the IHSSA is in the online area of the IHSSA web site. Please remember the “AA” award is for the entire Large Group, Debate, and Individual Events entries and not separate individuals or groups. Example: not Readers Theatre only, but all Large Group entries. You can do this in the fall for last year too. If you have any questions concerning this award, please call the State Office.

CONTEST DATES FOR 2021

Be sure to check the page in this issue of SWIFT that has the dates of IHSSA events. Make copies and give them to your Activities Director, Principal, Superintendent, Counselors, office staff, fellow teaching staff, and most importantly to your students. If we plan for these dates now there will be less conflict in 2020-2021.

JUDGES CERTIFICATION MEETINGS

If you are interested in hosting a Judge Certification meeting at your school next year please contact the State Office or your district’s representative on the Judge Certification Committee. All you have to do is provide a place for the meeting. A Judge Certification Committee member will run the meeting. It is important that we all work together in recruiting individuals who would be great judges and keeping those who are superior. We need your help in finding that new great judge from your community.

AWARDS

Please remember all awards will be shipped directly to your school from the factory or use your home address. Therefore, we ask that you allow 1-2 weeks for delivery. It is important to know that the State Office will have no awards on hand for emergency requests. After May 1st no PO#s will be accepted for an award order. However, you still may order with a check or cash after the 1st of May. The awards company is shipping out award again at this time. Be sure to buy the IHSSA award for the extra official look!

POSTING ON YOUTUBE

Please remember that the royalty agreement you have for contest does NOT cover posting on YouTube. If you have students or parents who are posting their events or performances on YouTube, be aware that you are not covered under the IHSSA royalty deals. It is strongly advised that these postings be taken down.

In Memoriam

The IHSSA, and especially the Southwest District, lost a dear friend, high school speech coach and English educator on February 7, when Dr. Heather Ludwig of Nevada passed away after a two-year battle with leukemia. She had undergone two bone marrow transplants in the previous 20 months, the second in October 2019 as the leukemia returned after the first transplant. In spite of being in a weakened state during recovery, Heather was the contest manager for the 2018 and 2019 State IE Contests hosted at Nevada. She hosted 11 contests (including 6 State IE contests) since coming to Nevada in 1998 after teaching and coaching four years in Greene, Iowa. Heather served as a District Officer and attended the 2019 District meeting as one of her last speech events. She was a 24-year speech judge and was proud of her speech family. Many of you received a homemade card or caring email from Heather over the past 26 years, even as she sat in the hospital. The speech family is saddened by Dr. Ludwig's death, but her spirit lives on in the lives of the people and students that she touched in her short life.

Robert Mittman

In Memoriam

Our speech family lost a friend and colleague with the death of longtime Hall of Fame coach and judge Ruth Hayes of Cherokee in February after a courageous battle with cancer. Since the 1970’s Ms. Hayes was involved in every aspect of the IHSSA. She was a masterful coach and made such a lasting impact on the lives of her students. She would encourage all of us to pronounce each syllable of every word no matter what! Ruth made a difference for many in IHSSA from being a District Officer, member on many committees, running both District and State contests, to being inducted into the IHSSA Hall of Fame in 2008. She made a life-long commitment to the IHSSA and what a wonderful gift that was. She always stated how others made her life better, but didn’t she make all of our lives better? From the helping all of us being better with our work, pointing out how to say that word correctly, to riding her ‘Harley’ with her husband Hank all over the United States (Yes! Ruth rode a ‘Harley’!!) she was always giving and willing to help those who needed that extra ‘look’ even though we thought we did not need it. Her famous phrase, “Well Craig, if we are going to do this, let’s do it the right way”, stays with me. For 40 years Ruth Hayes was one of the brightest stars of the IHSSA galaxy. While some of those lights have cooled a bit, Ruth’s ‘sparkle’ will continue to shine, and the light will be so bright it will continue to glow and warm many hearts. Remembering her may make your eye glisten and you will think of what a gift Ruth was to all of us in the IHSSA. Certainly a life well lived. Rest in peace, Ruth.

