

# **Saratoga High Speech and Debate Club Achievements Spotlight**

*By Head Coach Steve Clemmons and Speech Coach Jenny Cook*

## **State Quals, March 1-3 2024**

Anagha Vitaldevara showcased exceptional talent in Dramatic Interpretation, securing a commendable 13th place. Anagha's performance was a testament to her hard work and dedication to art, and she recently joined the team!

Timothy Leung & Kinnera Potluri delivered an unforgettable Duo Interpretation, finishing 2nd place and earning a coveted TOC bid while qualifying for the State Tournament. Their synergy and commitment were unmatched, setting a high standard for excellence.

Kinnera Potluri continued her success streak with a 2nd place finish in Humorous Interpretation, securing a TOC bid while qualifying to State in a second event. Kinnera's ability to bring stories to life with humor and wit is truly inspiring.

Timothy Leung demonstrated versatility and depth in Program Oral Interpretation, earning 4th place, like his partner, he qualified in his second event to the State Tournament. Timothy's selection and execution were exemplary, showcasing his broad range of skills.

Cameron Nguyen excelled in Original Prose & Poetry, capturing 2nd place, also qualifying for the California State Tournament. Cameron's creative talent and expressive delivery captivated the audience and judges alike.

Devika Nair competed fiercely in Original Advocacy, achieving an impressive 11th place, where she is an alternate to the State Tournament. Devika's persuasive skills and ability to advocate for change shone brightly. She is another new member of the team.

## **TOC Digital Series Two, February 23-25**

Congratulations to Cameron Nguyen for an outstanding performance at the TOC Digital Speech and Debate Series 2! Cameron showcased incredible talent and dedication in the Humorous Interpretation category, securing a remarkable 2nd place finish. This achievement not only highlights Cameron's exceptional skill and hard work but also brings pride to our entire team.

These achievements are a reflection of our team's resilience, creativity, and spirit.

Congratulations to each competitor for their individual successes and for contributing to our team's legacy. Your hard work has not only brought individual accolades but has also elevated the prestige of Saratoga HS Speech and Debate on the state level.

In Public Forum Debate, dynamic duos Ashish & Leo and Skyler & Anthony demonstrated strategic brilliance and eloquence. Both teams reached the Quarterfinals—a testament to their hard work, with Ashish & Leo boasting a 5-1 record in prelims and Skyler & Anthony a solid 4-2. Their performances were a masterclass in persuasive communication and partnership.

### **Cal Invitational UC Berkeley, February 17-20**

Public Forum: In Varsity PF, Ashish & Leo reached the Semifinals, a phenomenal achievement after a flawless 6-0 record in prelims. Anthony & Jet also showed strong performance, securing a commendable 4-2 in prelims.

Parliamentary Debate: Alan & Saatvik advanced to the Quarterfinals in Varsity Parli with a solid 4-2 in prelims, demonstrating strategic acumen and persuasive argumentation.

Duo Interpretation: Timothy Leung & Kinnera Potluri captured 7th place with their compelling and synchronized performance, showcasing their storytelling prowess.

Program Oral Interpretation: Timothy Leung also made it to the Semifinals in POI, further highlighting his versatility and talent in speech categories.

### **Stanford Invitational, February 10-12**

Informative Speaking: Preksha Jain excelled in INFN, securing 5th place with her insightful and engaging presentation.

Humorous Interpretation: Cameron Nguyen reached the Semifinals in HIV, showcasing his exceptional ability to entertain and convey meaningful messages through humor.

Public Forum Debate: In Varsity PF, Ashish & Leo, and Jet & Bryan both advanced to the Triple Octafinals with strong 4-2 records in prelims. In JV PF, Sumedh & Minghui made it to the Double Octofinals after an impressive 5-1 in prelims, highlighting our team's depth and talent across levels.

Lincoln Douglas Debate: Aaron Su had a commendable performance in JV LD, going 4-2 in prelims, showcasing his analytical prowess and debate skills.

### **MASC Virtual Regional #2, February 4-5**

Duo Interpretation: Timothy Leung & Kinnera Potluri took 1st place, securing a Tournament of Champions (TOC) bid with their unparalleled synergy and compelling performance.

Humorous Interpretation: Cameron Nguyen placed 6th, also earning a TOC bid with his engaging humor and outstanding delivery.

Program Oral Interpretation: Timothy Leung clinched 2nd place and a TOC bid, showcasing his versatility and exceptional interpretative skills.

### **MASQ Virtual Regional #1**

Timothy Leung & Kinnera Potluri continued their success with a 4th place finish in Duo.

Kinnera Potluri reached the Semifinals in Humorous Interpretation, demonstrating her comedic talent.

Timothy Leung excelled in Program Oral Interpretation, clinching 1st place and securing a TOC bid with his powerful and persuasive storytelling.

### **James Logan Invitational, January 12-14**

Dramatic Interp

Anagha Vitaldevara delivered a powerful performance, reaching the Semifinals and securing a well-deserved spot in the final rounds. Her commitment to the craft and storytelling prowess is truly commendable.

Duo Interpretation:

The dynamic duo of Timothy Leung & Kinnera Potluri continued their impressive run, reaching the Semifinals with their synchronized and captivating performance. Their collaboration and storytelling synergy have consistently wowed judges and audiences alike.

Program Oral Interpretation (POI):

Timothy Leung once again demonstrated his exceptional talent by advancing to the Semifinals in POI. His ability to engage and captivate with words is a testament to his dedication to the art of interpretation.

Original Oratory (OO):

Anika Kapasi showcased her eloquence and persuasive skills, reaching the Quarterfinals in OO. Her ability to convey powerful messages through speech is truly inspiring.

Public Forum (PF):

Skyler & Anthony demonstrated their strategic prowess and skill in Varsity PF, securing a spot in the Doubles after a solid 4-2 performance in prelims. Their dedication and teamwork are truly commendable, and we look forward to witnessing their continued success in future tournaments.

### Parliamentary Debate (Parli):

The dynamic duo of Alan & Saatvik showcased their debating excellence in Varsity Parli, advancing to the Doubles with a stellar 4-1 record in prelims. Their ability to articulate arguments and engage in thoughtful discourse is a testament to their dedication and preparation.