

Denver Urban Debate League



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For Immediate Release

Denver Urban Debate League City Championship and Awards Banquet 2009

DUDL Finishes Strong First Season with City Championship at The University of Denver

The Denver Urban Debate League (DUDL) Advisory Board and Denver Public Schools (DPS) are proud to announce the DUDL City Championship and Awards Banquet 2009 sponsored by **The University of Denver Sturm College of Law** and **Little Mendelson P.C.** The debates will take place at The University of Denver Sturm College of Law on March 20-21, 2009. Competition will take place from 10:00 AM – 7:30 PM on Friday, and 8:30 AM – 6:00 PM on Saturday. The debates are open to the public. The tournament will conclude with a special Awards Banquet with a **keynote address by Colorado House Speaker Terrance Carroll**. 40 students are expected to participate. The high schools debating in The DUDL City Championship are: **George Washington, Manual, Martin Luther King, Jr. Early College, Thomas Jefferson, and West.**

The UDL teams will debate the 2008-09 National High School Policy Debate Resolution: *Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase alternative energy incentives in the United States.* Debaters will take part in five preliminary rounds, before advancing to elimination rounds on Saturday afternoon. The first and second place two-person teams will be selected to represent Denver at the **Chase Urban Debate National Tournament** in Chicago this April. Special awards from *College Invest* and *The Colorado Campaign for Inclusive Excellence* will also be given to DUDL debaters.

The Denver UDL Advisory Board, DUDL sponsors, and community partners, including representatives from *Davis Graham Stubbs, Benezra Culver, Wheeler Trigg Kennedy* and *Baker Hostetler*, will attend the Awards Banquet. DUDL's students will be honored for their success throughout the entire season, and awards will be given the Team of the Year, School of the Year, Coach of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, as well as The Maximo Corrada Award. DUDL will also be announcing the first member of the DUDL Hall of Fame.

Competitive debate has traditionally been a prime avenue for suburban and private school students to develop academic and leadership skills that can be critical for success in high school, college, and beyond. Yet urban students, particularly in underserved communities, typically do not have access to debate training and opportunities. The DUDL Advisory Board is working closely with DPS to bridge this gap by building an Urban Debate League (UDL) in Denver, which will expand its reach and impact in coming years. Denver is the twenty-sixth city to join this national movement.

For more information about the Denver Urban Debate League, please contact Jessica Clark by calling 720.878.2776, or e-mail Jessica at JessicaClark@urbandebate.org. Also visit www.urbandebate.org.

