

2022 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT



CHICAGODEBATES.ORG

Annual Impact Report

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MISSION

Our mission is to advance the educational achievement, community contributions, and life success of Chicago's youth through the transformative power of academic debate.

VISION

We envision a world in which Chicago youth are empowered to find their voice, succeed in college and career, and become leaders in their community.

Dear Friends,

After 25 years of service to Chicago Public Schools (CPS) teachers and students, Chicago Debates remains committed to our trajectory-shifting mission, ensuring Chicago youth maintain access to the most relevant and academically beneficial speech and debate opportunities in our region. Ultimately, we exist to empower and cultivate our student's voices and contributions to their lives, communities, and futures.

In 2022, though virtual, our programming remained a source of discovery and education for more than 1,000 CPS students and 90+ CPS teachers across nearly 50 Chicago neighborhoods. Instead of viewing the constraints of the global pandemic as a setback, Chicago Debates focused, strategically, on the opportunity to continue to innovate our approach to out-of-school time programming - remaining a relevant thought leader in the Urban Debate ecosystem. As a result, Chicago Debates remains the largest Urban "Policy" Debate League and the second-largest Urban Debate League in the nation.

As we celebrated our 25th Anniversary, we took time to reflect on, celebrate, and honor the selfless commitment of our supporters and contributors who helped lay our organization's foundation. We are beyond grateful!

Our future is bright, and we are excited to continue developing more accessible and equitable speech and debate opportunities for EVERY Chicago youth and educator. With your support, our dreams will ultimately become a reality. May the next few pages inspire you to imagine what more we can do together!

Sincerely,



A stylized, handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a large 'A' and 'B' intertwined.

Anthony Bolden
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



A stylized, handwritten signature in dark ink, featuring a large 'E' and 'K'.

Eli Kay-Oliphant
CHAIR, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

25TH ANNIVERSARY HIGHLIGHTS

On October 27, more than 450 guests joined Chicago Debates to celebrate our 25th Anniversary where we celebrated bringing urban debate to over 20K Chicago Public Schools students. We were grateful to be able to honor 25 of the most influential people in our history for their invaluable contributions to Chicago Debates. NBC5's LeeAnn Trotter emceed this monumental, celebratory occasion. We were able to raise more than \$200K to ensure we are able to continue bridging the educational opportunity gap by providing this the transformative, life changing experience of debate.



Amanda S. Amert
Partner,
Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP



Rich Berg
Executive Chairman & Co-Founder,
Performance Trust
Capital Partners



Robb Berry
Teacher, Debate Coach,
Chicago Public Schools



Amit Bindra
Partner,
The Prinz Law Firm, P.C.



Michael Boykins
Partner,
McDermott Will & Emery LLP



Edie Canter
President, Canter Strategies
Chicago Debates – Executive
Director, 2011-2018



Tim Crane
President,
Wintrust Financial Corporation



Robert Edwards
Teacher & Debate Coach,
Chicago Public Schools



Andy Fine
Teacher & Debate Coach,
Chicago Public Schools



Lenny Gail
Founding Partner,
Massey & Gail LLP



David Gobberdiel
Managing Director, Head of Financial
Institutions Group,
Performance Trust Capital Partners



Dr. Michael Greenstein
Debate Coach,
Glenbrook North High School



Pat Hughes
Partner,
Fagre Drinker



Tony Howard
Executive Director, Policy and
Procedures, Chicago Public
Schools; Posthumous Honor



Dr. Janice Jackson
CEO,
Hope Chicago



Dr. Briana Mezuk
Director, Center for Social
Epidemiology and Population
Health, University of Michigan
School of Public Health



Sharone Mitchell, Jr.
Cook County Public Defender
Chicago Debates Alumnus,
Class of 2001



David Nadig
Senior Counsel,
Willkie, Farr & Gallagher
Former Chair, Chicago Debates



