



OHIO SPEECH AND DEBATE ASSOCIATION

# The OSDA

The Ohio Speech and Debate Association believes that one of the most powerful forces in a free society is the right and exercise to speak freely and to speak truth to power. As such, the OSDA condemns the racism, violence, and systemic inequality experienced by the Black community.

Our organization's first ethical standard reads that the OSDA "welcomes everyone, regardless of age, disability, gender, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or political affiliation, to participate with equal opportunity in the Speech and Debate community within our participation guidelines." We stand by this promise during these challenging times, and we pledge to work harder to increase the diversity of our community and break down existing barriers for underrepresented and underserved groups.

The OSDA Board of Directors and I have created a task force of members both in and out of our community to help with these efforts. I will continue to update our members as we work through this process, and I welcome any input to help us build a more representative and inclusive organization.

Sincerely,

Paul Moffitt  
Executive Director