

Mt. SAC Forensics Team Finishes Another Successful Championship Season



The Mt. San Antonio College Forensics team ended their championship season with a successful showing at the 2015 Phi Rho Pi National Tournament in Cleveland Ohio, finishing with an overall silver medal (third place) after Moorpark College (second place) and Orange Coast College (first place). The team also earned a gold medal (second place) in overall individual events team sweepstakes. In a field of over 500 competitors, second-year team member **Jasmine Paek** was a tournament stand-out earning fourth place overall speaker with a gold medal in Persuasive Speaking, silver in Informative Speaking, and bronze in both After Dinner Speaking and Communication Analysis. 50 colleges from around the country competed at this year's national tournament.

Some of the team's competitive highlights include first-year team members **Gabriel Samuels** earning a gold medal in Extemporaneous Speaking, silver in Communication Analysis, and bronze in International Public Debate; and **Joey Fontana** earning gold in Persuasive Speaking, and bronze in Interpreter's Theater. "This experience was life-changing. Through hard work and dedication I learned so much about what I could accomplish," Fontana said. Second-year team member **Anthony Garcia** also earned a gold medal in After Dinner Speaking, and **Matthew Covalt** earned gold in Prose Interpretation.

"I was very impressed that we had eight students competing for gold medals in the national final rounds, in all genres of speech and debate events. It shows a great level of diversity and talent in the breadth of our program," Director of Debate, Professor Daniel Cantrell said. First-year Director of Individual Events, Professor Roxan Arntson added to this sentiment saying, "Competing successfully at nationals was a great culmination of a year's worth of hard-work. Getting to know the students, coaches and the Mt. SAC team culture made me so proud to be a part of this program." The team is also coached by Director of Forensics, Professor Roger Willis-Raymondo.

Results:

Silver Medal: Overall Team Sweepstakes

Gold Medal: Individual Events Sweepstakes

Gold: Gabriel Samuels-Extemporaneous Speaking Gold: Anthony Garcia-After Dinner Speaking Gold: Joey Fontana-Persuasive Speaking Gold: Jasmine Paek-Persuasive Speaking Gold: Matthew Covalt-Prose Interpretation Silver: Isaac Ruiz-Impromptu Speaking Silver: Jasmine Paek-Informative Speaking Silver: Andrea Uribe-Pitts-Programmed Oral Interpretation Silver: Matthew Schaupp-Lincoln Douglas Debate Silver: Gabriel Samuels-Communication Analysis Bronze: Matthew Schaupp-Extemporaneous Speaking	Bronze: Joshua Muscat-Impromptu Speaking Bronze: Jasmine Paek: Communication Analysis Bronze: Jasmine Paek-After Dinner Speaking Bronze: Matthew Schaupp-After Dinner Speaking Bronze: Isaac Ruiz-Informative Speaking Bronze: Kai Vibar-Poetry Interpretation Bronze: Kai Vibar-Dramatic Interpretation Bronze: Gabriel Samuels-International Public Debate Bronze: Forrest Ricks-Kendall-Interpreter's Theater Bronze: Joey Fontana-Interpreter's Theater Bronze: Isaac Ruiz-Interpreter's Theater
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