

EO 3513-D 2019-02-19

Young Speakers Invitational Speech Competition

Application for Funds from Strathcona County Council

Overview:

Students in grades 4, 5 & 6 from elementary schools in the City of Fort Saskatchewan, Strathcona County, Lamont County, the Town of Bruderheim and Sherwood Park participate in the school level speech competition. From these students, the top speakers in each grade will be selected by a panel of judges to carry on and represent their schools at the final competition.

Students selected by their school then compete at the Young Speakers Invitational at their grade level in April on the 18th at 4:00 p.m. in the Agora at Strathcona County Hall. Each student will present an original oratory speech as set out by the tournament rules. Students are then scored on their speeches by a panel of judges. Students receive positive feedback on their oral presentations and winners are announced. Each student, regardless of placement will receive a prize. The event is free to attend and all members of the public are encouraged to take in the competition.

Goals of the Program:

To promote:

- a) Oral communications skills
- b) Critical thinking skills
- c) Student leadership skills
- d) Confidence
- e) Life-long learning

In our hi-tech world, the ability to speak confidently and passionately is becoming more and more an essential 21st century skill. By participating in this program, each student and each school will first and foremost develop an understanding of the benefits and styles of speaking, focusing on the ability to persuade, inform and entertain listeners. All the students involved either at the championship or at the school level will gain life-long skills.

Members of the various school communities will be drawn together to support their students. Cooperation and connectedness between the schools and the community is greatly enhanced by this event, as students from all walks of life can step forward and voice their opinions.

Roots of the Program:

First introduced at Brentwood School by Blair Ching as a school wide speech competition it was carried on by Jordan Smith. Following the success of the program at Brentwood Elementary, two other schools showed interest and thus the Young Speakers Invitational was officially launched in 2009 with three schools participating. In 2010 five schools participated, in 2011 fifteen schools, in 2012 twenty schools, in 2013 twenty-three schools and in 2014 and each year since twenty-four schools. (25 schools in 2019 – with 25 schools continuing for 2020)



Program Growth & Goals:

The table below shows the impact and the projected growth of this awesome program:

<u>Year</u>	<u>No. of Schools</u>	<u>Students Affected</u>
2009	3 schools	600
2010	5 schools	800
2011	15 schools	2900
2012	22 schools	3800
2013	23 schools	4000
2014	24 schools	4200
2015	24 schools	4300
2016	24 schools	4300
2017	24 schools	4300
2018	23 schools	4200
2019	25 schools	4500
2020	25 schools	4500

Community Support

- Strathcona County Council
- Members of the Alberta Legislative Assembly
- Elk Island Public Schools
- A multitude of local businesses

Community Outreach:

In addition to promoting the overall goals of the program, The Young Speakers Invitational is reaching out to the wider community by providing support to the Robin Hood Association. Since 2011 we have held a silent auction and basket raffle at the event and have raised the following money:

2011	\$2320
2012	\$4335
2013	\$4754
2014	\$5059
2015	\$4154
2016	\$4337
2017	\$4100
2018	\$2300
2019	\$2400
Total	\$34 000+

Since the creation of this program Strathcona County Council has offered support and we are excited to have them on board yet again. We look forward to continue growing this concept with your help, and bringing families, children, educators and the community together to celebrate the ability of a child to speak his or her mind and be heard.

Regards,

Jordan Smith
Brentwood Elementary
Speech Competition Chair
(780) 991-1832



Planned Use of Funds

We are requesting the sum of \$2250 for the Young Speakers Invitational.

The cost of the event breaks down as follows:

- Approximately \$800 for the rental of the Agora, Council Chambers, and additional meeting rooms
- \$2000 for the cost of food and beverages provided to competitors and guests at the event
- Approximately \$2000 for medals, keeper plaques and annuals
- Approximately \$800 for print materials, congratulations cards and gift cards
- Approximately \$1000 for volunteer/meeting/miscellaneous expenses

Council funds would go toward the total expense, with the remainder being covered by an additional sponsor.

Volunteers

There are numerous volunteers that give up time to make this event a success. Below is a breakdown of approximate volunteer hours:

- Event organization (4 teachers) – 110 hours
- School representatives (24 teachers) – 50 -60 hours
- EIPS staff (8-10 staff members) – 24 hours
- Event day/evening support (8 teachers) – 40 hours
- Robin Hood Association auction volunteers (3 staff) – 18 hours

Community Engagement

Our goal is to have as many attendees as possible to enjoy the final competition. Last year almost 400 guests were in attendance. To achieve this goal, in addition to word of mouth, the event is promoted in a variety of news publications and is also posted on 25 school websites. Any and all residents are encouraged to attend the event at no cost.





BUDGET SHEET INSTRUCTIONS

Statement of Revenue & Expenditure

REVENUE (specific to this event/project)	Budget - Revenue & Expenditure (to be filled in at the time of application)	Actuals - Revenue & Expenditure (to be filled in at the time of final reporting)
Priority Funds	2,250.00	
Grants		
Federal		
Provincial		
Strathcona County (other than SCIP - please specify)		
Other grants (please specify)		
Other grants (please specify)		
Fundraising		
Sponsorship - ACT	5,000.00	
Ticket Sales/Registrations/ Participant Fees+		
Cash Donations		
Other (please specify)		
TOTAL REVENUE	7250.00	

EXPENSES (specific to this event/project)		
Supplies & Materials (please specify)		
Medals/plaques for 25 schools	2,000.00	
Programs and Cards with gift cards	800.00	
Contracted Services (please specify)		
FOOD SERVICE	2,000.00	
Equipment rentals (please specify)		
Marketing/promotion costs School Fundraiser Prizes		
Facility/Venue rental		
Agora/Chambers/Meeting rooms	800.00	
Administrative - School rep meetings	1,500.00	
Volunteer Support/Recognition		
School Fundraiser Prizes		
Other (please specify) Mailouts/name tags/misc. supplies	250.00	
TOTAL EXPENSE	7,350.00	0.00

NET DIFFERENCE	-100.00	0.00
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