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## Youth Forum Newsletter

December 9, 2008

Dear Newsletter readers,  
you haven't heard from me the past few weeks mainly because we have been intensively evaluating the past YF and then drafting and discussing the changes for the upcoming YF to propose to the Board and General Assembly.

This Newsletter introduces the Curriculum Director for 2009 and announces the call for International Trainers and the call for Chief Adjudicator. Additionally we introduce the topics for the Karl Popper Debate Championship.  
Read on carefully!

*Who will win the next one?*

~Veronika

## IDEA Introduces the Curriculum Director

*The Curriculum Director prepares the curriculum of the Forum (esp. the Mixed Team Track) and prepares the trainers for teaching at the Youth Forum. S/he supervises the work of trainers and makes sure the curriculum is implemented as planned.*

**We are pleased to announce that the YF 2009 Curriculum Director is Bill Sheffield.** Bill has been involved in competitive forensics for over 27 years as both a competitor and coach. He holds a Masters Degree in Communication Studies from Eastern New Mexico University. His areas of academic interest include Argumentation, Small Group Communication, and Public Speaking. As a coach, Bill has directed programs at a variety of colleges and has qualified numerous competitors for national competition. He is also a certified international debate trainer for the International Debate Education Association, and has trained students at international youth debate forums in Estonia, Macedonia, Romania, Czech Republic and Bulgaria. He has served as a trainer and adjudicator at the 2007 FLTRP Cup Championships in Beijing, China.

## IDEA is proud to publicize the Karl Popper Debate Championship topics:

### *Motion 1:*

**This house believes that, when in conflict, global climate change concerns should take precedence over economic development, in rapidly developing countries such as China, India, Brazil and South Africa.**

### *Motion 2:*

**To combat climate change, nations should cap and trade rather than impose taxes on carbon emissions.**

# IDEA is pleased to announce the global call for Trainers and Chief Adjudicator

*The 15th IDEA Youth Forum will take place in Bosnia and Herzegovina from July 23rd to August 5th, 2009. We expect to host up to 200 high-school students and coaches from a wide variety of countries in Europe, Asia, Americas and Africa.*

The [Curriculum Committee \(http://www.idebate.org/ideaforum/node/7\)](http://www.idebate.org/ideaforum/node/7) will be selecting 22 trainers that will be given the opportunity to become IDEA YF 2008 trainer (Junior and Senior Trainers). The Committee will employ multiple criteria for selecting the pool of trainers for the YF including debate and teaching excellence, concern for geographic and programmatic diversity, desire to develop the capacity of young trainers and motivation for participating as trainer.

The Forum Coordinator will select the Chief Adjudicator based on the experience in managing debate events, knowledge of tournament tabulation principles and software and judging major international events. Individuals known and respected in the KP debate circuit will have an advantage.

IDEA will cover the trainers' and chief adjudicators' costs associated with their stay at the Forum: accommodation, food, insurance and cultural events. IDEA will cover reasonable travel and visa costs directly connected to the Forum. IDEA will compensate for the staffs' time with \$10 per diem during the Forum (\$200 in total).

## **Selection Procedure**

All prospective trainers are requested to submit their application form via [IDEA's Online Application System \(http://oas.idebate.org/idea/\)](http://oas.idebate.org/idea/). Please follow this link to get step-by-step instructions [http://www.idebate.org/ideaforum/trainer\\_instructions/](http://www.idebate.org/ideaforum/trainer_instructions/). **The deadline for applications is January 5th 2008.** All candidates will be notified of their status no later than February 15, 2009. To make sure you receive all the relevant information and also if you have additional questions, please contact the Forum Coordinator ([vlckova@idebate.org](mailto:vlckova@idebate.org)).

All applicants for Chief adjudicators position are kindly asked to submit their application directly to the Forum Coordinator.

For more information please go the YF website: [www.idebate.org/ideaforum](http://www.idebate.org/ideaforum)

## **Next issue will feature**

*Youth Forum Topics for Mixed Team Tournament  
Procedure for Selection of participants for the YF 2009*

## **IDEA is still looking for a host of the YF 2010 and 2011.**

*If you are interested in hosting this event, please read the information below and contact the Youth Forum Coordinator.*

*Bidding for the Youth Forum*

- I. [what are the hosts responsibilities](#)
- II. [why would you like to host](#)
- III. [when should you make the bid](#)
- IV. [what do you need to do for your bid to be considered](#)
- V. [what are the relevant sections of Standards](#)

## **I. Host Responsibilities**

The Forum host is responsible for smooth running of the Youth Forum in terms of Logistics. The org.com teams' responsibilities are to select the appropriate venues for the Youth Forum (see below for an excerpt out of Standards document defining suitability of venues and list of supplies host needs to provide) and prepare the Forum site by arranging properly equipped rooms for classes and debates. The host is also responsible for providing meals for all its participants for everyday of the YF, adequately addressing the cultural and dietary requirements. The host is also responsible for supervising the work of volunteers, who help out with technology, transportation, registration on spot, copying, entertainment and free-time activities etc. Although OSI and IDEA subsidize the Youth Forum it is crucial that also the host raises funds. In order to do that the org. team needs to come up with an effective PR strategy and implement it within its own country.

## **II. motivation to organize the Youth Forum**

The Youth Forum is the largest and most important event IDEA NL organizes annually since 1995. The Youth Forum develops critical thinking, communication, team work and public speaking skills of the individual, which are essential for success today. Many of the past YF participants now play important roles in youth organizations, public offices as well as private companies. Additionally the Youth Forum provides great opportunity for formal but also informal communication and thus enables to form international networks, which are reinforced by use of blogs and forums provided on our websites. These often result not only in lifelong friendships but also in developing partnership on the organizational level.

