



## STUDENT ACTIVITIES CONFERENCE

TYLER JUNIOR COLLEGE, TYLER

SEPTEMBER 7, 2024

The UIL/TJC-Tyler Student Activities Conference will acquaint students and coaches with the nature and rules of the UIL academic contests. Conference workshops help prepare you for the Spring Meet competitions and provide opportunities to meet state directors and experts for each contest. The conference is free and there is no pre-registration.

**CAR PARKING:** Ample car parking space exists at all four corners of the campus. Please park in a legitimate space, and not in handicap spots or fire lanes. Parking lots S-23, S-14, S-4 on the online TJC Campus Map is recommended. Note: Nutcrackers auditions are happening on campus the same day. Parking will be at a premium.

**BUS DROPS & PARKING:** There are two main areas for drop-offs. For Theatre students, the best place is off Fifth Street, on South Mahon Street near Wise Cultural Arts and the Rogers Palmer Performing Arts Center (between buildings 30 and 32 on TJC Campus map). All others, drop off in front Rogers Nursing & Health Sciences building off Fifth Street on Fleishal (Building 6) OR the Rogers Student Center Apache Rooms (Building 21). Buses should park in the East Parking Lots off Fifth Street and Palmer (S/R14) OR in adjacent parking lot to Rogers Nursing & Health Sciences building (S-23).

**HOSPITALITY:** 8:30-10:00 a.m. (or until we run out) light refreshments and coffee and juice will be available in two locations: Rogers Nursing & Health Sciences' Student Lounge (2<sup>nd</sup> floor – signs will be posted) and the lobby of the Rogers Palmer Performing Arts Center. TJC and UIL welcomes coordinators, academic coaches, bus drivers and administrators to stop by for some refreshment and conversation.

For Tyler Junior College campus information,

<https://www.tjc.edu/visit>

For Tyler Junior College campus map,

<https://www.tjc.edu/downloads/maps>

**INFORMATION DESK:** Maps and some copies of programs will be available at the various Information Desks. The locations of the Information Desks are the first floor lobby of Rogers Nursing & Health Sciences (RNHS, Building 6), the Chris Tomlin lobby of Wise Cultural Arts (WCA, building 8), the lobby outside of the Apache Rooms, located in the Rogers Student Center (Building 16), and the lobby of the Rogers Palmer Performance Arts Center (Building 29.)

**BUILDINGS: ACADEMIC** sessions will be held in White Administrative Services Center (W), Genecov Science Bldg. (G), Jenkins (J), and Rogers Nursing and Health Sciences (RNHS). **SPEECH** sessions will be held in Rogers Student Center (RSC) where the 4 Apache Rooms are located and Rogers Nursing and Health Sciences (RNHS). **THEATRE** sessions will take place in Rogers Palmer Performing Arts Center (RPAC), Wise Cultural Arts Building (WCA) and Jean Brown Theatre (JBT). We are using almost the entire campus. Please wear comfortable shoes and bring an umbrella if it is a rainy day!

**HANDOUTS/PRESENTATIONS/EVALUATIONS:** All attendees are invited to download handouts\* and complete an evaluation form after the conference. We want your input so we can make future conferences as valuable to you as possible.

\*Those wishing to access online handouts during the event should plan to use data services available through their own service providers (3G/4G, LTE, mobile hot spots, etc.). The host site cannot promise good wireless connectivity for attendees.

### Session times:

*9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.*

*9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.*

*10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.*

*11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.*

*12:40 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.*

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## ACADEMIC COORDINATORS/COACHES

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### **ACADEMIC COORDINATORS:** *Dr. David Stevens, UIL director of Academics*

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 100.** **Coordinators and Coaches Update.** This is an overview of how the academic coordinator can ensure a successful UIL academic program. We will cover dates, forms and changes for the year. *Dr. David Stevens, UIL director of Academics* **Room RNHS 217**

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 101.** **I'm the New Academic Coordinator.** For beginning academic coordinators and coaches. We will cover the basics of getting started and the resources available. *Dr. David Stevens, UIL director of Academics* **Room RNHS 217**

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 102.** **Survival Tips for the Academic Coordinator and Coach.** A few ideas on balancing coordinator, coaching and teaching duties to provide a great experience for your UIL academic program. *Paige Dyer, Whitehouse HS.* **Room RNHS 217**

