

# Debate for a Day

A Special Middle School Program for Grades 6 through 8

★ "It is better to debate a question without settling than to settle a question without debate."

*Joseph Jaubert*



**Advance critical thinking skills.**

★ **Practice speaking, listening, and viewing for information.** ★

**Explore both sides of an issue.**

This exciting new program is designed to introduce middle school students to the art of debate. After selecting their own topics from an array of issues, students will work in teams to develop arguments both for and against a proposition. While using the museum's artifacts and exhibits to help form their arguments, students will practice using primary sources for information.

#### Sample topics include:

- Barbie™ symbolizes/does not symbolize the American image of what it means to be a woman
- Changes in technology have made a positive/negative impact on how children play
- The fantasy genre of literature teaches/does not teach important, real-life skills

Teachers may also call ahead to develop specific topics that fit their curriculum.

**The program will culminate in a structured public debate where students will actively engage in several different aspects of the debate process.**

#### Typical Daily Schedule

9:00–9:30 a.m.	Registration and Topic Selection	11:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.	Lunch
9:30–10:00 a.m.	The How and Why of Debate	12:15–1:15 p.m.	Structured Debate Forum
10:00–10:15 a.m.	Tips and Strategies	1:15–1:30 p.m.	Reflection
10:15–11:45 a.m.	Exhibit Research		

Available Tuesday through Friday by advanced reservation only.

100 students maximum, \$8.25 per student

**Don't let your students miss this valuable, fun learning opportunity. Call 585-263-2700 to reserve your Debate for a Day!**

