

## Where & When we do it

The club meets in **Maryville** at Grace Community Church on Harper Avenue (near the Blount

County Library) on Thursday afternoons. We offer three age-based speech tracks. **Varsity** for students ages 13-19, **Junior Varsity (JV)** for students ages 9-12 and **Junior (JR)** track for ages 5-8. We also offer two styles of academic debate. Stock Issue Debate is recommended for ages 13-19, and Congress Debate is open to students as young as 12.

Generally, we alternate between speech and debate each week.

### SAMPLE Debate Schedule for 2010-2011

5:30-6:30 Mars Hill  
6:30-7:00 Dinner Break (bring your own)  
7:00-8:30 Debate

### SAMPLE Speech Schedule for 2010-2011

4:30-6:30 Varsity, Junior Varsity, and Junior Speech  
6:30-7:00 Dinner Break (bring your own)  
7:00-8:30 Apologetics

A detailed Guardian calendar is available by emailing [guardiancalendar@cctennessee.org](mailto:guardiancalendar@cctennessee.org).

**Tournaments:** Guardian participates in several tournaments each year which are held in Middle and East TN. Other opportunities may also be available. These are optional, but highly encouraged!

## How Much it costs

For any or all of the speech and/or debate events offered by Guardian, the annual club fees are:

\$60 for one student  
\$75/family for two students  
\$90/family for three or more students

In addition to the above club fees, membership in our parent organization, Christian Communicators of Tennessee (CCT), is also required. The cost per family is \$20 for SMHEA members and \$35 for non-members.

## A Right Start

For those new to Speech and Debate (*or even those wanting a refresher course*), CCT offers several events to help equip you and your student!

### A Sweet Start: (Our “Kick-Off” event) “Thursday Night Sundaes”

Thursday, August 5th (6:30 pm-8:30 pm)  
Guardian registration and informational meeting followed by an ice cream social.

### A Smart Start: (CCT Workshops)

#### Thursday, August 12th (9:00 am-4:00 pm) Speech Intensive

- This workshop is geared for parents and students 11 yrs. and older, and is mandatory if you are new to CCT speech. We will cover the fundamentals of all three *types* of speeches and give you the needed resources to ensure a “right start” in speech.

#### Thursday, August 26th (5:30 pm-8:30 pm) Stock Issue Debate

- This workshop is designed to educate *both* parent and student. The primary focus will be the current year’s debate resolution. We will explore the history, relevance, and problems caused by the resolution, and discuss options for improving or correcting problems that exist as a direct result of the status quo (situation as it now exists).

All workshops and Speech and Debate meetings are held in Maryville at

Grace Community Church  
161 E. Harper Ave.  
Maryville, TN 37804  
[www.gracemaryville.org](http://www.gracemaryville.org)

# GUARDIAN Speech and Debate

2010-2011



In Plato's Republic, potential rulers are actually “guardians” whose strength of character and talents are put at the service of the public good.  
~Invitation to the Classics

**Articulating Truth**

**Expressing Hope**

**Impacting Our Community**

Who and Why? / What? / Where? /  
When? / How Much?

## Who & Why we are we do it

Guardian Speech & Debate Club (Guardian) believes that formal speech and debate can provide a means for homeschooled students to learn and exercise analytical and oratorical skills to the glory of Jesus Christ.

Involvement in competitive forensics provides a means for students to develop, improve and refine the skills of critical thinking and rhetoric. Competition also facilitates opportunities for character development, service, and developing friendships with like-minded students across our state and surrounding areas.

**Guardian's mission, by God's grace, is to train students and provide opportunities that will prepare them to articulate truth, express the hope of the cross, and effectively impact their community .**

## What we do

Guardian provides basic instruction, practice sessions, critiquing, tournament information, awareness of community speaking opportunities, and encouragement. We follow Christian Communicators of Tennessee (CCT) guidelines for events, conduct, and dress. We are a resource to help equip your children to be individuals who:

- Have a passionate zeal to love the Lord with all their heart, soul, mind and strength
- Can be salt and light in a winsome, heartfelt and confident manner
- Discern the truth from the distortions promoted by our culture
- Engage their culture from a Christian worldview
- Research and become conversant on current events
- Quickly synthesize important information
- Take concise, yet thorough, notes
- Speak with confidence
- Listen well and think quickly on their feet
- Develop the skills of logic and rhetoric
- Read a plethora of literature from various genres
- Become knowledgeable regarding our government, its agencies and functions..

