

Invitation to the First Annual

Motor City Swing

Hosted by:



Dear Colleagues:

The Wayne State forensics and Eastern Michigan University forensics programs cordially invite you and your team to attend the **First Ever Motor City Swing, Saturday, October 10th and Sunday, October 11th 2026**. We will be running a traditional swing, where teams compete at Wayne State University in Detroit on Saturday, and at EMU in Ypsilanti on Sunday!

Both tournaments will offer all 11 NFA Individual Events. Awards will be given to the top six I.E. finalists and to all elimination round participants if needed. On Saturday, we will recognize top novices. Finally, we will recognize the top 5 competitors entered in I.E. individual sweepstakes, as well as the top three schools in I.E. team sweepstakes.

Attached to this invitation is information regarding the projected schedule, entries, as well as options for lodging and food. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact **Sydney Pasquinelli for Saturday's tournament** (email at pasquinelli@wayne.edu or phone at 313-402-1905), or **Bill Heinze for Sunday's tournament** (email at wheinze@emich.edu or phone at 630-414-5330).

Entries are due by 5 p.m. EST, Tuesday, October 6th, 2026. We are so excited to see and host all of you here in Southeast Michigan!

Sincerely,

Dr. Sydney Pasquinelli*

Dr. Ronald Stevenson

Robert Comeaux

Hannah D'Hondt

Dr. Bill Heinze*

Raechel Zoellick

Nimnan Wuyep

Blaine Weiss

*Tournament Directors

Motor City Swing Part 1

Saturday, October 10th

Wayne State University

Detroit, MI

<u>Schedule</u>	(Room Locations TBA)
8:30 AM	Extemp Prep
9:00 AM	Round 1 of Flight A (ADS, DUO, EXT, PER, POI, PRO)
10:00 AM	Extemp prep
10:15 AM	Round 2 of Flight A (Ext at 10:30)
11:30 PM	Lunch
12:15 PM	Round 1 of Flight B (RC, DI, IMP, INF, POE)
1:30 PM	Round 2 of Flight B
2:45 PM	Extemp Prep for Finals
3:00 PM	Final Round of Flight A**
4:15PM	Final Round of Flight B** **We will attempt to collapse finals if possible
5:30PM	AWARDS CEREMONY

Wayne State University Speech & Debate Team · Department of Communication ·

College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts

531 Manoogian Hall · Detroit, MI 48201

Phone: (313) 577-2943 · Fax: (313) 577-6300

communication@wayne.edu

Motor City Swing Part 2

Sunday, October 11th

Eastern Michigan University

Ypsilanti, MI

<u>Schedule</u>	(Room Locations TBA)
8:30 AM	Extemp Prep
9:00 AM	Round 1 of Flight A (ADS, DUO, EXT, PER, POI, PRO)
10:00 AM	Extemp prep
10:15 AM	Round 2 of Flight A (Ext at 10:30)
11:30 PM	Lunch
12:15 PM	Round 1 of Flight B (RC, DI, IMP, INF, POE)
1:30 PM	Round 2 of Flight B
2:45 PM	Extemp Prep for Finals
3:00 PM	Final Round of Flight A**
4:15PM	Final Round of Flight B** **We will attempt to collapse finals if possible
5:30PM	AWARDS CEREMONY

Eastern Michigan University Forensics Team

Department of Communication, Media and Theatre Arts

127 Judy Sturgis Hill Building · Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Phone: (734) 487-0320 · Fax: (734) 487-3443

<https://www.emich.edu/cmta>

Entries:

All entries must be received by 5:00 p.m. EST, Tuesday, October 6th

<http://www.speechwire.com>

Any adjustments made to the entry after Noon on Wednesday Oct 7th will be subject to a \$10.00 nuisance fee, as well as a \$30.00 fee per dropped judge. Any changes at registration will be subject to a \$20.00 nuisance fee and \$100 per dropped judge.

Entry Limitations:

Students may enter three events per pattern in both tournaments. Overall school entry is unlimited. Judges will be instructed to allow double/triple entered contestants to perform first.

Patterns:

Pattern A: After Dinner Speaking, Duo Interpretation, Extemporaneous Speaking, Persuasive Speaking, Programmed Oral Interpretation, Prose Interpretation

Pattern B: Rhetorical Criticism, Dramatic Interpretation, Impromptu Speaking, Informative Speaking, Poetry Interpretation

Judges:

One judge is obligated to cover up to 6 event slots. (So if you have 4 slots, you need 1 judge; if you have 7 slots, you need 2 judges, etc.) We appreciate every effort to cover your slots.