Sylvia Nelson Jordan
Manager of Academic
Competitions,
Chicago Public Schools



Seymour Simon
Founder, Chicago Debate Commission;
Chicago Debates, Illinois Appellate
Court and Supreme Court Justice;
Posthumous Honor



David Song
Executive Director, The Stability
Network; Chicago Debates –
Director of Programs, 2009-2019



LaTonya Starks
Debate Coach, Northwestern
University; Chicago Debates
Alumna, Class of 2000



Forrest Sumlar
Chief Compliance Officer,
InterOcean Capital; Chicago
Debates Alumnus, Class of 2003



Richard Sullivan
Chicago Debates and NAUDL
Co-Founder, Retired



Wayne Tang
Counsel,
Nixon Peabody LLC

Our Program Model

IT'S MORE THAN AN ACTIVITY



FOR STUDENTS

Policy Debate, Original Oratory, Public Forum, Chicago Debates Summer Institute

Chicago Debates offers students the opportunity to engage in four speech & debate activities and we plan to offer more in the future!



FOR EDUCATORS

One-on-One Training, Curricular Support, and Resources

Chicago Public Schools teachers, and other school personnel, serve as the backbone to our work, we provide these individuals with a plethora of support to ensure their coaching experiences are positive.



FOR SCHOOLS & DISTRICT

Tournaments & Administration

Our exclusive partnership with Chicago Public Schools has thrived for more than 25 years, our administrative support and tournament offerings ensure students across the district maintain access to this trajectory-shifting activity.

Program Impact

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

1,058 Students Served **75** Schools Served **75%** Title I Schools

46

Debate
Tournaments

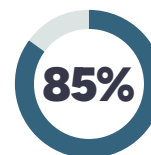
1,230

Hours of Coach
Training & Support

97

Debate
Coaches

STUDENTS SAID DEBATE:



Increased their
interest in politics
and community
engagement



Strengthened
their academic
performance



Improved critical
thinking and
communication skills



Will help them
be successful in
college



Improved
reading skills



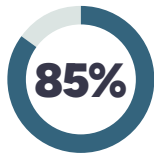
Improve debate skills



Tournaments
were organized

Coach Impact Data

COACHES SAID:



Overall satisfaction score



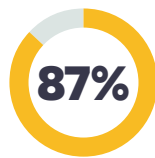
Agreed/Strongly Agreed that coaching was an enjoyable part of their work life



Staff communicates well with them



Felt increased confidence in their coaching abilities



Felt supported by staff



Tournaments were organized



Serving 50+ Neighborhoods

NEIGHBORHOODS SERVED



Bridging The Educational Opportunity Gap

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

MIDDLE SCHOOL

▶ Beasley Academic Center
Bell Elementary School
Boone Elementary School
Brooks Academic Center
CICS Wrightwood Elementary School
DePriest Elementary School
Edgar Allan Poe Elementary School
Frazier International Magnet School
George Manierre Elementary School
Haines Elementary School
Harriet Tubman Elementary School
Hedges Elementary School
Kershaw Elementary School
Kilmer Elementary School
KIPP One Academy

Lincoln Elementary School
Lindblom Academic Center
McCutcheon Elementary School
Nathan Hale Elementary School
National Teachers Academy
O.A. Thorp Scholastic Academy
Owen Scholastic Academy
Peirce School of International Studies
Sawyer Elementary School
Skinner North Classical School
Skinner West Elementary School
South Loop Elementary School
Wadsworth Elementary School
West Park Academy

HIGH SCHOOL

▶ Amundsen High School
Back of the Yards College Prep
Brooks College Prep
Carver Military Academy
Chicago Bulls College Prep
Chicago H.S. for Agricultural Sciences
Chicago Military Academy
Chicago Vocational Career Academy
Crane Medical Prep High School
Evanston Township High School
Gary Comer College Prep
Goode STEM Academy
Hancock College Prep
Hubbard High School
Johnson College Prep
Jones College Prep
Kenwood Academy
Lake View High School
Lane Tech College Prep
Legal Prep Charter School
Lincoln Park High School
Lindblom Math and Science Academy