**This year Guardian will offer two styles of debate and seven speech events.**

## Debate

**Stock-Issue Debate** is a competitive, persuasive, debate style where the student advocates a plan or rejects a proposed case in support of a current policy (the status quo). This style of debate uses stock issues—which are the foundation of evaluating the soundness of arguments. A central tenet of debate is that the clash of ideas must be communicated in a persuasive and compelling manner. In Stock-Issue Debate students learn to: employ solid logic, reasoning and analysis, utilize evidence, develop a solution, elicit a clash of ideas, counter the arguments of their opponent (rebuttal), and communicate ideas with clarity, organization, and professional decorum.

In **Student Congress**, our second style of debate, students draft bills (proposed laws) and resolutions (position statements), which they and their peers later debate and vote into law. Students debate a specified number of resolutions and drafts in a model legislature, employing parliamentary procedure. This debate style combines the fundamental elements of building arguments, the art of rebuttal, and persuasive speaking.

## Types of Speeches

We encourage students to explore the following three types of speeches: Platform, Interpretative and Limited Preparation. These types of speeches address important components of critical thinking and effective communication.

**Interpretive speeches** provide the opportunity for the speaker to creatively explore and develop the intellectual, emotional, and artistic embodiment of a work of literature he/she chooses.

The interpretive events for this year are: **Dramatic Interpretation (DI)** and **Humorous Duo Interpretation (HDI)**. Both portray a selection from a stage play, radio script, or published prose. Both seek to bring literature to life by creatively expressing the author's intent. A DI is performed by an individual, while the HDI allows two students to collaborate on the interpretation of a single piece of literature.

**Platform speeches** are original works scripted word-for-word by the student and delivered from memory. Speech events of this type have a wide range of purposes. This year's platform speeches include **Informative (PI)** and **Apologetics (PA)**. An *Informative* speech is an original speech intended to communicate a fresh and interesting perspective of a subject or topic in a creative way. In the *Apologetics* speech, the student presents a prepared speech on a question that requires them to give a biblical defense of their faith. The speech should answer questions about spiritual truths that unbelievers wrestle with and would discuss in real life situations.

**Limited Preparation Speeches** provide the opportunity for the speaker to think critically and organize their thoughts for a cohesive presentation with a limited amount of preparation time. This year we offer three events in this category: **Editorial Impromptu (EI)**, **Impromptu Mars Hill (IMH)** and **Duo Impromptu Apologetics (Duo IA)**. These events are specifically designed to enable students to confidently and clearly speak truth into everyday conversations.

*Editorial Impromptu* is a speech in which the student has five minutes to prepare a five minute speech as a compelling response to a given published editorial. In both *IA* and *Duo IA* the speakers have four minutes to prepare a six minute speech responding to a challenging question a non-believer might ask regarding Christianity. We encourage students to develop answers based on scriptural truths and sound logic and to communicate in a sincere manner, free from "Christianese." The *Impromptu Mars Hill* speech (taken from Acts 17:16-34) challenges the students to turn everyday conversations into "redeeming" conversations by discussing a topic of current popular entertainment (usually a movie, book, video game, etc.) and using it to bring scriptural truths to light. The goal of this speech is to proactively train our students to take a culturally popular topic and transition the focus of that conversation to an underlying biblical truth—or corruption of that truth—that motivates our initial attraction to that topic.

**For more information regarding Guardian  
email [guardiansd@gmail.com](mailto:guardiansd@gmail.com)**

**For more information about  
Christian Communicators of Tennessee visit :  
[www.cctennessee.org](http://www.cctennessee.org)**