Fees:

\$6.00 for each I.E. slot

\$15.00 for each uncovered I.E. slot

\$10.00 per drop prior to registration/\$30.00 per dropped judge

\$20.00 per dropped slot at registration

\$100.00 per dropped judge at registration

Payment:

Teams will have to pay for both days separately. WSU can take check, cash, or PayPal.

EMU does not accept cash or check. If this is an issue, please contact Bill Heinze ASAP.

Sweepstakes Scoring:

Final team sweepstakes placement will be based on team points accumulated according to the table below. Each school's top three speakers in each event will be used for tabulating prelims sweepstakes. Half of the total prelim points will be added to points based on finals placement. Team sweepstakes will recognize the top three IE programs. Individual sweepstakes awards will be given to the top five students entered in at least four individual events.

Placing	Prelims – IE	Finals – IE
1 st	3 pts	12 pts
2 nd	2 pts	10 pts
3 rd	1 pt	8 pts
4 th		6 pts
5 th		4 pts
6 th		2 pts

Event descriptions:

Event descriptions for all eleven NFA events can be found at www.nationalforensics.org.

Limited Preparation Events:

Impromptu Speaking

Schema will be published the week of the tournament

Extemporaneous Speaking

Free WIFI will be available through the universities guest login system. It will issue a temporary access. It does take a few minutes to set up an account so please factor this in when preparing for the event. Additionally, while we are confident that this service will be available, we cannot guarantee it.

*****Unlike other event rules, minimum and maximum time limits provided for ALL events are enforced at the discretion of the individual judge rather than the association*****

Quiet Room:

The tournament will have a designated quiet room to be used to decompress from rounds, work on school work, or just to have a place to relax outside of the competition environment.

Gender-Neutral Restrooms on Campus:

WSU: <https://maps.wayne.edu/locations/gender-neutral-restrooms/>

EMU: <https://www.emich.edu/dci/lgbtrc/resources/navigating-campus.php>

Ethical Treatment of Others:

Wayne State and EMU fully committed to a safe and healthy educational, work and competition environment that is free from unlawful discrimination and harassment. As such, we prohibit discrimination and harassment on the basis of sex, gender, sexual orientation, sexual identity, race, disability, religion and other lawfully protected categories. This prohibition includes sexual assault and misconduct, and stalking. Should you experience a Title IX violation while attending our Tournament, please report the violation to your coach or someone you trust, and the tournament host. The tournament host will ensure that the Title IX officers from the host institution, your home university/college, and from the institution of the perpetrator are notified so that investigative procedures can begin. Please report behavior that is not in line with our stated anti-harassment policy. If, at any point in time, behavior is reported that is antithetical to a positive learning environment for any tournament participants, it will be handled accordingly. Directors, please remember, you are responsible for the people that you bring to our campus.

Open Door Policy:

Wayne State University and Eastern Michigan University are committed to providing safe performance spaces for all competitors and judges. We acknowledge the art of performance may be a healing process and/or opportunity to speak on important topics. As a performer, it is impossible to know all the ways in which content or a performance may unintentionally harm or trigger members of our audience. To better serve our competitors, we will be honoring the NFA's open door practice during rounds this weekend. An "open door policy" means competitors and other audience members may choose to leave or stay in a room when a performance negatively impacts their wellbeing. Competitors may discreetly leave the room (e.g., before, during, or after someone's performance) even when not double-entered, without question or penalty. Competitors may disengage from a performance (e.g., actively dissociate, put their head down on a desk, cover their ears). If competitors need to leave a round due to physical (e.g., uncontrollable coughing, vomiting) or spiritual (e.g., Salat times) needs, they may also excuse themselves without question or penalty. Judges may also take steps to protect their well-being and will be asked to read the open door policy at the beginning of every round to reinforce the norm-change emphasizing mental and physical well-being over community norms.

Judge Strikes:

We ask that if your students have any conflicts with judges for non-competitive reasons that you let us know so we can block the judge from judging the student. Examples of when this could happen might include: the student is a family member/close friend of the judge, a student was harassed/assaulted by a judge, a student was a teammate of the judge, a student was coached by the judge. We respect the privacy of these decisions. We hope that if a judge has participated in improper behavior that the tournament director will be notified so that, if necessary, the judge can be removed from the judging pool before interacting with students. Students can inform us through their coach or inform the tournament director. The tournament director will not ask for details and do not expect any; we trust in the decision of the student. We will provide a full list of judges to all coaches the week of the tournament.

