



News Release
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Applications Now Open for Regents' Cup Celebrating Free Speech at Arizona's Public Universities

Phoenix, Ariz. – Applications are now open for the Regents' Cup, a student debate competition celebrating free speech, civil discourse and democratic engagement at Arizona's public universities.

Through the Regents' Cup, students showcase the universities commitment to freedom of expression on college campuses while competing for scholarships. Respect and civil discourse are hallmarks of the Regents' Cup where students from all three of Arizona's public universities will compete for portions of a scholarship purse during the two-day event at Arizona State University Feb. 26-27, 2021.

Arizona's public universities are recognized as exemplars in free speech; Arizona State University, Northern Arizona University and the University of Arizona are all recognized with the highest rating by the [Foundation for Individual Rights in Education](#).

"Following on the success of the inaugural Regents' Cup held in 2019, we are looking forward to another competition that showcases our students' debate skills as well as our commitment to upholding freedom of expression at our universities. It is through events such as the Regents' Cup that civil discourse – often lacking in politics today – is demonstrated and celebrated," said Regent Karrin Taylor Robson who envisioned the competition.

Debate at public universities represents a historic tradition that builds leadership and hones skills in public speaking and presenting sound arguments. During the all-day competition, student teams will participate in rounds of Oxford-style debate, solutions and persuasive storytelling, sharing true stories from personal experiences.

Regents' Cup participants will be honored for articulating opposing points of view in an environment where competitors remain civil and respectful. Judges will score teams and declare first, second and third-place teams.

"The Regents' Cup is an inspiring event that demonstrates the incredible talent of our students in presenting well-reasoned arguments during debates that are characterized by civility. We look forward to this outstanding event that presents opportunities for students to compete, regardless if they have debate experience or not," said ABOR Executive Director John Arnold.

The competition is open to undergraduate and graduate students from Arizona State University, Northern Arizona University and the University of Arizona. For more information and to fill out an application to participate in the Regents' Cup, click [here](#).