Little Village Lawndale High School
Mather High School
Michele Clark Academic Prep Magnet High School
Morgan Park High School
Northside College Prep
Pritzker College Prep
Phoenix Military Academy
Prosser Career Academy
Proviso West High School
Rickover Naval Academy
Schurz High School
Senn High School
Solorio Academy High School
Steinmetz College Prep
South Shore International
Taft High School
Thomas Kelly High School
Urban Prep Bronzeville
Von Steuben Metropolitan Science Center
Walter Payton College Prep
Washington High School
Whitney Young High School

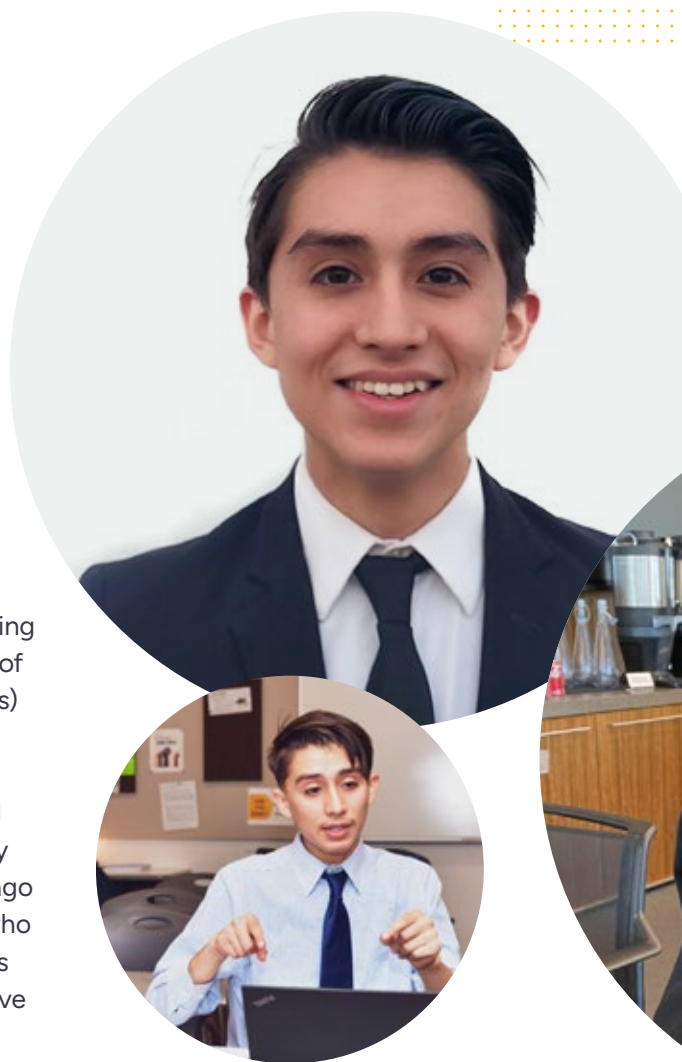
Program Highlights

DEBATER OF THE YEAR

GIO RIOS SOLORIO ACADEMY HS

Giovanni Rios, has been a member of the Solorio debate team since 9th grade, making it to the finals of the JV division of his Conference Championship. Gio continued to climb the ranks during the tournament season, and went on to debate at the University of Michigan Juniors Round Robin Invitational (two consecutive years) and tournament, Emory University, among others.

Gio routinely judges both middle school and novice debates, and diligently works to make sure junior debaters have an opportunity to learn from their experiences. He is also a member of the Chicago Debates Leadership Council. "Gio is a very intelligent individual who works hard and perseveres through anything he encounters. He is one of the most dedicated and well-rounded individuals that I have encountered," said one of his classmates.



