

## Rio Grande Valley Great Debate Team

### 2013 Texas Ambassador Great Debate Travel Memorandum

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**Updates and More information** are available at [www.rgvylc.org/documents.htm](http://www.rgvylc.org/documents.htm).

**Tuition.** You must have paid your tuition by now. Total tuition is \$540. If you missed the deadline, you need to call Louie Tijerina at NHI at 512-357-6137.

**Date & Location of the Competition.** The Texas Ambassador Great Debate will be Thursday July 25 through Sunday, July 28, 2013 at The University of Texas at Austin. You will be staying at Jester Hall dorm on campus.

**Departure time and location.** We'll depart on **Thursday, July 25 at 6 a.m.** from U.S. Floors, **224 N. McColl in McAllen**, it is located at Cedar Street and North McColl Road or about a half mile north of Expressway 83 on McColl Road.

**Arrival time and location.** We'll arrive home in the **late night hours of Sunday, July 28 at U.S. Floors (same place we departed from).**

**Meals.** You will be responsible for breakfast and lunch on Thursday on the trip to Austin. On the trip back to the Valley, you will be responsible for lunch and dinner on Sunday. All other meals will be provided at the program by NHI.

**Emergency Phone Numbers.** In case your parents need to contact you, they have several options. They can call Paco at 956-457-3932. They can also call NHI at (512) 357-6137.

**Report Card.** If you haven't sent in your latest report card to NHI, please turn one in at the Meeting of July 21 or fax it to Paco at 1-877-349-2212.

**Parent Release and Medical form.** Participants must submit a Parent Release and a Medical Form at the July 21 meeting or fax it to me at 1-877-349-2212 or email [paco@nhimail.com](mailto:paco@nhimail.com). If you already sent one to NHI, disregard this. The forms are located at <http://www.nhi-net.org/Pages/Forms.aspx>

**Special Assessment (\$50).** This year there will be a \$50 special assessment to cover the costs of transportation. Please pay this fee by the meeting of July 21. (If you or parents assisted in the Golf Tournament back in May, this fee will be waived. Please speak to Paco about this). You can also mail the check to RGVFLA, 2112 W. University Drive PMB #1214, Edinburg TX 78539. Please make the check payable to RGVFLA.

**T-shirt (\$20).** You will need to bring \$20 to pay for the team t-shirt by the meeting of July 21. You can also mail the check to RGVFLA, 2112 W. University Drive PMB #1214, Edinburg TX 78539. Please make the check payable to RGVFLA. **Parents note:** your child might be asked to pay for a t-shirt from their event department; that fee is separate from this one.

**Fiesta Texas (\$30).** After the Great Debate, we will be going to Fiesta Texas. Bring \$30 to the meeting of July 21 so that we can purchase the tickets in advance and get a discounted group rate. You can also mail the check to RGVFLA, 2112 W. University Drive PMB #1214, Edinburg

TX 78539. Please make the check payable to RGVFLA. **NOTE: the Transportation fee, tshirt fee and Six Flags can be put on the same check.**

**Hispanic Youth Fund Donation.** NHI asks all RGV Great Debate team members to donate \$20 for NHI's Hispanic Youth Fund to help needy students who can't pay tuition. Please turn that \$20 in at the July 21 meeting. It should be on a separate check (payable to NHI HYF) or paid in cash.

**Key Deposit.** The University and NHI require a key deposit of between \$20 and \$35 at registration (usually \$20). You must have exact change. If you don't lose your key, you will get your money back.

**Spending Money.** You also need to bring some spending money to cover any extras you may want to buy. All regular meals except for breakfast and lunch Thursday and lunch and dinner on Sunday will be provided as part of your tuition.

**Baggage.** Everyone is limited to 2 suitcases to be stored under the bus. NO MORE THAN 2. This rule will be strictly enforced. You are also allowed up to 2 carry-ons on the bus, including brief cases and laptops.

**Clothing.** You must take dress clothes for two days of competition (example: boys should take a blazer, two dress shirts, two pairs of khakis, and two ties and girls should take a two changes of business attire). Everyone should also bring casual clothes (blue jeans/polo shirts) and dress down (shorts/t-shirts).

**Toiletries.** Pack the usual personal items (i.e. toothbrush, comb, brush, shampoo, etc.) If you need to take special medicine, remember that too.

**Bed Linens and Towels.** You will need to pack bed linens (twin size), a pillow or two, a blanket (dorm rooms get COLD), towels and an alarm clock.

**Iron.** You should bring a travel iron, or a travel steamer or a bottle of Downey Wrinkle Releaser. There is no need to bring an ironing board. Those are available in the dorm.

**Parent Day.** Parents are invited to Great Debate Parent Day on Saturday, July 27, at the UT-Austin. NOTE: parents and visitors must check in with NHI upon arrival at the University.

**IMPORTANT NOTE: PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU DO NOT LEAVE ANYTHING ON THE BUS. WE ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY ITEMS THAT ARE LEFT ON THE BUS.**

#### Important Phone Numbers:

Project Admin.: Paco Gonzales, 457-3932

Head Coach: Tiffany Espericueta 330-6770

Mock Trial Dir. : Sandy de la Tejera 249-8459

CX Dir.: Esti Matulewicz 802-3888

Extemp Dir. : Javier Gonzalez 515-1154

Oratory Dir.: Yvette Pena 212-1992