### **A+ ACADEMICS:** *Lisa Parker, UIL director of A+ and essay competitions*

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

**Session 103.** **A+ Academics Discussion.** Are you someone who helps with or manages a UIL A+ Academic program for an elementary or middle school campus? If so, please stop by to get any questions answered or guidance needed for your program as it prepares students for competition throughout their academic career. **Room RNHS 216**

### **ACCOUNTING:** *Kay Whitton, state contest director*

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

**Session 104.** **Recruiting, Resources, Results.** Kicking off a successful season of UIL accounting competition! For new and experienced coaches and competitors. **Room RNHS 018**

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 105.** **Hiding in Plain Sight.** Secrets of the Accounting contest, for experienced coaches and competitors. **Room RNHS 018**

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 106.** **Accounting Cycle.** From course, to contest, to college, to career. Learn how the accounting contest can reap rewards far beyond the UIL contest. **Room RNHS 018**

### **CURRENT ISSUES & EVENTS:** *Dr. Bradley Wilson, state contest director*

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 107.** **Keeping it Current.** The Current Issues and Events contest is designed to help students stay informed about more than what is on Twitter, including issues at the local, state, national and international levels. Over time, students become more informed members of society and more culturally aware. Over time, the contest evolves. Discuss this evolution. **Room G 200**

12:40 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.

**Session 108.** **Preparing to Write an Essay.** Discuss and learn techniques and examples to write an essay that covers the topic and earns 20 percent of the total score in Current Issues & Events and Social Studies. Review how essay writing is a valuable skill, helping students prepare for college and any work environment. **Room G 200**

### **ESSAY CONTESTS:** *Lisa Parker, UIL director of A+ and essay competitions*

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 109.** **UIL Essay Competitions.** Did you know you can become a UIL state finalist through one research paper submitted online? Come learn about how to be successful in the Barbara Jordan Historical Essay Competition and the Latino History Essay Competition. These two events invite students to showcase their writing and research skills by exploring and highlighting the contributions of historically underrepresented groups in Texas. **Room RNHS 216**

**JOURNALISM:** *Alyssa Boehringer, UIL director of journalism*

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

**Session 110.** **Copy Editing 101.** Copy editing means more than spelling and punctuation. It's a skill that prepares students for college and the workforce. Learn different levels of editing from checking grammar and style to assessing the legal and ethical implications of mass media. *Dr. Bradley Wilson, state contest director.* **Room RNHS 395**

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 111.** **Good News.** Lead with the future event. Then what? In this session, we'll talk about what makes an award-winning news story and see how you can become a successful reporter for "The Leaguetown Press." *Alyssa Boehringer, UIL Journalism Director.* **Room RNHS 395**

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 112.** **Feature Comforts.** A powerful lead is everything. In this session, we'll look at how the best feature leads draw the reader into a story — and draw the writer into a successful feature writing contest. *Alyssa Boehringer, UIL Journalism Director.* **Room RNHS 395**

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 113.** **Take a Stand.** The Highly Capable and Hardworking Human is in the house as we study the editorial writing contest. Get ready to make your voice heard. *Alyssa Boehringer, UIL Journalism Director.* **Room RNHS 395**

12:40 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.

**Session 114.** **It's All in Your Head.** A good headline tells the reader what the story is about and makes them want to read it, too. In this session, we'll show you how it's done. *Paige Dyer, Whitehouse HS.* **Room RNHS 395**

**LITERARY CRITICISM:** *Mark Bernier, state contest director*

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

**Session 115.** **Beginners, Beginners, Beginners.** Part I. An overview of the contest with an emphasis on Part 1, items 1-30. **Room White 174 Boardroom**

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 116.** **Beginners, Beginners, Beginners, continued.** Part II. An overview of the contest with an emphasis on Part 2, items 31-42, and on Part 4 the tie-breaking essay. **Room White 174 Boardroom**

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 117.** **One-on-one Conversation with State Contest Director.** Bring all questions about the contest, especially if you are new to the contest. Students are encouraged to ask questions! **Room White 174 Boardroom**

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 118.** **Poetry Explication of the Contest.** Part I.

12:40 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.

**Session 119.** **Poetry Explication of the Contest, continued.** Part II.

**READY WRITING:** *Ruben Rodriguez, state contest director*

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

**Session 120.** **Preparing for the Ready Writing Contest.** Double Session Part I. A review of UIL rules, the Ready Writing rubric and contest fundamentals and writing strategies. Designed for first-year competitors and beginning coaches. *Catherine Jackson, Carthage HS.* **Room RNHS 118**

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 121.** **Preparing for the Ready Writing Contest.** Double Session Part II. A review of UIL rules, the Ready Writing rubric and contest fundamentals and writing strategies. Designed for first-year competitors and beginning coaches. *Catherine Jackson, Carthage HS* **Room RNHS 118**

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 122.** **Champion Essays.** Double Session Part I. A Close Reading and De-Briefing of a 2024 State Winning Essay: Plusses and Pitfalls. *Catherine Jackson, Carthage HS* **Room RNHS 118**

12:40 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.