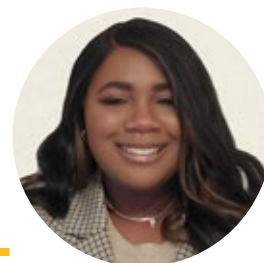
CITY CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

NOVICE TEAM: Tarun Shah & Simon Burstein (Lane Tech College Prep)

JUNIOR VARSITY TEAM: Shrutik De & Jonah Halloran (Northside College Prep)

VARSITY TEAM CO-CHAMPIONS: Axel Franco & Bryant Bahena (Solorio Academy High School) and Kevin Ramirez (Solorio Academy High School) & Kelly Lin (Thomas Kelly High School)

ALUM OF THE YEAR



DAILYN DAVIS LINDBLOM HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNA

Dailyn Davis began debating in 6th grade and immediately stepped into a substantial coaching position helping to support both the middle and high school program at her alma mater, Lindblom High School. She is currently a junior at Fisk University where she is studying political science and biology. Dailyn is a staple of the Chicago Debates community and truly represents what it means to be an alum of the program.

Class of 2022 Student Spotlight

FATIMA MENDOZA & MALCOLM PINKSTON



◀ MEET MALCOLM!

Malcolm Pinkston is a graduate of Chicago Bulls College Prep and debated for two years. Malcolm was the recipient of Chicago Debates' Inaugural Sullivan Scholarship Award. Philanthropist, Helen Sullivan and longtime Chicago Debates supporter, Dick Sullivan pledged this legacy gift to Chicago Debates in 2021 to provide additional resources to students to increase their chances of long-term success. Malcolm is currently pursuing a political science degree by attending the Naval Preparatory Academy and plans to pursue a career in politics.

"Debate has given me an opportunity to meet new people and become a better listener," said Malcolm "Chicago Debates has impacted my future and set me up for success by helping me develop better research skills, and the ability to articulate myself in challenging situations. This will help me in my college and career experiences."

MEET FATIMA! ▶

Fatima Mendoza is a graduate of Hancock College Prep and is the school's first graduate to attend Harvard University. Fatima began debating as a sophomore, as a shy and reserved student that wanted to step outside of her comfort zone. She recognizes that debate helped her find her voice and gave her the courage and confidence to apply to Harvard.

"Through debate, I developed self-confidence, and learned how to articulate myself to the best of my ability, which led to gaining more self-esteem and the courage to apply to Harvard."

Fatima is attending Harvard on a full-tuition scholarship and hopes to pursue a career in law.





Coaches Spotlight

COACH OF THE YEAR

◀ TYLER IGIELSKI WELCH WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

Tyler Igielski Welch took the debate community by storm in his 2 short years of both teaching and coaching at Washington High School. Tyler debated in high school, and judged tournaments for many years during college. **"I know how important being a part of a team can be and I know the impact that a great coach can have on students from both personal and academic standpoints,"** said Tyler. Sighting an increase in confidence as one of the many impacts he's seen debate have on his students, Tyler added, **"The transformations you witness as a coach are astonishing! Students can go from being extremely quiet and not comfortable speaking to you one on one, to being able to command a room when they are speaking. The other main skill I love about debate, and seeing students come to appreciate, is seeing an issue from both sides, and having to argue it from both sides. I think that fosters real creativity."**



DEDICATION REWARDED

CATHERINE YACKEE ▶ BROOKS COLLEGE PREP

Chicago Debates has witnessed our students make tremendous progress over the years. More than 15 years as a coach has been a truly rewarding experience for Board Certified, Brooks College Prep teacher, Catherine Yackee. Seeing two of her debaters off to Yale and Dartmouth in 2022, Cathy has coached more than 200 Middle and High School students. **"I have always enjoyed building relationships with my students. Many of them have gone on to be very successful,"** said Yackee. **"Debate gives students a voice, confidence, research and public speaking skills."** Chicago Debates is grateful for Coach Yackee and her 15 years of dedication and service.



Volunteers Make an Impact

VOLUNTEER IMPACT DATA

86%

Felt they were making
a difference while
working with students

92%

Felt confidence
in their role

92%

Volunteer
need met



MEET HILLARY!

