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<http://nitoc2012.homeschooldebate.net>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## NATIONAL SPEECH & DEBATE TOURNAMENT COMING TO COLORADO SPRINGS

Colorado Springs, Colo., May 10, 2012 – Stoa, a national competitive Christian home-school speech and debate league, will be hosting its annual National Invitational Tournament of Champions (NITOC) in Colorado Springs June 4-9, 2012, at Focus on the Family.

Nearly 500 students competed at last year's national tournament in San Diego, Calif. This will be the first year that the competition will be hosted in Colorado. Approximately 1,500-2,000 students and family members are expected to attend.

“We're excited to welcome this national event to Colorado Springs,” said Dr. Chris Leland, communications professor at CCU in Denver. “Families from all over the country will enjoy beautiful Colorado Springs as they cheer on their kids in competition.” Dr. Leland is the Tournament Director for the week.

Home-school students age 12-18 compete in 11 different speech events and two forms of debate, Team Policy and Lincoln-Douglas Value. Students were required to place in at least two qualifying competitions in order to receive an invitation to the national tournament.

Chris Jeub, a teacher and author of speech and debate curriculum, is the Superintendent of the tournament. “Having such a gathering of academically focused families is an impressive sight. The skills exemplified in the speeches and debates give you hope for the future generation.”

The event is open to the community, and anyone that is at least 18 years old and a high-school graduate is welcome to judge. No previous judging experience is required and training is provided at the tournament. Potential judges and community members are encouraged to visit the tournament website, <http://nitoc2012.homeschooldebate.net>, for more information.

## ABOUT STOA USA

Stoa USA is a national competitive Christian home-school speech and debate league with nearly two thousand students across the country. To find out more about Stoa speech and debate, visit [www.StoaUSA.org](http://www.StoaUSA.org).

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