**Session 123.** **Champion Essays.** Double Session Part II. A Close Reading and De-Briefing of a 2024 State Winning Essay: Plusses and Pitfalls. *Catherine Jackson, Carthage HS* **Room RNHS 118**

**SOCIAL STUDIES:** *Andy Bates, state contest director*

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 124.** **Preparing for the Social Studies Contest**—A review of rules, contest format, information related to this year's topic, what type of questions to expect and resources that will prove useful. Learn about this year's topic: The Rise of Factionalism, Partisanship, and the "Vices of Democracy" in the early United States (1795-1850). **Room G 200**

12:40 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.

**Session 108.** **Preparing to Write an Essay.** Come discuss and learn techniques and examples to write an essay that covers the topic and earning 20 percent of the total score in Current Issues & Events and Social Studies. Review how essay writing is a valuable skill, helping students prepare for college and any work environment. **Room G 200**

**SPELLING & VOCABULARY:** *Linda Berrey, state contest director*

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 125.** **Becoming Legitimate Logophilic Laureates.** Double Session Part I. Strategies for Upping Your Spelling Game. **Room J 1109**

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 126.** **Becoming Legitimate Logophilic Laureates.** Double Session Part II. Strategies for Upping Your Spelling Game Continued. **Room J 1109**

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 127.** **Spelling & Vocabulary Practice Test.** Applying spelling strategies using 2024-2025 Word List. **Room J 1109**

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*STEM & ROBOTICS*

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**CALCULATOR APPLICATIONS:** *Dr. Dave Bourell, state contest director*

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

**Session 200.** **Beginning- Introduction to the Contest, Format, Scoring, Types of Problems.** **Room J 205**

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 201.** **Intermediate- State of the 2025 Contest and Scaling Problem Workshop.** **Room J 205**

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 202.** **Intermediate - Significant-Digit Stated Problems.** **Room J 205**

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 203.** **Advanced - Taking and Scoring a Full Contest.** **Room J 205**

**COMPUTER SCIENCE:** *Dr. Shyamal Mitra, state contest adviser*

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

**Session 204.** **Computer Science Contest Rules.** Includes rules, news, updates. **Room RNHS 116**

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 205.** **Computational Thinking.** **Room RNHS 116**

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 206.** **Syntax of Java.** **Room RNHS 116**

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 207.** **Basic Algorithms.** **Room RNHS 116**

12:40 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.

**Session 208.** **Computing Resources.** **Room RNHS 116**

**MATHEMATICS & NUMBER SENSE:** *Cliff McCurdy and Larry White, state contest directors*

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

**Session 209.** **Mathematics Contest.** Double Session Part I. Overview of the UIL Mathematics contest. Take/grade the new 40 min-60 question SAC 2024 Mathematics test followed by Q & A to discuss/answer questions from the test. *Cliff McCurdy, state contest director.* **Room G 204**

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 210. Mathematics Contest.** Double Session Part II. Overview of the UIL Mathematics contest. Take/grade the new 40 min-60 question SAC 2024 Mathematics test followed by Q & A to discuss/answer questions from the test. *Cliff McCurdy, state contest director.* **Room G 204**

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 211. Number Sense Contest.** Double Session Part I. Review guidelines, rules, resources, practice materials, etc. Take and grade the new 10 min- 80 question SAC 2024 Number Sense Test followed by Q&A to discuss/answer questions from the test. *Larry White, state contest director.* **Room G 204**

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 212. Number Sense Contest.** Double Session Part II. Review guidelines, rules, resources, practice materials, etc. Take and grade the new 10 min- 80 question SAC 2024 Number Sense Test followed by Q&A to discuss/answer questions from the test. *Larry White, state contest director.* **Room G 204**

12:40 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.