Hosting the IDEA Youth Forum means increased international recognition for the national debate association, for the region and country that hosts the Forum. Most of the participants of the Youth Forum tend to remember the hosting country and the winner of the competition. And winning the event has impact mostly on the individuals that won. Additionally as one needs to knock-out about 15 times more teams, it is more difficult to win the KPDC than the competition to host the event. On top of that, hosting the event provides a unique opportunity to promote communication, debate and youth engagement among greater number of people in your organization, (debate) network, community and the host country.

The debate programs tend to grow in size after hosting the Youth Forum, since more debaters, volunteers, and public are directly exposed to benefits of this activity. Moreover in the past the Youth Forums have been endorsed by such prominent figures as former Czech President Vaclav Havel, the leading figure of change of regime in former Czechoslovakia or Nobel prize Laureate Lech Walesa, which increased the visibility of the event, the organization and its members at home as well as abroad.

Based on my own experience, of once being run-around volunteer (when Slovakia hosted it) and once being in the position of the Forum Coordinator (Bulgaria 2008), organizing the Youth Forum equals to a lot of sleepless nights, make-up tubes because of the bags under one's eyes and also it is lot of responsibility. On the other hand it is also great experience in developing skills of your team, increasing visibility of your organization in debate world and also at home and the feeling that you can pull off such event successfully! All in all it's definitely worth it!

### III. 3 important milestones for your bid

1<sup>st</sup> step: the Forum Coordinator solicits bids 1,5-2 years prior to hosting of the event.

The deadline for submitting your bid for the YF in 2010 is: November 30, 2008

2<sup>nd</sup> step: the Board of Directors decides about the next host on their meeting prior to the GA; **this year it is on December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008 in Amsterdam**

3<sup>rd</sup> step: the next years' YF host country is officially announced at the GA and they are expected to make a short presentation regarding the organization and the venues; this year it is on **December 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, 2008 in Amsterdam**

### IV. what do you need to do for your bid to be considered

Each bid should have the following (needs to be submitted to the Youth Forum Coordinator by November 30)

- name of the organization and a brief background about the organization
- name and CVs of the main organizers (specify the main contact person)
- outline of the event – including 3 options of venues (accommodation and debating rooms/classes), their distance from the capital, airport and train/bus station, food options, theme of the event
- motivation why would you like to host the event (you may want to include what is the catch of your bid, why should you be chosen)
- supporters – list of supporters that would be willing to endorse your event (important figures in your country, potential sponsors, important figures in the world of debating)
- transportation costs from major cities of the world to
- budget – outline of the expected budget – following lines should be included:
  - a) accommodation and venue rental
  - b) food and refreshment (coffee breaks)
  - c) transportation
  - d) equipment rental
  - e) personnel costs
  - f) activity and entertainment
  - g) PR costs

**Submit this document in electronic form to Veronika Vlckova, the Forum Coordinator no later than November 30, 2008!** Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to call or email

me :

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### **Standards for the IDEA Youth Forum (p. 14-15)**

#### **Forum Site Requirements**

Hosts should use the following guidelines when looking for a Forum Site: The site must accommodate all Forum participants. Apart from bedrooms, the site must have at least 10 rooms available for use as "lab rooms," each of which should accommodate 20 people.

The site must have an available staff meeting room (if necessary, a bedroom of sufficient size could be used for this purpose).

The site must have a room available for the Tournament Director and his/her staff (a large bedroom can be used for this purpose).

The site must provide camp participant access to at least ten computers equipped with high-speed Internet connections.

The site must have at least one fast computer for the Tournament Director and two computers with Internet access for the trainers.

The site must provide two high-capacity copy machines for the needs of the tournament.

#### **Host Supply List**

Hosts should provide the following supplies:

Magic-markers in all colors, with the majority being red/blue/black and green. Each Trainer should receive three markers in their supply bag and fifteen markers should be retained for office use. A number of wide highlighters and Sharpies are also helpful.

One black and one blue pen for each participant (including all volunteers and staff), to be provided in the welcome folder. Approximately twenty more should be retained for office use.

A notebook or paper pad (for note-taking) for each participant (including all volunteers and staff) and an additional fifteen or more for office use.

One folder for each participant (including all volunteers and staff). The folders should be large enough to hold the notebook, pen, schedule, and information distributed on the first day. Because a great deal of information is accumulated during the camp, a folder design that features pockets and a rubber-band binding or strap (to keep the folder closed) is advisable.

A single roll of scotch tape for inclusion in each trainer's supply bag. Additionally, at least six rolls of scotch tape and two rolls of masking tape should be retained for office use (alternatively, glue tack can be procured and distributed instead of tape).

Four staplers and several boxes of staples for office use. Additionally, trainers often request packets of material copied and stapled for distribution. If the copy machine is equipped with a staple option, two staplers will suffice. Staple removers should also be available.

Six boxes of white paper and a variety of colored paper (pastels and neons). (The colored paper is useful for sign-up sheets, reminders, various items of importance in the welcome folder, etc.).

Large manila or plastic-covered envelopes (used for camp completion certificates), to be distributed by NGO group or by team. A sufficient number should be supplied for students, coaches, trainers, volunteers/interns, as well as for a variety of other purposes.

At least ten pads of large "flip-chart" paper or newsprint sheets, and an equal number of stands. At the beginning of the Forum, Trainers should receive ten to fifteen sheets for use in their preparations. Trainers should have access to the paper storage area, which should be restocked as needed.

Three or four pairs of scissors

One large box (or several smaller boxes) of crayons, for use throughout the camp

## International Debate Education Association

Focusing on young people and their communities, IDEA's mission is to promote mutual understanding and democracy globally by supporting discussion and active citizenship locally.

Join the  
Discussion

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

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