Southeast Spring State

2020

EARLY REGISTRATION DUE DATE: MARCH 17TH
REGULAR REGISTRATION DUE DATE: MARCH 31TH

April 18th - 19th
The Grand Orlando Resort at Celebration
Kissimmee, FL
The Dawn of a Decade: Discussing America’s Past, Present, and Future

It is imperative that we take control of our future by understanding the past and maximizing the present. The world is changing at a more rapid rate than ever before. Globalization, technological innovations, increased civil rights by governments, a diversified workforce, and more. The 20th century marked a revolutionary period in global history and the past of America. How the world has developed so quickly in the 21st century is a question we cannot answer without understanding our past. For our society to advance in the future in the best way possible we must come together to discuss how this can be done to avoid our past mistakes and present issues.

In the last decade of America’s history we faced events like no other. From astronomical advancements in technology to controversial discussions that split our nation, this country has seen it all. Looking back to 2010 and looking forward to the years ahead, what can we do to create a bright future for this nation? In order to analyze this, it is vital to acknowledge the past, how it has affected where we are now, and what it will do for the future. Whether it be discussing gun reform, abortion laws, climate change, or anything of importance, it all ties in to the existence and culture of the United States. It is our turn to take control of the next decade, but we need the knowledge and understanding of the past to prepare for the future.

Election Information

Please note, in order to qualify to participate in voting for next year's elected officials, every chapter must meet the following criteria:

1. Have at least 8 dues-paid members for the 2019-2020 school year.
2. Have a teacher advisor who is approved by your high school.
3. Be an authorized chapter within your high school.

If you chapter does not meet this criteria, please reach out to you Program Director as soon as possible.
Logistical Information

Location: The Grand Orlando Resort at Celebration
2900 Parkway Blvd, Kissimmee, FL 34747
(407) 396-7000

Check In: Registration will be from 8:00am - 10:00am on Saturday, April 18th, 2020. Room keys will be available at approximately 5:30pm in the afternoon. Storage for luggage will be provided.

Check Out: The convention will end at approximately 2:00pm on Sunday, April 19th, 2020. Students must be out of their rooms by 9:00am. Storage for luggage will be provided.

Meals: Meals are not included, so be prepared to purchase your own meals during the convention.

Transport: No student may not travel to the convention in a student driven car. Student drivers will be reported to their schools and parents and sent home immediately. Chapters are encouraged to form carpools with parents and/or Teacher/Advisors. Bus and car parking is available at the hotel.

Conduct: Rules of conduct and dress code for the convention are listed on the Student Participation and Parent Permission Form. Both students and parents or guardians must read these and sign the Student Permission and Registration Form acknowledging they agree to abide by these policies. Please ONLY use the permission forms found in this registration packet. The Junior State staff or your Teacher/Advisor(s) may announce additional rules. JSA reserves the right to send home any student or chapter without refund for violating any convention rules.

Questions: Please do not hesitate to call or email your Program Director Elliot Bell-Krasner at (202) 591-3764 or at ebellkrasner@jsa.org if you have questions.
Registration Information

Registration Deadlines:

**Early - March 17th**

**Regular - March 31st**

**Chapter Presidents & Teacher/Advisors:**

- A late fee of $15 will be added to any registration received after March 31st.
- Every student attending must be a dues-paid member of JSA. $10 membership dues will be added to your chapter’s convention invoice for all non-members.

**For Students**

- **Registration Deadline:**
  - Early Registration: March 17th
  - Regular Registration: March 31st

- **Registration Fee:**
  - Early Registration: $170.00
  - Regular Registration: $200.00

  Extra Night Fee: $50.00 per student, per night. Applies to staying Friday or Sunday night.

**For Advisors**

- **Shared Double Room:** Free

- **Registration Fee:** $105 per room per night

JSA will provide complimentary accommodations for Teacher/Advisors willing to share a room (two Teachers/Advisors of the same gender housed in a room with two double beds).

**Remember:**

- Every chapter must bring at least one teacher advisor for every fifteen students.
- All chapters must be approved by the school administration prior to registering for conventions.
- Any chapter not formally approved by their schools administers will not be able to attend conventions.
- All chaperones will have to be approved by the school.
- Check if your school requires a higher ratio of teachers to students or teachers of both genders.

**Refund Policy:**

Because JSA must make guarantees to the hotel far in advance of the convention, JSA cannot decrease the number of students registered from your school, or offer refunds to the school or any student, regardless of the reason, after November 13, 2018. If a student drops after the registration deadline, the chapter is responsible for that cost. Any student who finds themselves unable to attend after the registration deadline is encouraged to find another student to go in their place and reimburse the cost to them.

