



# MIAMI-DADE URBAN DEBATE LEAGUE

SEPTEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER



# Bilzin Sumberg

## **BILZIN SUMBERG SEASON OPENER!**

We are thrilled to announce and formally invite you to the Bilzin Sumberg Season Opener!

**This tournament will be held on September 14, 2024, at Miami Dade College North Campus, 11380 NW 27th Ave, Miami, FL 33167, Building 3, Room 3249.**

**All coaches, students, and judges are required to arrive no later than 7:30 AM. We look forward to seeing you there!**



[www.miamiudl.org](http://www.miamiudl.org)



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# PRESS RELEASE

7 SEPTEMBER 2024

## BILZIN SUMBERG LAW FIRM DONATES \$10,000 TO MIAMI-DADE URBAN DEBATE LEAGUE, SPONSORING FIRST DEBATE TOURNAMENT OF THE YEAR

**Miami, FL – September 7, 2024** – Bilzin Sumberg Law Firm announces a \$10,000 donation to the Miami-Dade Urban Debate League (MDUDL) and will sponsor the league's first debate tournament of the year on September 14, 2024, at Miami-Dade College, North Campus.

This contribution supports MDUDL's mission to provide debate opportunities to students across Miami-Dade County, particularly those in under-resourced schools.

"MDUDL's mission to empower youth through active learning and critical thinking is crucial for molding engaged citizens who are effective advocates for themselves and their communities. Bilzin Sumberg proudly supports the League's inspiring and impactful programs for local students."

The tournament will launch the 2024-2025 debate season, offering students a platform to develop their critical thinking, public speaking, and advocacy skills.

### About Bilzin Sumberg

Bilzin Sumberg is a Miami-based commercial law firm deeply invested in fostering enduring community relationships to drive meaningful impact. Through its philanthropic endeavors, financial contributions, board participations, and robust pro bono program, the firm makes this commitment a cornerstone of its identity.

**Contact: Kalyn Lee, Program Director**

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**[www.miamiudl.org](http://www.miamiudl.org)**



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# SEPTEMBER LEAGUE WIDE PRACTICE

**MDUDL**

September League Wide Practice

Date: September 9, 2024

Time: 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Register on our website under the League  
Resources Page – closes on September 7, 2024



[www.miamiudl.org](http://www.miamiudl.org)



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# STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

This year, our league will reward three high school and three middle school students a small scholarship (amounts displayed below), based on their individual performance as a speaker throughout the season. Each students' individual speaker points will be tallied from the first to the last tournament. This scholarship is aimed to encourage participation, public speaking excellence, sportsmanship, and dedication to their craft. Please remind students that missing tournaments will impact their ability to rank, and therefore qualify for the scholarship. **Students will receive extra points for attending and participating in League Wide Practice.**

## Middle School Scholars

### Middle School Awards

First Place: \$200

Second Place: \$100

Third Place: \$50

## High School Scholars

First Place: \$500

Second Place: \$250

Third Place: \$100



# WELCOMING NEW LEADERS

Alexandra Haller is an attorney with Bilzin Sumberg, where she represents private companies and private funds in formation and governance matters, M&A transactions, securities-related matters, and other strategic transactions. Alexandra lends a strong accounting background to her corporate work from her training as a Certified Public Accountant and from her auditing and investigatory work at major U.S. corporations and the IRS Office of Chief Counsel. She leverages this knowledge to provide clients with additional value on their corporate matters. Her broad experience covers matters in a diverse range of sectors, including software, healthcare, life sciences, e-commerce, renewable energy technology, and the aerospace industry, among others. Alexandra relocated to Miami, Florida from Cleveland, Ohio and is looking forward to giving back to the community she now calls home.



Pictured:  
Alexandra Haller  
Board Member



Pictured:  
Rocio Pelaez  
Communications/PR Intern

Rocio Pelaez is an incoming freshman at the University of Miami, majoring in English on the pre-law track with minors in Law and Politics, Public Relations, and Spanish. She graduated from Miami Senior High, where she was co-captain of the debate team as well as leadership roles in other organizations. She was also a 2024 Silver Knight nominee in the Literature category. Rocio was a debater in MDUDL, and represented the league at the national tournament. She enjoys exploring different professional areas, such as finance through her internship at Bank of America and constituent services as a congressional intern for U.S. House Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart.



# 2024-2025 SY CALENDAR

**14**  
**SEPT**

SATURDAY

Location:

Miami-Dade College  
North

Arrival: 7:30 AM

**19**  
**OCT**

SATURDAY

Location:

University of Miami

Arrival: 7:30 AM

**16**  
**NOV**

SATURDAY

Location:

Miami-Dade College  
Kendall

Arrival: 7:30 AM

**14**  
**DEC**

SATURDAY

Location:

Miami-Dade College  
Kendall

Arrival: 7:30 AM

**25**  
**JAN**

SATURDAY

Location:

Florida International  
University

Arrival: 7:30 AM

**22**  
**FEB**

SATURDAY

Location:

Miami-Dade College  
North

Arrival: 7:30 AM

**MDUDL**



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Website Revitalization!

Check out our new and improved website for more resources!

<https://www.miamiudl.org/>



## Post Camp Survey for Camper

Students! Please complete the post camp survey. We want to hear from you!

<https://forms.gle/MepAQFeQ9hGqDS0D9>

