**SPOKEN WORD: “LIGHT THE STAGE-SPARK A REVOLUTION”**

**MARCH 19th 2016**

**INDIANAPOLIS INDIANA**

1. **General Information:**

* This event is for 8-12th graders.
* Each school may send **2 students per category**
* Each team event can include up to **4 students**.
* There will be four categories:
  + **Free Form Spoken Word-** Students prepare an original work based on the theme “Light the Stage- Spark a Revolution” Students should be inspired by a revolutionary moment in their lives or in our world. Maximum time: 3 minutes.
  + **Recited Spoken Word**- Students choose a published work, which they cite, to recite based on the theme “Light the Stage- Spark a Revolution.” Maximum time: 3 minutes.
  + **Persuasive Speech**-Students will be given a persuasive topic based on the theme, “Light the Stage-Spark a Revolution,” a month and a half prior (February 1st) to the competition. Students write a speech and then present in front of audience and judges. Time limits: 2-4 minutes.
  + **Team Event**-Students prepare an original work and present together a unified message on the theme “Light the Stage-Spark a Revolution.” Maximum time for each participant: 2 minutes. For example, a team of three people may have up to 6 minutes.
  + First, Second, and third place will be awarded for each category.
  + No props or music are allowed. Participants present in front of judges and a live audience, and memorization is optional, though encouraged.

1. **Submitting:** 
   * You must submit the names of your students and a copy of their piece to [brooks@conceptschools.org](mailto:brooks@conceptschools.org) no later than **February 26, 2015**. Entry forms will be available on February 1st. A list of participants will be announced once entries have been reviewed.
   * Student names may not be changed after the deadline for submission.
   * Rubrics (Free form and recited share rubric, persuasive and team will have their own rubrics) are attached.
   * Number of rotations/participants per grade level will be announced in January.
   * There will be a **$100 fee per school** to cover event costs.
2. **Ways to prepare in school:**
   * Consider the following extra-curricular suggestions:
     + Form an after school Spoken Word club.
     + Hold regular meeting times, once a week or twice a month, etc.
     + Watch Spoken Word and Persuasive Speakers and teach students how to evaluate good performances.
     + Have students write and perform for extended periods of time.
     + Hold your own local school competitions.
     + Connect to your English classrooms during units on persuasive/argument writing and poetry.
   * Obtain additional resources through your Instructional Coordinators:
     + <http://www.louderthanabombfilm.com/>
     + <http://www.saywhatonline.org/>
     + <http://www.amazon.com/Spoken-Word-Revolution-PB-Audio/dp/1402202466>
   * Idea Banks for School Programs and Classroom Instruction:
     + Involve all students, not just poets – create a newsroom atmosphere, perhaps one day a week, where students take photographs and write stories about poets, teams, or the value of poems to make meaning in our lives.
     + Create a connection between spoken word and popular social media site and music videos, etc. to encourage students to compare the similarities and differences.
     + Create an on-going event environment in the school to show this as a viable entertainment event just as sports and music already are.

One teacher’s example of how to lay out lesson plans can be found at:

<http://marshawaldman.com/MarshaWaldman.com/English_files/SpokenWrod_lesson_plan.pdf>