Motor City Swing Part 1

Detroit, MI

Wayne State Directions:

M. Roy Wilson State Hall

5143 Cass Avenue
Detroit, MI 48202

There are many freeways that converge right around our campus, so it is best to use your GPS to find the best route to State Hall or one of our parking lots.

Wayne State Parking:

If you need receipts for parking, we recommend downloading the **ParkDetroit app**, which allows you to park on the street or pay for parking passes in our lots. If you don't use the app, you may not be able to receive a receipt for parking.

The ParkDetroit app has a list of available streets and lots available around State Hall. Street parking is one dollar/hour. Some nearby lots include: Detroit Historical Museum Lot, Old Main Lot 54, Parking Lot 52, Parking Structure 1 or Parking Structure 6. (Structures may not fit large vans).

Local Emergency Contact Information:

In cases of emergency, you can call the Wayne State University police directly:

313-577-2222 <https://risk.wayne.edu/procedures>

Tournament Director Contact Information:

Email address: pasquinelli@wayne.edu
Phone number: 313-402-1905
Mailing address: 537 Manoogian Hall
Detroit, MI 48201

Possible Lodging Options:

If you are flying into DTW, any of the hotel-adjacent airports are convenient, as DTW is located between the campuses. Travel to both Wayne and EMU is typically about 25 minutes.

Holiday Inn Express & Suites Allen Park ~ 9000 Enterprise Dr, Allen Park, MI 48101 (About 20 minutes from WSU and 30 minutes from EMU) ~ [Link Here](#)

TownePlace Suites Detroit Dearborn ~ 6141 Mercury Drive Dearborn, Michigan, USA, 48126 (About 15 minutes from WSU and 35 minutes from EMU) ~ [Link Here](#)

Motor City Swing Part 2

Ypsilanti, MI

EMU Directions:

Judy Sturgis Hill Building, Ypsilanti, MI 48197

If you're on US-23, take exit 37A Washtenaw Avenue East. Continue on Washtenaw, and take a left onto Hewitt (there should be a Walgreen's on the corner). You should pass the football stadium on your right. Take a right onto Huron River Drive. Stay on Huron River, it will take you past a McDonald's and the North Campus Lots and will take a right curve and turn into a one-way street. Stay in the right-hand lane, and take a right at the light onto Jarvis. The Alexander Pay Lot will be on your left. Sturgis Hill is the building on the left with the circle drive.

If you're on I-94, take exit 183, Huron River Drive (There should be signs indicating it as the EMU exit). Go north on Huron River Drive, and continue past Cross Street (Michigan Firehouse Museum) and past Forest Ave. Just after you pass Forest make the first left turn onto Jarvis. If you get to the gas station Kampus Korner than you have gone too far. Turn onto Jarvis and go through the light at Lowell St. to get onto campus. Your first left will be the Alexander Pay Lot. This is the best place to park and Judy Sturgis and Pray Harold are the building right next to the Alexander Music Building. Sturgis Hill is the building with the circle drive.

EMU Parking:

The university has made a significant shift in its parking policy. The university has privatized parking on campus. Thus, while in the past parking was open on the weekends, this year the only options for parking are in the designated pay lots. The closest is the Alexander Guest Pay Lot located to the southwest corner of Mark Jefferson off of Oakwood Street. The daily max rate is \$12.00. Please also find the ParkEMU website where you will find more information <https://www.parkemu.com/visitors/parking-rates/>. If you have further questions or concerns please feel free to contact Bill Heinze.

Local Emergency Information:

<https://www.emich.edu/publicsafety/emo/procedures/index.php>

Tournament Director Contact Information:

Bill Heinze

Email address: wheinze@emich.edu

Phone number: 630.414.5330

Mailing address: 127 Judy Sturgis Hill Building
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Additional Possible Lodging Options:

- ***Red Roof Inn***, 45501 N. I-94 Service Drive, Belleville, MI, 48111;
- ***Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites***, 46194 N. I-94 Service Drive, Belleville, MI, 48111:
734.857.6200.
- ***Hampton Inn***, 46280 N. I-94 Service Drive, Belleville, MI, 48111; 734.669.2424
- ***Comfort Inn & Suites Taylor - Detroit***, 6778 Telegraph Road, Taylor, MI 48180;
313.292.6730
- ***Comfort Inn & Suites Allen Park - Dearborn***, 3600 Enterprise Drive, Allen Park, MI
48101;313.725.4340