

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WHITE & CASE NATIONAL QUALIFIER WINNERS!



### **Congratulations to Our Winners**

Hialeah Miami Lakes Senior High School led by Coach Michelle Simon: A big congratulations to Stephanie Rodriguez and Jasmine Martinez for securing 1st place at our national tournament in Chicago, Illinois. Your remarkable achievement reflects the dedication and talent within our league. Best of luck as you represent our team!

Miami Senior High School led by Coach Yanelle Perez: Kudos to Issabela Martinez and Alessandro DePalma for securing 2nd place at the national tournament. Your accomplishment is a testament to the caliber of talent nurtured within our league. Miami Senior High School will also be representing our league at the national tournament!

### **Team Sweepstakes Awards**

- 1st Place High School: Hialeah Miami Lakes Senior High School
- 2nd Place High School: South Miami Senior High School
- 1st Place Middle School: Redland Middle School
- 2nd Place Middle School: iPrep North

# PRESS RELEASE

22 February 2024

## WHITE & CASE ELEVATES EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE WITH \$10,000 SPONSORSHIP OF MIAMI DADE URBAN DEBATE LEAGUE'S NATIONAL QUALIFIER TOURNAMENT

Miami, FL - February 22, 2024 — White & Case, a global law firm renowned for its commitment to community enrichment, proudly announces its sponsorship of the Miami- Dade Urban Debate League's National Qualifier Tournament. In a demonstration of unwavering support, White & Case has generously donated \$10,000, serving as the namesake sponsor for this crucial event that will determine the high school and middle school competitors representing the league at their respective national tournaments.

The White & Case National Qualifier Tournament, now a flagship event within the MDUDL calendar, holds paramount significance as it sets the stage for identifying top-tier debate talents among high school and middle school participants. The \$10,000 donation from White & Case will play a pivotal role in ensuring the success and prestige of this tournament, contributing to the overall advancement of debate education in the Miami-Dade County area.

Trudy Smith, the Board Secretary and White & Case attorney explains: "It's an honor and a privilege for White & Case to sponsor this season's final tournament. I've had the pleasure of seeing first hand the students compete this season. It is obvious that the league is continuing to provide a unique and tremendous opportunity for the students to hone their natural talents as well as learn and refine new skills."

The White & Case National Qualifier Tournament will be the culminating event where high school and middle school debaters will compete to secure coveted spots representing MDUDL at their respective national tournaments.

## WHITE & CASE

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[www.miamiudl.org](http://www.miamiudl.org)



# PRESS RELEASE

29 February 2024

## GUNSTER LAW FIRM COMMITS \$2,500 DONATION TO THE MIAMI-DADE URBAN DEBATE LEAGUE

Miami, FL — February 29, 2024

Embracing its commitment to community involvement, Gunster, a distinguished law firm celebrating its 100th year, proudly announces a \$2,500 donation to the Miami Dade Urban Debate League (MDUDL). This gesture reflects Gunster's unwavering dedication to supporting educational initiatives that empower and enrich the lives of local students.

Gunster's \$2,500 donation will play a pivotal role in expanding and sustaining MDUDL's debate programs, providing students with valuable opportunities to refine their public speaking abilities, engage in constructive dialogue, and broaden their perspectives on a myriad of issues.

Gunster Law Firm Board Member and Miami Office Manager Shareholder Mario Garcia-Serra explains, "Gunster has a long tradition of being involved in the communities where our attorneys live and work and we are proud to support the Miami-Dade Debate League in its mission to provide the benefits and skill building of academic debate to all of the youth of Miami-Dade County!"

Gunster remains steadfast in its commitment to corporate social responsibility, actively participating in projects that contribute to the betterment of the communities it serves.

**Contact: Kalyn Lee, Program Director**

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# Season Recap

- **Return of In-Person Debate:** We are excited to have returned to in-person debates, creating an environment for lively discussions and intellectual growth.
- **6 Debates:** We successfully completed 6 debates at MDC North, MDC Kendall, the University of Miami, and Florida International University!
- **6 League-Wide Practices:** To foster collaboration and skill development, we scheduled six league-wide practices to ensure that all participants have the chance to learn and grow together.
- **Summer Debate Institute:** Thank you to Hialeah Miami Lakes Senior High School for welcoming our league with open arms this past summer during our Summer Debate Institute, a valuable opportunity for students to engage in intensive debate training and skill-building.
- **New Teams:** We were excited to have both Miami Norland Senior High School and Hialeah Miami Lakes Senior High School join us this season!
- **Coach Professional Development:** Coaches have been offered three professional development opportunities to sharpen their skills and pour into their students.



# Sponsor Spotlight

**The Miami- Dade Urban Debate League would like to extend a heart felt thank you to our 2023-2024 School Year Sponsors!**

- **Silver Donors: \$10,000 Donations**

- White & Case LLP
- Stearns Weaver Miller
- Greenberg Traurig, LLP
- Blizin Sumberg

- **Bronze Donors: \$5,000 Donations**

- Shubin Law Group, P.A.
- Weil, Gotshal & Manges, LLP
- Weiss Serota Helfman Cole + Bierman, P.L.
- Boies Schiller Flexner LLP
- Richard Perez, Former Board Chair

- **Friends of the League: \$2,000-\$4,999 Donations**

- Gunster
- LTC Corey P. Gray, Board Member
- St. Louis Community Foundation, through Arnaldo Perez of Carnival Cruise Line
- Osvaldo Garcia



# Sponsor Spotlight

**The Miami- Dade Urban Debate League would like to extend a heart felt thank you to our 2023-2024 School Year Sponsors!**

- **Hosting Sites:**

- Miami Dade College - North
- Miami Dade College - Kendall
- Florida International University
- University of Miami
- Hialeah Miami Lakes Senior High School





# Final Round Recap



[www.miamiudl.org](http://www.miamiudl.org)



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Looking for an internship?

**We're  
Hiring**

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- ✓ Community Outreach Intern

Apply according to your interests and skills!

Deadline: March 31, 2024

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# TENTATIVE 2024-2025 SY CALENDAR

## TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

<b>Tournament</b>	<b>Date</b>
Summer Debate Institute	July 30–August 1, 2024
Tournament 1	September 14, 2024
Tournament 2	October 19, 2024
Tournament 3	November 16, 2024
Tournament 4	December 14, 2024
Tournament 5	January 25, 2025
Tournament 6: Nationals Qualifiers	February 22, 2025
CD3	TBA
High School Nationals	TBA
Middle School Nationals	TBA

***Locations TBA***



# Announcements

## Middle School Nationals

- Location: Virtual
- Dates: May 4-6, 2024
- Teams:
  - Redland Middle School will be representing our league at the Urban Debate League's Middle School National Competition. Wish them good luck!

## High School Nationals

- Location: Chicago, IL
- Dates: April 12-14, 2024
- Teams:
  - Hialeah Miami Lakes Senior High School and Miami Senior High School will be representing our league at the National Association of Urban Debate's National Competition. Wish them good luck!

## CD3

- Location: Federal Courthouse
- Dates: April 5, 2024
- Teams:
  - South Miami Senior High School and Hialeah Miami Lakes Senior High School will be attending the Civil Discourse and Difficult Decisions, sponsored by the Federal Courthouse. Congratulations!

## Summer Debate Institute

- Location: University of Miami
- Dates: July 30, August 1, 2024
- Additional details TBA.