**Session 213. Number Sense & Mathematics Q&A.** *Cliff McCurdy & Larry White, state contest director.* **Room G 204**

**SCIENCE:** *Dr. David Bixler, Dr. Michelle McGehee and Dr. Brian Anderson, state contest directors*

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

**Session 214. The Big Picture.** An overview of the Science contest, how to prepare your students and what to expect from the test writers. *Dr. Brian Anderson, Dr. David Bixler and Dr. Michelle McGehee.* **Room Jenkins 236**

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 215. Biology Deep Dive.** Deconstructing the Science test, with insights into how Biology section is developed. *Dr. Michelle McGehee, state contest director.* **Room Jenkins 236**

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 216. Physics Deep Dive.** Deconstructing the Science test, with insights into how Physics section is developed. *Dr. Dave Bixler, state contest director.* **Room Jenkins 236**

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 217. Chemistry Deep Dive.** Deconstructing the Science test, with insights into how Chemistry section is developed. *Dr. Brian Anderson, state contest director.* **Room Jenkins 236**

12:40 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.

**Session 218. Coaches' Roundtable.** A discussion among science coaches and directors about recruiting, motivating, and preparing students for the UIL Science competition. New coaches as well as veteran coaches are invited to attend. *Dr. Brian Anderson, Dr. David Bixler and Dr. Michelle McGehee.* **Room Jenkins 236**

**ROBOTICS:** *David Trussell, UIL director of STEM*

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 219. Introduction to UIL Robotics.** Double Session Part I. An overview of program structure, options and guidelines for participation, recommended resources, and more. **Room RNHS 117**

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 220. Introduction to UIL Robotics.** Double Session Part II. An overview of program structure, options and guidelines for participation, recommended resources, and more. **Room RNHS 117**

**Session 221. FTC Game Reveal.** Watch the nationwide season kickoff and game reveal for this year's *FIRST* Tech Challenge. **Room RNHS 117**

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## SPEECH, DEBATE AND CONGRESS

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**ORAL INTERPRETATION:** *M'Liss Hindman, state contest director*

9:00 a.m. 9:45 a.m.

**Session 300. Prose and Poetry: Let's Start at the Very Beginning.** For novice competitors. Starting at the very beginning is a very good place to start if you're new to oral performance in high school. This workshop introduces novice and new prose/poetry coaches to the contest rules and procedures. *Ann Shofner, UIL consultant.* **Room RNHS 1.131**

**Session 301.** **Put The PROse in Prose (and Poetry!)** For advanced competitors. Discussion on performance considerations that will polish your performance like a pro! *Daniel Gambill, Sunnyvale HS.* **Room RNHS 0.015**

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 302.** **Categories for 2024-25.** For novice and varsity competitors and coaches. Don't "miss the boat this season!" Walk through the revised prose and poetry categories including a discussion of the true intent of Category A and B performers should understand when planning their performances. *M'Liss Hindman, state contest director and Jana Riggins, UIL Speech Director.* **Room RNHS 1.131**

10:50 a.m. - 11:35 a.m.

**Session 303.** **Choices! Choices! Choices!** For novice and varsity competitors. Preparing your performances requires lots of important and deliberate choices. Let's dig deep into these important elements of preparation. *M'Liss Hindman, state contest director.* **Room RNHS 1.131**

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 304.** **Prose and Poetry Performance Showcase: Recognizing Joy.** This session features performances to demonstrate Category A: Recognizing Joy. Be inspired by performances followed by oral critiques by experienced judges that share insight into what this category is all about. *M'Liss Hindman, state contest director; Daniel Gambill, Sunnyvale HS.* **Room RNHS 1.131**

12:40 p.m. — 1:25 p.m.

**Session 305.** **Prose and Poetry Performance Showcase: Inspiring Change.** This session features performances to demonstrate Category B: Inspiring Change. Be inspired by performances followed by oral critiques by experienced judges that share insight into what this category is all about. *M'Liss Hindman, state contest director; Daniel Gambill, Sunnyvale HS.* **Room RNHS 1.131**

#### **EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING:** *Ann Shofner, state contest director*

9:00 a.m. — 9:45 a.m.

**Session 306.** **A Toolkit for Extemporaneous Speaking.** For experienced speakers. The economic way of thinking provides a toolkit for making sense of complex issues often addressed in informative and persuasive speaking questions. Economic discussion about top issues of energy, inequality, globalization, and labor mobility. *Greg Rehmke, Economic Thinking.* **Room RNHS 0.017**

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 307.** **An Introduction to Extemporaneous Speaking.** For novice competitors. Gain insight about the rules, draw room procedures and strategies for competing in Informative and Persuasive Speaking. *Ann Shofner, state contest director.* **Room RNHS 0.016**

10:50 a.m. - 11:35 a.m.

