MDUDL

SPEAK. THINK. LEAD.

MIAMI-DADE URBAN DEBATE LEAGUE

NOVEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER



THIS SATURDAY · TOURNAMENT 3

WELCOME TO THE FALL CLASSIC POLICY DEBATE TOURNAMENT

Logistics:

- Saturday, November 7, 2026
- Miami Dade College – Kendall Campus
- 11011 SW 104 Street Miami, FL 33176-3393
- Building R Room: R402/403
- Arrival Time: 7:00 AM sharp

Please report directly to Building R Room: R402/403 . Late arrivals will result in a forfeited round.

Students and parents, please reach out to your coach directly for any questions.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TOURNAMENT 2 RECAP: MCDERMOTT WILL & SCHULTE TOURNAMENT

MDUDL
SPEAK. THINK. LEAD.

MIAMI, FL — November 2, 2026 — The Miami-Dade Urban Debate League (MDUDL) continued its 2026-2027 competition season on Saturday, October 17 with Tournament 2, held at Miami Dade College Hialeah. The tournament was made possible by presenting sponsor McDermott Will & Schulte.

Debaters from across Miami-Dade County's Title I schools competed on the resolution: *"The United States federal government should establish national health insurance in the United States."* Students faced off across Middle School, High School Novice, and High School Varsity divisions.

Top seeds after three rounds: Jackson & Sanchez of Redland Middle School (Middle School); Schevis & De La Osa of Hialeah Gardens High School (High School Novice); and Hing & Rodriguez of Hialeah-Miami Lakes Senior High (High School Varsity).

Across all divisions combined, Redland Middle School and Hialeah-Miami Lakes Senior High took home the tournament's overall school sweepstakes awards.

MDUDL also hosted coach professional development during the tournament for 10 coaches, covering Round 1 judging, ballot and round debrief, team management and growing your team, Debate en Español, and the kritik.

"Tournament 2 showed how quickly our debaters are sharpening their arguments from one month to the next," said Kalyn Lee, MDUDL Program Director.

TOURNAMENT 2 TOP SEEDS

MIDDLE SCHOOL
Jackson & Sanchez
Redland Middle

HIGH SCHOOL NOVICE
Schevis & De La Osa
Hialeah Gardens High

HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY
Hing & Rodriguez
Hialeah-Miami Lakes High

> *“Tournament 2 showed how quickly our debaters are sharpening their arguments from one month to the next.”*
>
> **KALYN LEE · PROGRAM DIRECTOR, MDUDL**

THANK YOU TO OUR PRESENTING SPONSOR

McDermott Will & Schulte

MDUDL is grateful to McDermott Will & Schulte for its investment in Miami-Dade students and educational equity through competitive debate.

About Miami-Dade Urban Debate League

Miami-Dade Urban Debate League is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, affiliated with the National Association for Urban Debate Leagues (NAUDL), that provides competitive policy debate programming to students at Title I schools across Miami-Dade County. Through debate, MDUDL builds critical thinking, public speaking, and advocacy skills that prepare students for college, career, and civic life. For more information, visit miamiudl.org.

Interested in sponsoring a tournament? Email Kalyn Lee at klee@miamiudl.org.

DEBATE EN ESPAÑOL

Meet Michael Porras



Michael Porras
Program Manager, Debate en Español
mporras@miamiudl.org

About Michael

Michael is a product of the Miami-Dade Urban Debate League. He debated for three years at Miami Senior High School and represented Florida at the NAUDL national championship.

Today he studies psychology and journalism at Florida International University as a Golden Scholar, where he leads the BridgeUSA chapter and serves as a Student Government senator. He is also an assistant debate coach at Miami Senior and has taught debate with MDUDL and the University of Miami.

Fluent in English and Spanish, Michael leads our league-wide Spanish practices, prepares students for competition and supports coaches across the league.

Debate en Español is made possible by funding from The Children's Trust.

COMING UP IN DEBATE EN ESPAÑOL

Sat, Nov 7: in-person Spanish divisions at Tournament 3, MDC Kendall
Sat, Nov 14: NAUDL online tournament on Zoom (coaches register by Mon, Nov 9)
Wed, Nov 18: league-wide Spanish practice on Zoom

ROAD TO NATIONALS

Debate en Español Nationals

MDUDL has one Debate en Español team slot at the Urban Debate National Championship, March 19–21, 2027 at Wake Forest. To be eligible, a student must:

- Compete in the Avanzada division.
- Have competed in at least 3 of the 6 Debate en Español tournaments in 2025–26.
- Compete in at least 4 of the 7 Spanish events this season, including Feb 20 and at least one NAUDL online tournament.
- Declare Debate en Español as their nationals category by Saturday, December 5.
- Attend at least half of the league-wide Spanish practices, including the kickoff.
- Have a partner who meets these rules too.

How we select: Feb 6 and Feb 20 results come first, then season record. Attendance and coach input break ties.

