

MIKENDRA MCCOY

2017 Hall of Fame Inductee



“Forensics matters because it gives voice to an idea that can be an action that changes the world, one person at a time.”

-Mikendra McCoy



Mikendra McCoy is a force of nature: full of energy, unstoppable, and unforgettable. To those lucky enough to work alongside her, we are amazed by what she is able to accomplish in the forensics world; through hard work, passion, and unmatched dedication, Mikendra is an exceptional example of the kind of coach we all strive to be for our students. More than that, though, Mikendra is the kind of coach that we all endeavor to be for forensics itself.

Over the years, Mikendra's competitors have far surpassed the standards of success that all coaches quietly use (whether we admit it to ourselves or not) to gauge our own abilities: her students can regularly be found in final rounds at league tournaments and the nation's top invitationals, in out-rounds at prestigious events, like NIETOC, and finaling at, and winning, CHSSA State Championship titles. These competitive successes show how well she can coach, but don't begin to define why she is a deserving Hall of Famer. Mikendra deserves this award today because she cares more. Because she tries harder. Because whether or not she is your coach, she will always be there for you. Because if she is your friend, you can know truly that she will always stand tall beside you. No one believes more in the mission of CHSSA, and the impact it can make, than Mikendra McCoy.

A lifelong educator whose passion is speech and

debate education, Mikendra has spent years working for the growth and betterment of our activity. While her decade plus career on the CHSSA council began on the Curriculum Committee, she now serves as the Chair of the Public Relations Committee, tirelessly working for, and always asking how we can better achieve, the empowerment of our students. Throughout the entire process, Mikendra's ultimate focus always remains on what forensics can do for our students and what we can do for forensics.

When you talk to her, it sometimes feels like Mikendra has lived many lives. Ultimately, it is that same complexity- that same uniquely humble, selfless, and graceful point of view- that makes her so beautifully fit within our world. We are lucky to call Mikendra our friend, but we are even more honored to have been able to spend our years working alongside her, learning from her, and growing with her. Everything Mikendra does is for students like those who fill this space today, and the fact she has never lost sight of that goal could be her greatest accomplishment of all. Welcome to the Hall of Fame, Mikendra McCoy.

We love you, friend.

By Angelique Ronald & Karson Kalashian, SVFL Co-Presidents