Rice Speech and Debate Wins Big in Colorado

Ten students from the George R. Brown Forensics Society, Rice University’s speech and debate team, competed this past weekend, October 26-28, in the “Al Johnson Invitational” tournament hosted by the Colorado College in Colorado Springs, CO.

In this national competition, composed of 64 debate teams from 23 universities and colleges, and 153 individual event entries, the contingent from the Rice team finished first, winning 29 individual awards and 3 team awards.

The rice team won 29 separate debates.

Among the teams defeated in the tournament were the University of Wyoming, the Colorado College, the University of Houston, Texas Tech University, the U.S. Air Force Academy, William Jewel College, Regis University, the University of Colorado, and Colorado State University.

Awards are listed below.

Overall Sweepstakes: First Place

Debate Sweepstakes: First Place

Individual Event Sweepstakes: First Place

Nazish Malik and Danny Shanaberger: Second Place, Junior Varsity Parliamentary Debate.


Aparna Bhaduri and Everette Kreider: Octofinalists, Varsity Parliamentary Debate, Forced by the tournament director to concede to another Rice team.

Brittney Espinoza and Nick Kamas: Winning Record, tie for 9th Place, Junior Varsity Parliamentary Debate.

Aparna Bhaduri: First Place Persuasive Speaking, Second Place Informative Speaking, Third Place Communication Analysis, Eighth Overall Debate Speaker.

Holly Naylor: First Place Communication Analysis, Second Place Persuasive Speaking, Fourth Place Informative Speaking, Sixth Place Impromptu Speaking.

Danny Shanaberger: Second Place Informative Speaking, Fifth Place Persuasive Speaking, Semifinalist in Impromptu Speaking, Fourth Overall JV Debate Speaker.
Ted Torous: Fourth Place Persuasive Speaking, Fourth Place Impromptu Speaking.

Gary Johnson: Semifinalist in Extemporaneous Speaking, Fifteenth Overall Debate Speaker.

Richard Flores: Fourth Place Extemporaneous Speaking, Sixteenth Overall JV Debate Speaker.

Everette Kreider: Fifth Place Informative Speaking, Fifth Place Impromptu Speaking.

Brittney Espinoza: Semifinalist in Prose Interpretation.

Nick Kamas: Sixth Place Persuasive Speaking.

Nazish Malik: Thirteenth Overall JV Debate Speaker.

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” tournament hosted by University of the Pacific in Stockton, CA, November 9-11.