Craig Iheon
Virtual Public Forum Debate Camp
Simpson College
June 21 June 26th
$365

To help you hone your skills, Simpson College is again pleased to offer the Public Forum Debate Camp in 2020. The camp is held from June 21st through June 26th virtually. The camp is open to students who will be in grades 9-12 in the fall of 2020. We cater to both experienced debaters, as well as first-timers with no experience.

The camp will include five days of direct instruction, practice rounds, and a camp tournament. The camp tournament is not affected by the camp going online. Students and coaches will be taught by some of the top debate instructors in the country. Small lab groups will be capped at eight students per instructor, assuring that each student receives plenty of one-on-one attention.

Novice Students Welcome
Contact Spencer Waugh at spencer.waugh@simpson.edu for more information.

Online Registration Here (below)

Learn, Create, Move, Serve, Connect: My IEP
Stacy S. Hansen

Scout, our thirteen-year-old daughter, runs a tight ship. Scout is a taskmaster, she’s highly motivated, and pumps out products with precision and personalization. So, when it came time to set up an emergency homeschool plan for the weeks ahead due to COVID-19, Scout readily grabbed for markers and large scale post-it notes. Scout designed her own IEP. 30 minutes for Duo Lingo. 30 minutes each for reading and writing in the morning...AND in the afternoon. Alternating days of social studies and science--60 minutes each with instances of art and music integrated into each subject. Math, she would consult her teacher online for direction. Time each day to Zoom or socially connect. And dance, of course. At least 2 hours plus of intensive education everyday with formal instruction led via remotely by her dance teacher as well as individualized learning on her own--inclusive of barre, core, foot fundamentals, and choreography. A stash of eager-to-be-read books, books-in-progress, journaling markers, and her daily planner atop her desk.

Lincoln is our 16-year-old “game changer”. Lincoln is eager to jump...quite literally and sometimes too eager given the multiple ER visits...at any new experience granted him. Although Lincoln appreciates the view atop a 14,000 foot mountain and will pose for a few very quick pictures, he will ably and with great moxie passionately abound back down the trail as well. Lincoln is all about the journey. His desk...cluttered...heavily...deeply...with remnants of Hot Cheetos scattered amidst broken pencils. Not surprisingly, after a week of failure with check-lists, check-boxes and, and check-ins on his learning, something had to change. A close friend provided some counsel. Lincoln needed “big picture” learning. My husband and I actually got him to sit--still--for five minutes and negotiated a new approach. “What brings you joy? (skateboarding and making music) What do you want to do to make the world a better place for others? (rescue people off of mountains) For yourself? (make new trails) Everyday, we want you to: Learn, Create, Move, Serve, Connect.”

Lincoln paused. His foot came off the accelerator. His mind--engaged. So, would YouTube videos on mountain climbing gear be a LEARN? (Of course! I can’t wait for you to tell me about a new trail head!) Does that mean my skateboarding counts as a MOVE? (Yes! Be safe.) Does my skateboarding on the trampoline count too? (CAREFUL!) If I make dinner for the family, would that be a SERVE? (Absolutely! Make sure you ask your sister how she can help you.) And if I talk to Charlie and Hayden and Mason and Henry and Caitlyn each day, that’s a CONNECT? (Yes...and how can you push yourself even further? Could you call Grandma Max and Pa? The cousins? Or a TEACHER, perhaps?) Yes, Mom. That’s easy! (Yeahhh!) Hmmmmm...I’m missing something....I need something else. (Yes, you got this!) That’s hard. (Yes, it is, but I believe in you!) OHHHH So, if I rearrange my bedroom, would that be a CREATE? (Bingo, Buddy!) Or I could even make a new bouldering path in the basement? (YESSSS!) Or I could make a demo video for my skateboarding? (You are rolling!)