Chapter Presidents and Teacher/Advisors: Please notify your program director as soon as possible if you switch delegates.
Spring State Sample Agenda

Saturday

Registration: 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM
Opening Session & Keynote Speaker: 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
Organizational Block: 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM
- Teacher/Advisor Meeting - JSA 101 - Beginner Debate Workshop - Advance Debate
- Workshop - Moderating Workshop
Lunch: 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM
Block I: 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM
- Resolved, that the Federal Government establish a national $15 minimum wage.
- Resolved, that feminism is no longer necessary.
- Resolved, that capitalism is no longer in the best interests of the American people.
- Thought Talk: Is marriage necessary to achieve the American Dream?

Block II: 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM
- Council of Chapter Presidents Meeting
- Resolved, that charter schools raise the quality of education in America.
- Novice Debate: Resolved, that physician assisted suicide be legalized nationwide.

Block III: 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
- Teacher/Advisor Reception
- Resolved, that all schools be required to provide gender neutral bathrooms.
- Resolved, that the death penalty is an appropriate response to premeditated murder.
- Thought Talk: Is isolationism a pragmatic solution to the economic situation?

Block IV: 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM
- Resolved, that the American Dream is no longer attainable.
- Resolved, that Congress adopts a policy of amnesty for all illegal immigrants.
- Thought Talk: Does China pose an imminent threat to the United States?

Key Distribution: 5:30 PM - 6:00 PM
Dinner: 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Chapter Caucus: 8:00 PM - 8:30 PM
Nighttime Activities: 8:30 PM - 12:00 AM
- Dance - Karaoke - Impromptu Debates

Sunday

Breakfast & Checkout: 7:45 AM - 8:45 AM
Block V: 8:45 AM - 9:45 AM
- Summer School Information Session
- Resolved, that standardized tests do not accurately measure student achievement.
- Resolved, that cable news is detrimental to the American people’s perception of politics.
- Thought Talk: What characteristics make up an ideal politician?

Activism Block: 9:45 AM - 10:45 AM

Block VI: 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM
- Resolved, that unions are necessary to protect workers.
- Resolved, that the United States create a publicly owned fiber optic network.
- Resolved, that lobbying is an obstruction to democracy.
- Thought Talk: How can the United States combat institutionalized racism?

Lunch: 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM
Block VII: 12:45 PM - 1:45 PM
- Resolved, that Supreme Court justices be subject to term limits.
- Resolved, that the United States pay reparations to descendants of slaves.
- Thought Talk: How should the United States pursue energy independence?

Block VIII: 1:45 PM - 2:45 PM
- Resolved, that the public school system gives equal opportunity to students of all backgrounds.
- Resolved, that America establish a “Flat Tax”.
- Thought Talk: What steps need to be taken to combat rape on college campuses?

Closing Session: 2:45 PM - 3:30 PM
Spring State Activities

Keynote Speakers
Distinguished politicians, statespersons, journalists, and public policy experts across the political spectrum are invited to address JSA conventions. Delegates gather for opening and closing sessions where these high-profile speakers address the students and answer their questions.

Classic JSA Debates
Debates serve as the cornerstone of the Junior State by giving delegates a forum to express their views in an orderly fashion, while promoting a clash of ideas that leads to deeper understanding of the issues at hand. Using the Robert's Rules of Debate style, delegates develop civic awareness, the ability to find common ground, and public speaking skills.

JSA debates center around “resolutions” that outline the issue being discussed. For example, “Resolved, Social Security should be privatized”. Debates begin with six-minute opening speeches by the main affirmative and negative speakers. These two debaters are selected prior to the convention; they research and prepare their arguments beforehand. A pre-selected student moderator guides the action following the opening speeches, where any student in the audience may volunteer for three-minute subsequent speeches in support of either side. The main focus of JSA debate is persuading the audience and imparting a greater understanding of the issues involved, rather than pure competition between speakers.

Thought Talks
Thought talks are student-led discussions on pressing issues or questions. These activities don't have the rigid structure of a debate and allow students to explore issues in-depth, in a less competitive setting. A moderator guides the participants by posing questions and offering facts about the topic. No main speakers are chosen for thought talks, and no awards are given. This pressure-free atmosphere engages students very differently than debates and helps students gain confidence with their public speaking skills.

Social Activities
JSA conventions combine the intellectual stimulation of intense political dialogue with just plain fun. In the evenings students get a chance to relax in less formal settings including dances, quiz bowl, gaming, and chilling with their friends at a JSA Lounge among others. JSA conventions let students meet others with similar interests and diverse talents which helps them build a life-long network of civically aware friends.

Et Cetera
In addition to debates and thought talks, JSA conventions include a variety of other activities. Spring State conventions feature dramatic elections and fierce campaigning for Junior State student offices. Mock trials allow delegates to explore our nation's judicial system, while crisis scenarios provide opportunities to simulate the challenges facing government officials at the highest levels. Don't forget that because JSA is student run, you have the power to advocate for additional programs or activities at JSA conventions.