Hillary Turinawe is from a rural area in midwestern Uganda. While searching for more opportunities to have an impact on others and fund his university education, Hillary joined Chicago Debates as a judge during the height of the organization's need for virtual judges.

"Chicago Debates' guidance, timely communication, as well as the need to encourage students to debate has made me love Chicago Debates and feel more connected," said Hillary. "I am happy to be a part of this journey creating future leaders."



MEET LANA! ▶

Lana is a Brooks College Prep Alum, and currently an MBA Student. Lana began debating in her freshman year with a goal of becoming an attorney.

"Debate allowed me a space for competition, creativity, community, skills development, self-esteem, self-confidence and achievement," said Lana. "I have been with Chicago Debates for nearly 16 years, and volunteer because I support youth development, self-expression and community enrichment."



Chicago Debates

IN THE MEDIA



PERFORMANCE TRUST

Performance Trust and Chicago Debates, Bridging the Education Gap for 10 Years



PERFORMANCE TRUST

Preparing Chicago Youth with 21st Century Skills for College, Career, and Leadership Success



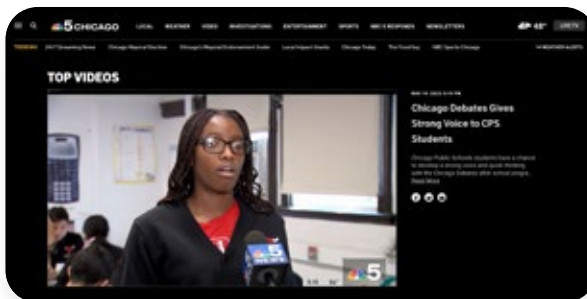
FOX 32 CHICAGO

Chicago debates future of Ketanji Brown Jackson on high court



CBS CHICAGO

Debaters At Chicago's Gary Comer College Prep Are Inspired By Story Of U.S. Supreme Court Nominee



NBC 5 CHICAGO

Chicago Debates Gives Strong Voice to CPS Students



CRAIN'S CHICAGO BUSINESS

Crain's 2021 Notable Black Leaders and Executives – Dr. Toinette Gunn

Fiscal Year 2021 - 2022

FINANCIAL SPOTLIGHT

Statement of Financial Position

Cash and cash equivalents	\$599,445
Grants & Account Receivables	\$211,304
Contributions Receivables	\$131,463
Prepaid Expenses	\$8,042
Other Assets	\$32,110
Total Current Assets	\$982,364
Current Liabilities	\$50,856
Total Net Assets	\$931,508

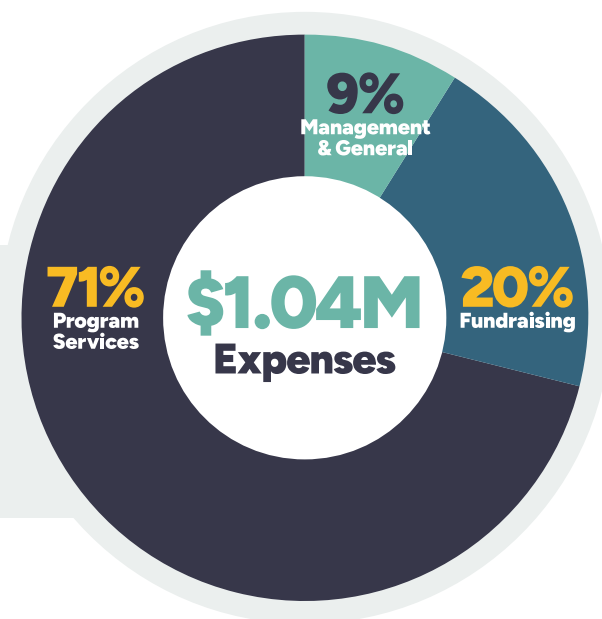
Statement of Activities

REVENUE

Corporations & Other Contributions	\$126,906
Foundations	\$147,688
Board & Individual Contributions	\$230,819
Special Events	\$247,053
Other Income	\$321,575
In-Kind Contributions	\$10,860
Total Revenue	\$1,084,901

EXPENSES

Program Services	\$736,151
Management & General	\$97,253
Fundraising	\$207,917
Total Expenses	\$1,041,321
Net Revenue	\$43,580



Participation & Coach Support Goals

LOOKING AHEAD

Over the next three years, Chicago Debates aims to increase the number of students, schools, and coaches served through intentional program adjustments and investments. We will establish a Spanish Language Debate program, significantly expand our Public Forum debate program on the Middle School level, and focus our new school recruitment efforts in communities on the South and West sides of the city.