**Session 308.** **Listen, People to What I Say!** For novice and varsity speakers. Hear an experienced competitor deliver an extemporaneous speech and then we will examine the choices the speaker made. Audience members will have the opportunity to ask questions about preparation, topic choice, organizational structure and other important elements demonstrated in the speech. *Ann Shofner, moderator, state contest director and Logan Wells, former state champion.* **Room RNHS 0.016**

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 309.** **Working for the Weekend.** For novice and varsity competitors. What does it take to be ready to excel at tournaments? How do you make your electronic files work for you? A discussion about prepping for tournament weekends. *Rory McKenzie, Lindale HS.* **Room RNHS 0.016**

**Session 310.** **A Toolkit for Extemporaneous Speaking.** For experienced speakers. (repeat session)  
The economic way of thinking provides a toolkit for making sense of complex issues often addressed in informative and persuasive speaking questions. Economic discussion about top issues of energy, inequality, globalization, and labor mobility. *Greg Rehmke, Economic Thinking.* **Room RNHS 0.017**

12:40 p.m. — 1:25 p.m.

- Session 311.** **Do You Want to Know a Secret?** For novice and varsity competitors. What do judges look for in Informative and Persuasive Speaking rounds? Using the UIL Extemporaneous Speaking ballots for analysis, learn the keys to what a successful speaker can do verbally and nonverbally to rank high in their round. Tips on what makes a speaker stand out as the champion in the round. *Ann Shofner, state contest director.* **Room RNHS 0.016**

**DEBATE:** *Dr. Rich Edwards, state contest director*

9:00 a.m. — 9:45 a.m.

- Session 312.** **The Basics of Lincoln Douglas Debate.** For novice competitors. Familiarizes beginning students with value debate. Learn LD Debate format, speaker responsibilities and case construction. *Michael Mattis, Grand Saline HS.* **Room Apache 4**
- Session 313.** **Advanced Lincoln Douglas Debate: Concepts and Strategies.** For varsity debaters. This workshop will explore effective arguments and strategies for varsity LD debaters. *Ryan Stokes, Sunnyvale HS.* **Room Apache 1**
- Session 314.** **Getting Started in Cross-Examination Debate.** For beginners. Come listen to CX debate made user-friendly. Learn the contest format, speaker responsibilities and understand basic terminology. *Rory McKenzie, Lindale HS.* **Room Apache 3**
- Session 315.** **Advanced CX Debate: Judge Adaptation.** For varsity debaters. Adapting to your judge is one of the keys to winning the ballot. An examination of judge paradigms and how these dictate strategic decisions by competitors. *Dr. Rich Edwards, UIL debate consultant.* **Room Apache 2**

9:55 a.m. — 10:40 a.m.

- Session 316.** **Lincoln Douglas Debate: The Science, Economics and Ethics of Agroecology and Regenerative Agriculture.** For novice and varsity debaters. Discussion focusing on both the affirmative and the negative sides of the UIL Fall LD Debate agriculture topic. *Greg Rehmke, Economic Thinking.* **Room RNHS 0.017**
- Session 317.** **CX Debate Topic Analysis: The Affirmative.** For novice and varsity debaters. The author of the *Policy Debate Quarterly* will examine the **affirmative** position providing great information and insight in this year's policy debate topic. Common affirmative cases will be discussed. *Dr. Rich Edwards, Baylor University and UIL Debate consultant.* **Room Apache 2**

10:50 a.m. — 11:35 a.m.

- Session 318.** **Case Writing for Lincoln Douglas Debate.** For novice and varsity LD debaters. A review of the important elements necessary in an LD case and how to write a competitive one. *Ryan Stokes, Sunnyvale HS.* **Room Apache 3**
- Session 319.** **Lincoln Douglas Debate: The Science, Economics and Ethics of Agroecology and Regenerative Agriculture.** For novice and varsity debaters. (repeat session) Discussion focusing on both the affirmative and the negative sides of the UIL Fall LD Debate agriculture topic. *Greg Rehmke, Economic Thinking.* **Room RNHS 0.017**
- Session 320.** **CX Debate Topic Analysis: The Negative.** For novice and varsity debaters. The author of the *Policy Debate Quarterly*, which is the first and most authoritative research released on the policy topic each year, will examine the **negative** position of this year's policy debate topic. *Dr. Rich Edwards, Baylor University and UIL debate consultant.* **Room Apache 2**

11:45 a.m. — 12:30 p.m.