We know as educators, modeling is a tried and true best practice. Hence, the routine for myself soon set itself in concrete. Every day: learn, create, move, serve, and connect. Today, what this looked like for me: I learned how to properly maintain, clean, and put on a pair of climbing/bouldering shoes. (Thank you, Lincoln. BTW, Lincoln also counted this time with me as his “serve” through thoughtful analysis and dissertation.) I moved and walked the dog. (Most days walking the dog is my “move!”) I raked the sidewalk and front street gutters serving other folks in need of their ‘move’ for the day. It only took about an hour and extra helplings of patience to get my 80-year-old parents connected with ZOOM. They love to see all the grandchildren in one spot! Time and connections well spent. Hmmmm. I’m missing something. I need to create. I’m leaning heavily on Lincoln’s direction and will rearrange the living room into a new setting.

Learn....Create...Move...Serve...Connect. ..My IEP.
IHSSA DATES FOR 2020-2021

AUGUST 15, 2020 - JUDGES/COACHES WORKSHOP
IHSSA OFFICE BUILDING,
WEST DES MOINES

SEPTEMBER 19, 2020 - DEBATE CLINIC, INDIANOLA

OCTOBER 9 & 10, 2020 - IHSSA COACHES CONVENTION
GATEWAY HOTEL, AMES

JANUARY 8 & 9, 2021 - STATE DEBATE TOURNAMENT
DMACC, ANKENY

JANUARY 23, 2021 - DISTRICT LARGE GROUP CONTEST

FEBRUARY 6, 2021 - STATE LARGE GROUP CONTEST

FEBRUARY 20, 2021 - ALL-STATE FESTIVAL LARGE GROUP EVENTS
IOWA STATE CENTER, AMES

FEBRUARY 27, 2021 - DISTRICT INDIVIDUAL EVENTS CONTEST

MARCH 13, 2021 - STATE INDIVIDUAL EVENTS CONTEST

MARCH 29, 2021 - ALL-STATE FESTIVAL INDIVIDUAL EVENTS,
UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA, CEDAR FALLS

Get these dates to your students, parents, and administration so you can plan for these dates next year!

Web link for all Unified Dates for 2020-2025
http://ighsau.org/calendar/
IHSSA COACHES AND JUDGES WORKSHOP
AUGUST 15, 2020 ‘THE NO EXCUSE TOUR’

All IHSSA coaches and judges are invited to attend the 27th Annual IHSSA Coaches and Judges Workshop sponsored by the Iowa High School Speech Association. The workshop will be held August 15th at the IHSSA state office in the Upper Iowa University West Des Moines Campus near the junction of I-235 and I-80/35. The first session begins at 10:00 a.m. followed by two sessions starting at 11:10 and 12:20 for a total of three different sessions for you to choose from. All sessions will be done by 1:20 that afternoon.

The three training sessions will cover the areas of Acting/One Act Play, Radio News Announcing in IE’s, and Storytelling (judging at the next level going from good to great). The individuals who will be providing the training this year have all been Critics at the IHSSA All-State Festival. They include Sue Danielson and Tina Bakehouse. This will be the 14th year using a 3 presenter format. This workshop is a great way to start off the school year in August. Plus, if you live in the central part of our state you have no excuse. It is so close and the perfect reason to go to the Des Moines area for the weekend!

When: August 15, 2020 starting at 10:00 a.m.
Where: IHSSA State Office, 5000 Westown Parkway, Suite 150, West Des Moines, Ia. 50266
If we have a need to not hold an in person workshop we will do this workshop in a virtual format that day - so mark the day on your calendar!

LOOKING TOWARDS THE FALL?

50th ANNUAL
IHSSA DEBATE CLINIC

We have changed the State Debate Clinic to now be part of the Simpson College Debate workshop on September 19th. By doing this we will have actual rounds that the new students can watch, lecture on debate areas, and actual debating with Simpson students side coaching the new debate students. More info will be in the August issue of SWIFT.

Location: Indianola
Date: September 19, 2020
Sponsor: IHSSA/Simpson College Debate
Contact: The State Office

48th ANNUAL
IHSSA COACHES CONVENTION

Be sure to attend the IHSSA Coaches Convention October 9 &10, 2020 at the Gateway Hotel in Ames. An outstanding event has been planned for 2020. Please talk to your administrator and get to the The Gateway Hotel in Ames in October.

