

# **Christopher S. Edmonds Prize in Debate & Forensic Excellence Application Overview**



The Christopher S. Edmonds Prize in Debate and Forensics Excellence was established in 2006 by Chris Edmonds, a 1982 graduate of Topeka High School. Mr. Edmonds was a participant in debate and forensics for all three years at Topeka High School (THS), attending the Kansas State Debate Tournament and State Forensics Championship in each of his three years. He also qualified for the NFL National Tournament in both debate and extemporaneous speaking.

## **Scholarship Information:**

1. One \$1000 non-renewable scholarship.

## **Scholarship Requirements:**

1. Be a senior at THS and plan to attend a four-year college or university.
2. Have competed in interscholastic debate and/or forensics for a minimum of three academic years.
3. Have a minimum of 750 points awarded from the National Forensic League.
4. Preference will be given to students who intend to pursue debate at the collegiate level.
5. The award will be made upon receipt of proof of acceptance of a college offer for the recipient.

## **Required Attachments for Cover Page:**

1. A debate and forensics resume detailing tournament participation and achievement for each year of participation while attending THS. The resume should also detail any extracurricular debate and forensic activities, including summer camps and workshops.
2. A course transcript from THS.
3. An essay addressing the following topic: "How my experiences and the skills acquired through participation in interscholastic debate and forensics have prepared me for the future."
4. A summary of the applicants higher education plans, including either the school the applicant has decided to attend or schools applied to and a brief description of the planned course of study and any plans the student has to participate in intercollegiate debate.

## **Applications must be postmarked no later than March 15.**

Return completed application to:

Topeka Public Schools Foundation  
P.O. Box 5883  
Topeka, Kansas 66605

# **Christopher S. Edmonds Prize in Debate & Forensic Excellence Process Overview**



## **Scholarship Selection Process:**

1. A three-person committee will review all applications. The committee will be comprised of Chris Edmonds, Pam McComas (or the Topeka High School Director of Forensics in any given year) and a former alumnus of the Topeka High School forensics program to be chosen by the other two committee members.
2. The committee will review all applications and choose up to five finalists. The five finalists will be interviewed by the committee.
3. The recipient will be selected on the strength of the candidate's written application material and personal committee interview.

## **Deadlines and Process**

1. All applications to be considered must be received by the Topeka Public Schools Foundation by March 15.
2. Applications will then be forwarded to Pam McComas (or the Topeka High School Director of Forensics in any given year).
3. The committee will select finalists by April 15 and set interview times for late April or early May.
4. The committee will make a decision on the recipient no later than May 20.
5. The award will be made by TPSF upon receipt of proof of acceptance of a college offer for the recipient submitted to the TPSF office (see address below).

**Applications must be postmarked no later than March 15.**

Return completed application to:

Topeka Public Schools Foundation  
P.O. Box 5883  
Topeka, Kansas 66605

# **Christopher S. Edmonds Prize in Debate & Forensic Excellence Application Cover Page**



**Please provide the following information:**

FIRST NAME \_\_\_\_\_ LAST NAME \_\_\_\_\_ M.I. \_\_\_\_\_ NAME YOU GO BY \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME AND ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME AND ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR HIGH SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_ GPA \_\_\_\_\_

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY PLANNING TO ATTEND \_\_\_\_\_ MAJOR \_\_\_\_\_

**Please attach the following items to this cover page in order listed:**

1. A debate and forensics resume detailing tournament participation and achievement for each year of participation while attending Topeka High School. The resume should also detail any extracurricular debate and forensic activities, including summer camps and workshops.
2. A course transcript from Topeka High School.
3. An essay addressing the following topic: "How my experiences and the skills acquired through participation in interscholastic debate and forensics have prepared me for the future."
4. A summary of the applicants higher education plans, including either the school the applicant has decided to attend or schools applied to and a brief description of the planned course of study and any plans the student has to participate in intercollegiate debate.

**Applications must be postmarked no later than March 15.**

Return completed application to:

Topeka Public Schools Foundation  
P.O. Box 5883  
Topeka, Kansas 66605