Participation Goals

	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26
NUMBER OF STUDENTS	1,500	1,770	1,947	2,142
NUMBER OF SCHOOLS	90	95	103	112
	Current Year	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3

Coach Support Goals

	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26
NUMBER OF COACHES	75-100	100-115	115-130	130-150
NUMBER OF COACH SUPPORT HOURS	1,100	1,300	1,500	1,700
	Current Year	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3



THANKS TO YOU!

Thanks to your commitment, we were able to award Title I students sponsorships to our annual Debate Summer Camp, add new Chicago Public Schools debate teams to our program, offer additional coach and staff support, and so much more! We could not have done these things without YOU!

We appreciate all donations - large or small! Our staff has made every effort to ensure all donations are accurately reflected. However, errors occasionally occur. Please accept our apologies for any inadvertent omission, misspelling or incorrect listing. Please contact our Development team to allow us an opportunity to update our records.
Note: FY22 is July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

Champion Debater Level \$50,000+

Paul M Angell Family Foundation
Shippy Foundation

Varsity Debater Level \$20,000+

Crown Family Philanthropies
Fifth Third Bank
Kirkland & Ellis
Performance Trust Capital Partners
The Colonel Stanley R. McNeil Foundation
W.P. & H. B. White Foundation
Wintrust

Junior Varsity Debater Level \$10,000+

The Albert Pick, Jr. Fund
The Andrew & Alice Fischer Charitable Trust
Chicago Community Trust
Helen Brach Foundation
John Hammond
Mark Koulogeorge
McDermott Will & Emery
Steans Family Foundation

Novice Debater Level \$5,000+

Adtalem Global Education
Allstate Insurance Company
Barack Ferrazzano Kirschbaum & Nagelberg LLP
Chuhak & Tecson Attorneys at Law
CRA Charles River Associates
David Nadig
David Gobberdiel
Eli Kay-Oliphant
Amanda Amert
Ice Miller LLP
Jenner & Block
John Hammond
McDermott Will & Emery
Origami Risk
Sparacino PLLC
Steve Washington
Performance Trust Capital Partners
The Prinz Law Firm
Winston & Strawn LLP

Rookie Debater Level \$1,000+

A Bigger World Foundation
AF Group
AlixPartners, LLP
Allstate Insurance Company
Amit Bindra
Anne & Michael Brody

Canary HR Consulting
George Johnson & Co
Barrington Lopez
Bradford Allen
Brandon Massey
Brian Donlan
Brianna White
Catherine Hammond
Charles River Associates
Cindy Stuyvesant
Jesse Soffer
Joel Rosenbacher Fund
Judge Carl Boyd
Karen & Paul Hoelscher
Keith Walker
Keith Wright
Lawrence Heftman
Lawrence Horwich
Marguerite Diken
New Frontiers Foundation
Onur Surgit
Rachel Loftin
Renee & Michael Slade
Sheryl Burkhalter
Stanley Pierson
Susan Warshauer
Tania White
Theodore Utchen
The Prinz Law Firm, P.C.
Toinette Gunn
Walter & Karla Goldschmidt Foundation
Will Repko
Wintrust Financial Corporation
WIPFLI