Graduate Credit can be earned by attending the IHSSA Convention. Also one free registration per district will be given to a coach that is in their first 3 years of IHSSA coaching. More details on this program will be given in the August 2020 issue of SWIFT. Be looking for that information in August!

Location:
The Gateway Hotel,
Ames, Iowa
Date:
October 9 &10
Sponsor: IHSSA
Contact: The State Office
SCHOLAR PARTICIPATION

Every year we receive calls at the State Office about which schools have the most entries in the contest series. These are the numbers for the top schools in the IHSSA as to participation in categories.

**Large Group Events**

The following schools had entries in every category and every available amount they could take to the Large Group District:

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<th>NW</th>
<th>NE</th>
<th>SW</th>
<th>SE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LeMars Community</td>
<td>Dubuque Senior*</td>
<td>WDM Valley</td>
<td>Cedar Rapids Washington</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Waukee*</td>
<td>Mount Vernon*</td>
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**Individual Events**

The following schools had entries in every category and every available amount they could take for the Individual Events District:

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<tr>
<th>SW</th>
<th>NW</th>
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<th>NE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Waukee*</td>
<td>Humboldt</td>
<td>Grinnell</td>
<td>West Delaware</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creston</td>
<td>Spencer</td>
<td>Mount Vernon*</td>
<td>Maquoketa Valley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAM</td>
<td>Denison</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dubuque Senior*</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sheldon</td>
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<td>Waverly-Shell Rock</td>
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<td>Hampton-Dumont</td>
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* Denotes school that filled every category and spot available for both Large Group and Individual Events at the District level.

Three schools worked for this honor: Dubuque Senior, Waukee and Mount Vernon

NOTE:
Special congratulations to these schools for their comprehensive participation in IHSSA events. We make it our mission to get as many students involved in speech activities and to prepare them for their lives.
Debbie and Matt DeVoe

Selected for National NFHS Speech, Theatre, Debate Award

Debbie and Matt DeVore, Maquoketa Valley High School, in Dehli have been selected by the National Federation of State High School Associations to receive the National Federation State Speech, Debate, and Theatre Award for the nation. There are only 11 recipients of the State award in the United States this year. Debbie and Matt DeVore were selected as State recipients from recommendations made this fall from the Iowa High School Speech Association. This is the first time in the history of this national award that there has been a wife and husband team being selected for this outstanding national award!

‘Team DeVore’ has been involved with IHSSA activities for over 25 years. They have managed district LG, IE, and conference contests many times. They have also been involved with many aspects of the IHSSA such as being State Officer, Judge Certification committee members, serving on the Coaches Convention Committee, and topic presenters at the IHSSA convention several times. They have hosted Judge Certification at Maquoketa Valley High School and continue to be leaders in the NE District of the Iowa High School Speech Association.

This wife and husband ‘team’ have been exceptional leaders in their present school system, as well as the other schools they have worked in. They both work as mentors to young teachers in their roles as supervising teachers. They are very positive leaders, both of them willing to take the time to work with any coach and give a helping hand. They have made a huge difference in the entire educational program of Maquoketa Valley schools as well as many other schools in NE District.

The National Federation Interscholastic Speech, Theatre and Debate Educator Award was first given in 1988 when seven individuals received sectional awards. Since that time, 230 sectional and 368 state awards have been presented. Nominations for this award are solicited from all fifty states. Awards for state and section are not automatically given.

