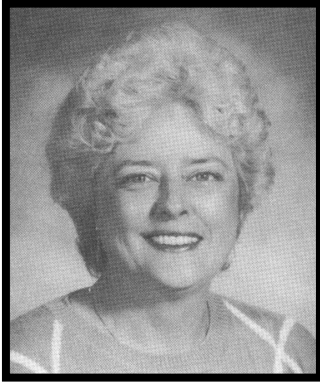


Sandra “Sandy” Oliveras

CHSSA HALL OF FAME 1993



Sandy Oliveras graduated from Anaheim High School where she competed in high school forensics. Coached by John Miller, Sandra went to the State Championships in impromptu in 1960 and in oratory in 1961.

After leaving Anaheim High School, Sandy continued her speech career at Cal State Fullerton. In college forensics she took first three years in a row in oratory at the Western Speech Association Tournament. She also took first in extemp and impromptu in 1964 prior to earning her BA in 1965.

She taught at California State University Fullerton in 1966 before returning to the Anaheim Union High School District – this time as a teacher at Western High School. She remained involved in speech there until she moved to Cypress High School where she started the program that would be hers until leaving in the summer of 1992. During this time, she was a teacher, not only of speech, but also of English and drama. Sandra had many great state and national titles including state finalists in extemp, advocacy, original prose and poetry and dramatic interpretation as well as a state champion in dramatic interp. At Nationals her students placed thirteenth in Lincoln-Douglas debate, fifth in expository, and first in foreign extemporaneous speaking!

In addition to her competitive success, Sandy was a leader in forensics education, serving her local and state speech organizations in various capacities. She completed several years of speech leadership service: She was Orange County Speech league president for eight years. She also served as OCSL treasurer and vice-president.

Sandra also served the speech community at the state level. Beginning in 1985 she was CHSSA area four curriculum representative for two years, area four Chair for three years, and served as the vice-president of activities for three state tournaments. Sandra also edited the CHSSA course of study and helped to write state curriculum for speech education.

Sandy will best be remembered for the three state tournaments she directed. She had a knack for identifying what people do best in order to keep things running smoothly. According to Sandy, “The most important thing or job I do is teaching new coaches the process of how a tournament works and runs.” Sandra was nominated for Teacher of the Year in 1990.

For her service to the California High School Speech Association and its students Sandy was inducted into the CHSSA Hall of Fame in 1993.



After leaving California, she went on to share her speech talents with students in Medford, Oregon. While coaching and teaching at Medford High School she continued to qualify many students to the National Championships and earned her NFL Third Diamond Key Coach award.