

Las Positas College For Immediate Release

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Las Positas College Forensics Team Earns Biggest Win Yet

LPC 'Talk Hawks' Take First Place Overall at Diablo Valley College's Virtual Tournament

(Livermore, CA) - The Las Positas College (LPC) Talk Hawk forensic team earned their biggest win yet at the 2020 *The DVC Thing* tournament hosted by Diablo Valley College earlier this month. The team competed against 40 other colleges and universities, representing 11 different states, ultimately finishing in first place overall by a landslide in the largest tournament attended this year.

The tournament, held virtually via forensicstournament.net, featured a 2-day swing speech with separate debate competitions each day, ending with a final award ceremony acknowledging awards earned throughout the weekend.

The following list contains the schools finishing in the top 5 and their point totals:

1. Las Positas College - 127
2. George Mason University - 50
3. Bradley University - 46
4. University of Texas, Austin - 44
5. El Camino College - 39

The current pandemic leading all tournaments to switch to virtual models has created unique challenges including mitigating poor internet connections and ensuring all technology is working properly from afar. Jim Dobson, Communications studies instructor and part of the Talk Hawk coaching staff, noted that though these times are difficult, the skills the students are learning toward transitioning to a more virtual environment will prepare them for future success.

"Myself and the rest of the Talk Hawk coaching staff, including Natalie Kellner and Tim Keisler, have been lucky to have such a great group of students that are providing support and connection with each other at a time when it is difficult to maintain that," said Dobson.

Students winning individual awards were:

Albany

Ashley Eastman
2nd Place - Communication Analysis
6th Place - Persuasive Speaking

Castro Valley

Danny Georgiev
4th Place - Prose Interpretation
4th Place - Duo Interpretation (with Alejandra)
6th Place - Dramatic Interpretation

Concord

Nez Hasanly
1st Place - Novice After Dinner Speaking
4th Place - Novice Informative Speaking

Hayward

Marius Mayer (Foreign exchange student from Germany)

1st Place - Novice Informative Speaking

2nd Place - Novice Impromptu Speaking

Livermore

Alejandra Quezada-Sermeno

1st Place - Novice Prose Interpretation

2nd Place - Novice Poetry Interpretation

3rd Place - Novice Impromptu Speaking

4th Place - Duo Interpretation (with Danny)

Brennan Mock

3rd Place - Speaker for the entire tournament

2nd Place - Extemporaneous Speaking

2nd Place - Prose Interpretation

3rd Place - Impromptu Speaking

Pleasanton

Alexis Bondarenko

6th Place Informative Speaking

David Valadez

3rd Place - Duo Interpretation (with Casey)

4th Place - After Dinner Speaking

Stockton

Adrianna Marquez

Tracy

Casey Hamilton

1st Place - Informative Speaking

3rd Place - Duo Interpretation (with David)

Rameesha Muhammad

2nd Place - Novice Informative Speaking

The Forensics program is the official designation for the Las Positas College Speech Team. In a typical year, this academically competitive program travels locally, nationally and internationally to compete at tournaments. The Forensics program started at LPC in 1975.

About Las Positas College

Las Positas College currently enrolls 9,300 students and offers curriculum for students seeking transfer to a four-year college or university, career preparation, or basic skills education. The College provides university transfer classes, retraining classes for those in need of employment or career advancement, a first-time educational opportunity for many adults, enrichment classes for those seeking a broader perspective, and career and technical training for those entering the technical and paraprofessional workforce.