- Session 321.** **Lincoln Douglas Topic Analysis.** For novice and varsity debaters. Let's take a deep dive into the UIL fall LD Debate topic and examine affirmative and negative arguments. *Dr. Rich Edwards, Baylor University and UIL debate consultant.* **Room Apache 2**

**Session 322.** **Cross-Examination Debate Demonstration Round: Part I.** Watch a live round of policy debate. This session will demonstrate the constructive speeches and include the cx questioning period. *Emily Sowell, moderator, Shelbyville HS. Room Apache 4*

12:40 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.

**Session 323.** **Cross-Examination Debate Demonstration Round: Part II.** Watch a live round of policy debate. This session will demonstrate the second half of a policy debate round featuring the rebuttal speeches and commentary. *Emily Sowell, moderator, Shelbyville HS. Room Apache 4*

**Session 324.** **Critical Issues CX Debaters Need to Know about Intellectual Property.** Highlights of this discussion include ownership of ideas, songs, technologies, fair use, tradeoffs, and contracts. *Greg Rehmke, Economic Thinking. Room RNHS 0.017*

**Session 325.** **Lincoln Douglas Debate: A Demonstration.** For novice and varsity debaters. Watch a live round of LD Debate on the UIL Fall topic. *Moderator, Anna Rhea, Kemp HS. Room Apache 2*

**CONGRESS:** *Jana Riggins, UIL director of Speech, Debate and Congress*

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 326.** **An Introduction to Congress.** If this is your first experience competing in Congress, come learn about this exciting event – we'll cover the rules, legislation, chamber roles and parliamentary procedure. *Rory McKenzie, Lindale HS. Room Apache 3*

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 327.** **Congress: Writing Effective Legislation.** For novice and varsity competitors and coaches. The better the bills and resolutions, the better the debate in the chamber. This year, writing strong legislation is even more important since the number of legislative pieces that will be debated at State Congress will be reduced so legislation will need to be exceptional to make the docket. This session will review what you need to do to make your legislation strong. *Emily Sowell, Shelbyville HS. Room Apache 1*

12:40 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.

**Session 328.** **Unlocking the Door to Success.** A discussion of the keys to success in Congress competition with advice on how to prepare and strategies within the chamber to make legislators more competitive. A Question/Answer period will be provided. *Michael Mattis, Grand Saline HS. Room Apache 3*

**SPEECH COACH SESSION:** *Jana Riggins, UIL director of Speech, Debate and Congress*

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 329.** **Let's Talk All About Speech and Debate!** For coaches. Need clarification on rules or contest procedures? Dates and deadlines? Want to share a creative idea for state meet or a potential contest rule change? Need to get "up to speed" for the new season? Join your state speech and debate director and let's dialogue! **RNHS 0.015**

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## THEATRE, DESIGN AND FILM

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**ONE-ACT PLAY:** *Paula Rodriguez, UIL director of theatre*

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

**Session 400.** **Let's start from the very beginning.** (For teachers) Session covers UIL One Act Play rules, planning, updates and questions! For ALL OAP Directors. *Paula Rodriguez, UIL Theatre Director. Room PAC-Wise Auditorium*

**Session 401.** **That's a Bright Idea.** (For students and teachers) A quick introduction to using light to tell the story followed by open forum Q&A session regarding lighting the stage. *Jacob Davis, Tyler Junior College Theatre Faculty. Room WCA-Jean Browne Theatre*

**Session 402.** **Vocal Warm-ups for the Actor.** (For students and teachers) Students will experience the correct way to breathe in order to have a strong voice for the stage. This will be interactive and students should wear comfortable clothing! Be Ready to Move! *Gloria McLuckie. Room PAC-Studio 1 & 2*



- Session 403.** **Actors Need Action.** (For students and teachers) *Denise Weatherly-Green, Tyler Junior College. Room PAC-Greenroom #125*
- Session 404.** **Really Talk, Really Listen: Intro to Meisner, Level 1.** An introduction to the basic concepts of Meisner Technique. Students will learn the rationale of Meisner vs. Method and participate in simple and observational repetition. *Paula Myers, Waxahachie HS. Room PAC-Recital Hall*
- Session 405.** **Sound Design for Students.** Step into theatrical sound design, where creativity meets technical expertise! This breakout session is tailored for high school students and directors interested in elevating their productions with dynamic soundscapes. We will discuss finding sound effects and music that can be used for free and run through an orientation to Go Button, the app that you should be using to manage your sound cues. Whether you're a seasoned tech director or just getting started, this session will equip you with the skills and knowledge to make your next production sound amazing and stay on the right side of the law. If you have an iPad, it is recommended (but not required) to bring it for this session. *Samuel White, Paradise HS. Room WCA 204*