Scrimmage Debater Level \$5-\$999

Aderious Bolden
Adina Levin
Adrienne Irmer
Alex Ofei
Alexandra Wright
Alicia Lascelles
Angela Whiteside Smith
Angie Alleman
Anita Rice
Anita Smith
Ann Peter
Anna Deutscher
Anne Schafroth
Anthony Trufanov
Arjun Vellayappan
Arlyn Miller
Ashley Garvey
Avery Herbon
Avik Das
Banner Witcoff
Barbara Williams
Ben Paterson
Beth Niestat
Bettina I. Itcovici
Bianca Barron
Bijan Poustinchian
Blake Cannon
Bob Morgan
Bobby Niska
Brandon Ball
Brandon J Nadig
Brannon Ayers
Brian Brown
Brian Foor

Brian Jones
Brian Rubaie
Brian Shah-Delong
Briana DeSha
Bridget McManus
Bridget Nason
Brielle Bryant
Brienne Letourneau
Brittany Hanna
Brittany Hughes
Carlos Penikis
Carmen Walker
Carol Anne Been
Carrie Roe
Carter Hince
Charities Aid Foundation America
Charles Cammack
Charles Dyke
Cherise Ledet
Cheryl Hammock
Chris Stathopoulos
Chris Wheat
Christopher Anest
Christopher Hummel
Christopher Pierson
Cindy Talmadge
Colleen Woulfe & Christopher Law
Corliss Garner
Cornell Batie
Cynthia Hobbs
Dale Hammond
Dana Eatman
Daniel Charles
Daniel Scott
Danielle O'Gorman
Danika Desgazon
David & Susan Mendelsohn

THANKS TO YOU!

(CONTINUED)

David and Judith Schiffman
David Keefe
David Kilpatrick
David Quach
David Watkins III
David Waxman
David Zarefsky
DeAndre Brooks
Deborah Clair
Deborah Henderson
Deborah Larsen
Denisha Pettis
Derek Hilligoss
Dorinda Brooks
Douglas Bacon
Douglas Janney
Dr. Itasca Waiters
Duane Quaini
Edie Canter
Edward Bond
Edward Briscoe
Elijah Horton
Eliot Brooks
Emergent
Eric Lanning
Eric Morris
Eugenia Orr
Exelon
Farzin Parang
Felicia Houston
Flake Hudson
Georgina Varela
Gerald Zimmerman
Gerhardstein-Gingold Charitable Fund
Gilbert Eatman
Glenfield Browne
Gus Paloian
Heidi Steele
Helen Sullivan
Hollis Griffin
Ian Burns
Ian Scott
Ingrid and William Stafford
Irene Rundblom & Jim Cieri
Ivy Woods
J.D. Sanford
Jack Oest
Jackson Consulting Svcs, LLC
Jacob Rosenbacher
Jajuan Sanders

Jamila Danzy
Jamila Trimuel
Janet Lang
Jasmine Stidham
Jason Dina
Jason Tinsley
Jay Butler & Cheryl Stein
Jeff Bunch
Jeffrey Grinde
Jeffrey Liu
Jenny Hollowed
Jeremy Martin
Jeremy Wright
Jerry McQuay
Jessica Colon-Sayre
Jessica Linke
Jessica Yeats
Jill and Milt Rose
JPMorgan Chase
Joann Lewis
Joanne & John Hasmonck
Joanne E Wright
Joanne Yi
Joel Rollins
John Amdor
John and Nancy Hoppe Charitable Fund
John Golliday
John Powell
John Tao
Johnathan Duffie
Jonathan Buckner
Jonathan Glover
Joseph Callaway
Joseph Deegan
Josh Wolken
Joyce Carter
Judy Earley
Julie Nadig
Julie Orlemanski
Justin Kirk
Justin Scales
KadiAnn Brown
Kaisa Larson
Kaleem Burton
Karen McClellan
Karen Nystrom
Katherine Marshall
Kathleen Petitti
Katrina Pavlik
Kayla Panning
Keisha M Brown

