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## The 2025 Ronald Reagan Debate Series to be Held in Salt Lake City, UT on April 26

**The public is invited to watch competitive debate rounds**

(Simi Valley, CA) Today, The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute is proud to announce the sixth competition of the Ronald Reagan Debate Series will be held at the Hickley Institute of Politics in Salt Lake City, UT on Saturday, April 26, 2025. **Mike Schultz, Speaker of the Utah House of representatives, will be in attendance.**

The Ronald Reagan Debate Series serves as a platform for budding communicators to hone their skills in an environment that mirrors the values of the late President Reagan—respectful discourse, pragmatism, and the ability to connect with others. Join us for the qualifying rounds on April 26 from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM to witness the top 8 local students rise to the challenge and become eloquent champions of dialogue. **The winning student of the regional competition qualifies for the National Championship in July with an all-expenses paid trip to the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum for themselves and a chaperone and their chance to win their share of \$50,000 in scholarship money.**

“It’s an honor to welcome the Reagan Debate Series to the Beehive State. This series not only honors President Reagan’s legacy of leadership and conviction, but also plays a vital role in preparing the next generation to be tomorrow’s leaders—engaged, informed, and ready to serve,” says **Mike Schultz, Speaker of the Utah House of Representatives.**

The Ronald Reagan Debate Series, a prestigious and dynamic debate competition for high school students in grades 9 through 12, will take place at Collegiate School. This event promises to be a unique opportunity for students to demonstrate their communication skills and engage with thought-provoking ideas in a setting that champions civility, storytelling, and effective dialogue.

“Our aim is to shape a future generation of skilled and reflective communicators,” remarked Dr. Richard Schroeder, Chief Education Programming Officer. “Through the Ronald Reagan Debate Series, participants acquire fundamental abilities that go beyond the scope of debate,

highlighting civility in discourse, the importance of critical evaluation, and the value of meaningful interaction in communication."

Unlike conventional debate formats, the Ronald Reagan Debate Series offers an inclusive and innovative structure that accommodates students of all experience levels. Formal debate training is not a prerequisite to participate; instead, the competition features a unique blend of speech and debate, including cross-fire questioning between participants as well as judge-led inquiries during rounds. By encouraging students to emulate the style of former presidential debates, the Debate Series emphasizes clarity over jargon, personality over formality, and humor and storytelling as essential tools for persuasive public speaking.

This year's competition will focus on the resolution "RESOLVED: The US education system should be managed by the states, not the federal government." Participants will have access to free training resources, available on the Ronald Reagan Debate Series website, to help prepare for this significant topic and to familiarize themselves with the series' distinctive debate style.

These resources can be found at [www.reaganfoundation.org/debate](http://www.reaganfoundation.org/debate).

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#### About the Reagan Foundation and Institute

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute (RRPFI) is the sole nonprofit organization created by President Reagan charged with advancing his legacy and principles—individual liberty, economic opportunity, freedom and democracy, peace through strength, and national pride.

A globally recognized nonpartisan organization based in Simi Valley, CA, with a leading policy institute in Washington, DC, RRPFI delivers impactful public affairs programming, policy convenings and projects of national and international significance, and distinctive educational initiatives. In addition, RRPFI sustains the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum, the largest and most visited presidential library, which routinely hosts major special exhibitions.

An hour from Los Angeles International Airport, RRPFI's Simi Valley campus sits on 400 acres, serves as the final resting place of America's 40th President and former First Lady Nancy Reagan, displays a chunk of the Berlin Wall, and houses the plane President Reagan flew as Air Force One to 26 countries. Onsite are the Reagan Center for Public Affairs, Presidential Learning Center, Air Force One Pavilion, and the Reagan Leadership Center. More information is available at [www.reaganfoundation.org](http://www.reaganfoundation.org).