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

- Session 406.** **Picking Your OAP/Cutting and Getting Publisher Approval.** (For teachers) *Sandy Spears, Retired OAP Director, Union Grove HS. Room PAC-Recital Hall*
- Session 407.** **Understand the Speech, I Pray You!** For students and teachers. Taming Shakespeare's text for audition and performance. *Rick Higginbotham, White Oak HS, OAP 2022 AAA State Champion. Room PAC-Studio 1 & 2*
- Session 408.** **Authentic Old Age & Special Effects Makeup.** *Sue Wisdom, Van. Room PAC-Men's Greenroom #120*
- Session 409.** **Living Truthfully: Level 2 Meisner.** Students build on simple and observational repetition to create improv scenes; concepts include "element of truth" and focusing on scene partners. *Paula Myers, Waxahachie HS. Room PAC Recital Hall*
- Session 410.** **Sound Design for Students.** Step into theatrical sound design, where creativity meets technical expertise! This breakout session is tailored for high school students and directors interested in elevating their productions with dynamic soundscapes. We will discuss finding sound effects and music that can be used for free and run through an orientation to Go Button, the app that you should be using to manage your sound cues. Whether you're a seasoned tech director or just getting started, this session will equip you with the skills and knowledge to make your next production sound amazing and stay on the right side of the law. If you have an iPad, it is recommended (but not required) to bring it for this session. *Samuel White, Paradise HS. Room WCA 204*
- Session 411.** **Only an Hour? ...How to Make the Most of the Official Rehearsal Slot.** In one hour, our students have to learn an entire new facility, light board, sound board, and backstage! This session will help students stay calm and help teachers feel prepared for the most important part of the contest day. Empower your students and leave your contest manager with their jaw on the floor! *Daniel Gambill, Sunnyvale HS. Room WCA 203*

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

- Session 412.** **Greater East Texas Theatre Teachers (GETTT) Reception.** (For teachers only) Play script exchange. **Room PAC-Lobby**
- Session 413.** **Vocal Warm-ups for the Actor.** Repeat Session. Students will experience the correct way to breathe in order to have a strong voice for the stage. This will be interactive and students should wear comfortable clothing! Be Ready to Move! *Gloria McLuckie. Room PAC-Studio 1 & 2*
- Session 414.** **First Things First: How to Pick Your OAP.** You've read script after script and now you're wondering how to know which one is the right one. Come join the discussion and learn some tips about how to make sure the literature fits your students, community, and goals. If time permits, I will give script suggestions based on your specifications. *Jill Henson, Centerville HS. Room WCA 204*
- Session 415.** **Actors Need Action.** (For students and teachers) *Denise Weatherly-Green, faculty, Tyler Junior College. Room PAC-Greenroom #125*
- Session 416.** **Contest Management.** Let's talk about "Things I find myself repeatedly saying to OAP directors aka "Best Practices for a stress-free contest experience." *Travis Poe* heads a panel of legends *Kari McKenzie, Lindale HS; Larry and Sue Wisdom. Room WCA JBT*
- Session 417.** **The Building Blocks of Directing for Students and Teachers.** Join us for an inspiring workshop where you'll delve into the foundational principles and practices essential for directing any play you encounter. Whether you're tackling a classic or a contemporary piece, this workshop will provide you with the tools and techniques to bring your vision to life. *Cleo House, Director of Theatre and Dance, Stephen F Austin University. Room PAC-Recital Hall*

**Session 418.** **Playwriting Workshop.** We will explore what it takes to create a great foundation to build your play on. We will discuss concepts and questions that will help elevate your script and keep it on track as it grows. *Ryan Mullican, Waxahachie HS. Room WCA 202*

**Session 419.** **Backstage Pass: Secrets to Producing like the Legends.** If you and your students ever think, "How did they do that?" then this is the session for you! We will go through a series of backstage photos from great OAP productions and discuss how they did what they did! This session will leave you inspired to CREATE something new for your OAP contest entry ...without breaking the bank or the rules! *Daniel Gambill, Sunnyvale HS. Room WCA 203*

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 420.** **Greater East Texas Theatre Teachers (GETTT) Reception.** (For teachers only) Play script exchange. **Room PAC-Lobby**

