Rice Speech and Debate Wins in San Marcos

Fifteen students from the George R. Brown Forensics Society, Rice University’s speech and debate team, competed this past weekend, November 4-6, in the Texas Intercollegiate Forensics Association tournament hosted by Texas State University—San Marcos in San Marcos, TX.

In this state competition, composed of 24 debate teams and 267 individual event entries from 15 universities and colleges, the contingent from the Rice team finished first in Debate Sweepstakes and second in Overall Sweepstakes, winning 23 individual awards and 2 team awards.

The Rice team won 23 separate debates.

Among the teams defeated in the tournament were Texas Tech University, Cy-Fair College, the University of Texas at Austin, Texas State University—San Marcos, the University of Texas at El Paso, Kingwood College, West Texas A&M University, and North Lake College.

Awards are listed below.

Debate Sweepstakes: First Place

Overall Sweepstakes: Second Place

Priscilla Parrett and Rachel Raski: First Place, Varsity Parliamentary Debate

Billy Freeland and Kevin Spiro: First Place, Novice Parliamentary Debate

Richard Flores and Hrishikesh Hari: Semi-finalists (Third Place), Varsity Parliamentary Debate

Hrishikesh Hari: Second Place Debate Speaker, First Place Persuasive Speaking, First Place After-Dinner Speaking, Fourth Place Communication Analysis, Fifth Place Impromptu Speaking, Sixth Place Informative Speaking

Priscilla Parrett: Fourth Place Debate Speaker, Sixth Place Persuasive Speaking

Billy Freeland: Second Place Novice Extemporaneous Speaking, Third Place Novice Debate Speaker

Kevin Spiro: Second Place Novice Debate Speaker, Third Place Novice Extemporaneous Speaking

Joe Sy: Fourth Place Novice Debate Speaker, Fourth Place Novice Prose Interpretation
Holly Naylor: Third Place Persuasive Speaking
Rachel Raskin: Fifth Place Extemporaneous Speaking
Nathan Smith: Sixth Place Debate Speaker
Ted Torous: Fourth Place Extemporaneous Speaking
Anna Valkovich: Tenth Place Debate Speaker
Matlida Young: Sixth Place After-Dinner Speaking
Geraldine Young: First Place Novice Persuasive Speaking

The team is coached by Director of Forensics David Worth and Assistant Director of Forensics Jeremy Grace.

The team will be competing next in the “Pacific Meets Delta Swing,” hosted by the University of the Pacific and San Joaquin Delta College in Stockton, CA, November 11-13.