The IHSSA has been very fortunate to have had a state or sectional recipient for this award every year since its inception. Past inductees have been:

1989  John Burke, Anita
1990  Helen Slattum, Lake Mills
1991  Frances Hedeman, Dubuque
1992  John Gibson, Council Bluffs
1993  Beverly Weseman, Sioux City
1994  Jay Shelp, Sheldon
1995  William Hultman, Keota
1996  Karen Tilton, Maquoketa
1997  Jerry Laffey, Onawa
1998  Robert Galligan, Carroll
1999  Susan Cantine, Decorah
2000  Denis Hildreth, Des Moines
2001  Elizabeth Hansen, Grinnell
2002  Larry Untiet, Spencer
2003  Dan Putz, Independence
2004  Kennon Balster, Clarinda
2005  Mary Campbell, CR Prairie
2006  Brad Nesbitt, Alta
2007  Nancy Libke, Summer-Fredericksburg
2008  Marty Bangston, Shenandoah
2009  David Wendt, Keokuk
2010  Terry Coleman, Fort Dodge
2011  Scott Bertelsen, Forest City
2012  Cary Shapiro, Ankeny
2013  Lynn Jacobsen, Danville
2014  Ann Williamsen, Okoboji
2015  Aaron Dean, Dubuque Senior
2016  Timothy Sheaff, Dowling Catholic
2017  William Myatt, Pleasant Valley
2018  BJ Schuller, Sibley-Ocheyedan

Special congratulations to Debbie and Matt for being selected for the award this year.

It is with a great deal of pleasure that the IHSSA welcomes Debbie and Matt DeVore into this prestigious group.
Special thanks to these individuals and schools for their willingness to host an Individual Events contest

**Southwest:** Mt. Ayr, Shaun Kniep; CB Thomas Jefferson, Matthew Schmidt; Panorama, Deb Arganbright, Krista Gafkjen & Chris Helm; Madrid, Kelli Wolf; CB Abe Lincoln, Dirk Waller & Marty Mason.

**Southeast:** Wapello, Jane Bostian; Pekin, Eva Brown; Vinton-Shellsburg, Le Cox, Eric Upmeyer & Marcy Horst; Central City, Donald Hansen; Grinnell, Kevin Hosbond & Jennie Flinspach.

**Northeast:** Maquoketa Valley, Debbie DeVore & Matt DeVore; MFL-Mac, Angie Killian; Osage, Lisa Garrelts; Charles City, Brenda Bailey & Mike Lembke; and Starmont, Manda Knox.

**Northwest:** Woodbury Central, Denise Heiman; OABCIG, Kariann Jurgenson; Sibley-Ocheydan, BJ Schuller & Rachel Keber; Manson NW Webster, Kim Keller; and Kuemper Catholic, Deb Gute & Susan Glass.

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

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**IHSSA INFO**

- **Web site**: www.ihssa.org
- **e-mail**: craig@ihssa.org, deb@ihssa.org
- **phone #**: 515-288-9741 (main)
- **Toll Free**: 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.

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**IHSSA Hall of Fame Scholarship**

The IHSSA Hall of Fame Scholarship has been selected by the Jury. Letters (e-mails) will be sent to those students who did not receive the award. Announcement of the recipient will be made in the August SWIFT.

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**Richard Riggleman Speech Coach Award**

The Richard Riggleman Speech Coach Award was established to recognize young IHSSA Speech Coaches. The award consists of $1,000 per year, renewable for two consecutive years, for a total of $3,000.

The recipient must be a second or third year teacher as of the start of the 2020-2021 school year and active in IHSSA activities. Those interested may contact the IHSSA State Office for an application. The award will be presented at the annual IHSSA Speech Coaches Convention.

The profile of the recipient should reflect the following disciplines: (1) must be in a second year residence of teaching at an Iowa school participating in the IHSSA; (2) show a commitment to coaching speech, large group events, individual events and/or debate; (3) demonstrate excellence in the coaching of speech; (4) have past experience competing in high school or college speech; and (5) present a scholastic record with an emphasis in speech courses.

The Riggleman Award is the first of its kind that has been established with the IHSSA. Mr. Riggleman was an active IHSSA coach for over 30 years and still remains very active with IHSSA activities as a judge, State Debate Tournament manager, and manager for numerous State and District contests. Richard Riggleman was inducted into the IHSSA Hall of Fame in 1994.

The IHSSA is extremely grateful to Mr. Riggleman for his generous and continued support of the Iowa High School Speech Association. Please contact the IHSSA office for an application for this award.