Keisha Matthews
Keith Burton
Kellie Eatman
Kelly Phipps
Kelsey Nowell
Kendra Freeman
Kenji Aoki
Kimberly Dean
Kimberly Lacey-Chappelle
Kurt Hilgendorf
Kylah Eatman
Kyleen Walker
Ladies of Virtue
Lakisha Eatman
Latonya Starks
Laura Weinman
Lauren E Sabino
Lauren Hammond
Lauryn Trautmann
Lavina Seawright
Lena McClellan
Lilian Matsuda
Linda Thomas
Liz Lauzon
Lorenzo Gunn
Lorenzo Gunn Jr
Louis Reeves
Luke Hill
Maggie Umber
Maison Maphosa
Malika Whitlock
Manuel De Leon
Marcos Barberly
Marcus Larivaux
Marcus McCrary
Margaret Holahan
Marge Strong
Marielle Sainvilus
Mariya Bovkun
Mark Hammond
Mark Reid
Martha Jantho
Mary Otto
Matthew Fisher
Mathew Whipple
Maurice White
Max Silberman
Max Voldman
Maya Steinhart
Megan Soliday
Michael Roston
Michele Mayes
Michelle McConnell

Michelle Thomas
Miguel Martinez
Mikayla Crosby
Mike & Eileen Winter
Mimi Karabulut
Monique Ramsey
Monique-Jolicia Johnson
Nathan Coco
Nathan Dorzweiler
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Robert Half
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Ronald Bienias
Rukiya Johnson
Ryan Smith
Sally Narey
Sam Van Hecke
Santalucia Hernandez
Sarah Evans

Savi Pai
Scott Hince
Scott Lassar
Scott Varda
Sean Gold
Shandice Sluch
Shannon Smith-Ross
Sharon Spann
Sharone Mitchell, Jr.
Shawnika Harris
Sheila Finnegan
Sheila Jackson
Sheri Nadig
Sherry Quam Taylor
Shirley Gunn
Sonia Lascelles
Sonya Som
Stacey Morton
Stephanie Greene
Stephen Harris
Stephen Manders
Stephen Pipkin
Susan Kane
Tamara Dervin
Tammera Holmes
Tanya Davis
Taryn Kurlansky
Terry McCabe & Nancy Flowers
Thomas Shorf
Thomas Ward
Tiffany Higgins
Tim Kiessling
Todd Johnson
Torrey DeVitto
Tripp Rebrovick
Tyler Engler
Tyler Sturzl
Tyrina Newkirk
Victor Zhagui
W.E. Sanders Foundation
Wayne Tang
Wesley McClellan
Willia Voss
William Factor
William St. Martin
Xiomara Okonkwo
Zahir Shaikh

Ways to Get Involved

A LEGACY OF IMPACT

RHONDA FERGUSON IN MEMORIAM



Chicago Debates had the privilege of honoring Allstate and Rhonda during our 2020 Make Room for Debate Luncheon for Allstate's decade of support and commitment to youth. Shortly after, we lost Rhonda Ferguson. Her legacy and impact lives on amongst the meaningful connections she made as a result of her commitment and passion to serve.

Rhonda's actions demonstrated the importance and impact of supporting Chicago's youth. She was excited about our upcoming Allstate-sponsored tournament, as she had begun to think about the many ways she intended to help Chicago Debates' carry forth its mission. We carry forward her legacy by rewarding a deserving student the Rhonda Smith Ferguson Impact Award during our Allstate Public Forum Invitational Tournament.

"Rhonda's visionary leadership and impact on Allstate is immeasurable. We are deeply saddened by the loss of such an admirable colleague, friend, and mentor. She led with passion, intention, and integrity. As we continue our partnership with Chicago Debates, Rhonda was eager to help lead the charge. Her service to the community was unwavering and she will be sorely missed."

— Jerry Zimmerman

Chicago Debates Board Member,

Senior Vice President – Government and Industry Relations at Allstate

GET INVOLVED!

VOLUNTEER

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We offer resources to help you introduce Chicago Debates to your network, from hosting a Game Night, Virtual Trivia Challenge, or other fun opportunities! For more information, please contact our Director of Development, Marissa Barnes at mbarnes@chicagodebates.org.

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