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Suburbs / Daily Southtown / Southtown News



RIGHTON PARK, ILL-February 15, 2015-Fifteen members of the Southland College Prep Charter High School Speech Forensics team will compete in the [IHSA](#) State finals in Peoria, Saturday, February 21.

Southland's team placed first in four events and took second and third places in two other competitions at the Southwest Suburban Sectional held at Oak Lawn Community High School, Oak Lawn, Illinois this weekend.

Southland's Performance in the Round team placed first in the Sectional competition. The 10 member cast took top honors in their performance of a dialogue segment from playwright Chadwick Boseman's hip-hop influenced production, "Deep Azure."Southland College Prep's Performance in the Round team is comprised of:

Seniors: Jarrett Exum, 18 of Richton Park and Coretta Franklin, 18, of Park Forest;

Juniors: Zadok Dean III, 17 of Country Club Hills and Anthony Harris, 16 of Matteson;

Sophomores: Kapri Echols, 16 of Matteson, Kristen Carter, 16, of Olympia Fields, Tyler McCullar, 15 of Matteson and Tyrin Lane, 16, of Matteson;

Freshmen: Alayna Hester, 14, of Matteson and Katlyn Barksdale, 15, of Matteson.

Takiyah Brown, a 15-year-old sophomore from Richton Park, is the student director of the Southland Performance in the Round team.

Other first place winners in the Southwest Suburban Speech Forensics Sectional are:

Delarah Wright, 17, a senior from Matteson, for Humorous Interpretation;

Erik Thomas, 18, a senior from Matteson and Janessa Colquitt, 16, a junior from Country Club Hills for Dramatic Duet Acting;

Eric Thomas also earned a first place medal for Poetry Reading.

Janessa Colquitt also won a second place medal for Oratorical Declamation and Malik Bibbie, 18, a senior from Richton Park tied for third place in the Original Comedy competition.

"The performance of our Southland College Prep students clearly demonstrates that Speech and Forensics are truly a center of excellence at this school. Their talented and dedicated coach, Ms. Cheryl Frazier, Director of Forensics and Theater, together with her coaching team have prepared our students well. We look forward to keen competition in the State finals in Peoria which will draw some 700 students from 70 high schools around the state," said Dr. Blondean Davis, CEO of Southland College Prep.

Southland College Prep Charter High School placed third in the Southwest suburban Sectional with 33 points. Oak Lawn Community High School took top honors with 50 points and Shepard High School was second with 37 points.