**Session 421.** **Understand the Speech, I Pray You!** For students and teachers. Taming Shakespeare's text for audition and performance. *Rick Higginbotham, White Oak HS, OAP 2022 AAA State Champion. Room PAC-Studio 1 & 2*

**Session 422.** **To Thine Own Self Be True.** A starting point for the Actor. *Larry Wisdom, Texas UIL Legend. Room PAC-Green Room-#125*

**Session 423.** **Getting Your Play Contest Ready.** *Sandy Spears, Retired OAP Director, Union Grove HS. Room WCA 204*

**Session 424.** **Communication Through Staging: Telling the story with symbolic stage pictures.** Creating engaging imagery with bodies on stage. *Jacob L. Davis, Tyler Junior College. Room PAC-Studios 1 & 2*

**Session 425.** **Advanced Directing for Students and Teachers.** Join us for an exciting workshop where you'll dive into the world of directing and tackle the key obstacles that every director faces. Learn how to craft a dynamic show that captivates audiences and discover techniques to make your rehearsal process not just effective, but extraordinary. *Cleo House, Director of Theatre and Dance, Stephen F Austin University. Room PAC-Recital Hall*

12:40 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.

**Session 426.** **Let's start from the very beginning.** Repeat session. (For teachers) Session covers UIL One Act Play rules, planning, updates and questions! For all OAP Directors. *Paula Rodriguez, UIL Theatre Director. Room PAC-Wise Auditorium*

**Session 427.** **Communication Through Staging: Telling the Story with Symbolic Stage Pictures.** Creating engaging imagery with bodies on stage. *Jacob L. Davis, Tyler Junior College. Room PAC-Studios 1 & 2*

**Session 428.** **The Basics of Improv.** An interactive workshop, spanning forty-five minutes, to get kids involved in the fundamental aspects of improvisation. We will play various games that aid students with confidence in making choices, basic etiquette, establishing boundaries with their fellow actors, and sparking creativity including Four square, Change, Interrogation, Monologue, Film Noir - Alexandria McCoy, Teaching Certification Major, Texas A&M Commerce. **Room WCA-JBT**

### **THEATRICAL DESIGN:** *Rachael Gomez, state contest director*

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

**Session 429.** **The Basics: What is the Theatrical Design Contest?** For those looking to enter the contest for the first time or would like a refresher on expectations. Because the challenge is different every year, it's important to update as you start your competition year. If you have never participated but would like to, hopefully this session will inspire you to compete in what promises to be our best year ever. **Room WCA-201**

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 430.** **The Contest Prompt.** Double Session Part 1. Our contest this year is based on the play *Axoloris*, by Sean Mendelsohn. The design challenges are exciting and offer some new project opportunities within the different categories. We will dig into many possibilities of themes to explore and how to express them within your designs. **Room WCA-201**

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 431.** **The Contest Prompt.** Double Session Part 2. Our contest this year is based on the play *Axoloris*, by Sean Mendelsohn. The design challenges are super exciting and offer some new project opportunities within the different categories. This session will dig into the many possibilities of themes to explore and how to express them within your designs. **Room WCA-201**

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 432.** **What Makes a Winning Entry?** Theatrical Design Contest incorporates a 30/30/20/20 Evaluation system. Learn what to do to maximize success within each criteria. This is ultimately an artistic

communication contest so let's talk about what that looks like for you. We will also talk pro-tips and tricks for making your entry stand out. **Room WCA-201**

12:40 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.

**Session 433. Build Your Team.** With the introduction of the new UIL MS Theatrical Design Contest you have the chance to grow your learning and resources as a High School team. Learn lots of ways to work and learn together and exponentially increase your chance for success. **Room WCA-201**

## **FILM**

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 434. Where/How Do I begin? Documentary Filmmaking.** Explore the UIL Documentary Film Category. *Neda Morrow, Lindale HS.* **Room WCA-Jean Browne Theatre**

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 435. Getting Started with the UIL Film Festival- Are you new to UIL Film?** (For students and teachers) This session will give you a jump start. Get informed about the categories & rules, view examples of past winners, and find the inspiration to use film as a storytelling medium. *Paula Rodriguez, UIL Theatre Director.* **Room PAC Wise Auditorium**

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 436. Where/How Do I begin? Documentary Filmmaking.** Repeat Session. Explore the UIL Documentary Film Category. *Neda Morrow, Lindale HS.* **Room WCA-Jean Browne Theatre**