New to Debate en Español this year? You're building toward nationals in 2028.

NAUDL Online Tournaments

Saturday, November 14 and Saturday, February 6, on Zoom. Both count toward Debate en Español nationals eligibility.

- Coaches register teams and judges on Tabroom. For Nov 14, register by Monday, November 9.
- 3 rounds, in pairs. Principiante: 4-minute speeches, 2-minute rebuttals. Avanzado: 6 and 3.
- Evidence is limited: Principiante uses only the Principiante packet; Avanzado may use either packet. No outside evidence.
- There is no Nacional division online, so Nacional students enter Avanzado.
- Bring 1 judge for every 2 teams entered.
- Nov 14 schedule (ET): check-in 11:30 AM; rounds at 12:00, 2:00 and 3:30 PM; awards at 5:00 PM.

Questions? Michael Porras, mporras@miamiudl.org

KEY DATES

Mon, Nov 9: register for the Nov 14 NAUDL online tournament on Tabroom
Sat, Dec 5: last day to declare Debate en Español for nationals
Sat, Feb 20: Nationals Qualifier at FIU Biscayne Bay

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17 · MDC HIALEAH

TOURNAMENT 2 IN PHOTOS









INFORMATION STATION

Give Miami Day
Thursday, November 19

Mark your calendar! Give Miami Day is 24 hours of giving for Miami-Dade nonprofits.

Every gift helps keep debate free for students at Title I schools across Miami-Dade. Last year, 24 donors helped us raise $11,237, 224% of our goal!

Give here:
https://www.givemiamiday.org/organization/Mdudl

This year's goal: $15,000

November League
Practice Links

Our November virtual league practices will take place on:

- Middle School: [11/6, 4:15 PM - 5:30 PM]
- High School: [11/12, 6:00 PM - 7:45 PM]
- Virtual via Zoom

Session Focuses:

- Middle School: Technical Debate
- High School: Disads, replacing midterms

Join practice directly using the link below. Be sure to complete the sign in sheet when you log into the zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/5877204626?pwd=r8319BsnNCrElhnbLglahCVMnOK6KP.1

Meeting ID: 587 720 4626
Passcode: v6S496

GIVE MIAMI DAY · THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Every gift helps keep debate free for students at Title I schools.
givemiamiday.org/organization/Mdudl

COACHES CORNER

Tournament 3 Reminders

- Arrival is at 7:00 AM ET
- Round 1 begins at 7:30 AM ET.
- Final entries and drops are due Wednesday, November 4, 2026 by 11:59 PM ET - no exceptions.
- Debate en Español divisions compete in person at MDC Kendall.

Tournament 3 Argument Limits

Middle School & High School Novice:

- On-Case Aff, On-Case Neg
- DA - Federalism
- Counterplan - States

High School Varsity: Open

ENTRY & DROP DEADLINE

Wednesday, November 4 by 11:59 PM ET. Late drops disrupt pairings and judging, and can affect students' eligibility for end-of-season awards.

SAVE THE DATE

05 01 27

Voices Amplified Gala

AN EVENING AMPLIFYING THE VOICES OF STUDENT DEBATERS ACROSS MIAMI-DADE'S TITLE I SCHOOLS.

SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES OPEN NOW | TICKET SALES BEGIN 12.15.26



Breeza Biscayne
(formerly Briza on the Bay)
1717 N Bayshore Dr, Miami, FL

Sponsorships: Kalyn Lee · klee@miamiudl.org
miamiudl.org/gala

2026–27 SEASON CALENDAR

Fall 2026

MON–WED · AUG 3–6
Summer Debate Institute · University of Miami

SAT · SEP 12
Tournament 1 · MDC North

SAT · OCT 17
Tournament 2 · MDC Hialeah

SAT · NOV 7
Tournament 3 · MDC Kendall ★

SAT · NOV 14
NAUDL Online DEE Tournament · Zoom ◆

SAT · DEC 12
Tournament 4 · Barry University ★

Spring 2027

SAT · JAN 23
Tournament 5 · MDC North

SAT · JAN 30
Discusión Torneo 1 · Zoom ◆

SAT · FEB 6
NAUDL Online DEE Tournament · Zoom ◆

SAT · FEB 13
Discusión Torneo 2 · Zoom ◆

SAT · FEB 20 · NATIONALS QUALIFIER
Tournament 6 · FIU Biscayne Bay ★

FRI–SUN · MAR 19–21
High School Nationals · Wake Forest

DATE TBA
Middle School Nationals · Virtual

DATE TBA
CD3 · Federal Courthouse, Miami

SAT · MAY 1 · 5:30 PM
Voices Amplified Gala · Breeza Biscayne

HOW TO READ THIS CALENDAR

★ In-person tournament with a Debate en Español division
◆ Debate en Español online event on Zoom
All in-person tournaments: arrival 7:00 AM, Round 1 at 7:30 AM