



# Bay Area Urban Debate League

## Capital Campaign

We know our students are brilliant, and we want to the world to see it.

With your support, we will lead the first urban debate team to win a national debate championship, growing visibility for Black and Brown excellence nationwide.

Our students develop vigorous arguments to not only win, but to shed light on policy issues that affect them, growing the next generation of leaders and change-makers.

### We are committed to **Excellence**

**Excellence matters.** Many nonprofits product only superficial results, but the rigor and intensity involved in pursuing a debate national championship will have a transformative effect on participants, offering them access to new networks within higher education and a strong national debate community

**Visibility is important.** As BAUDL students succeed on a national level, it sends a critical signal that urban students can compete—and win—at the highest level. We hope our students' successes will inspire other urban students to strive for excellence in new terrains and give voice to powerful advocates who are often overlooked.

### We are committed to **Equity**

**Debate competition exists on a profoundly uneven playing field**, particularly when it comes to accessing coaches, mentors, and supporters with debate experience. Yet, access to expertise is critical.

Imagine a high school foot ball team coach by a staff of Hall of Fame coaches and the best college players competing against a team who's only coach had just learned the rules of football that year. Regardless of the potential the under-supported team has, the competition is already stacked against them.

Debate is no different and the coaches for urban debate teams are often overworked teachers at their school with no debate background.

These gaps amplify existing inequities that prevent urban youth from accessing the same opportunities as wealthier communities. BAUDL equips urban debate teams with coaches with debate expertise, who are able to bring their own experiences to support our students in growing their skill sets. This offers a critical intervention **to address the structural barriers Black and Brown youth often face.**

## We offer platforms for **Empowered Advocacy**

**Young people are politically engaged, active, and vocal.** Too often, urban youth's voices remain unheard, shut down, and delegitimized.

BAUDL supports students in developing skills to reach new audiences. **We build confidence**, research, writing, and public speaking skills. **We empower young people** to craft well developed and thought through advocacy, to dissect their opponents arguments, and to build the empathy and nuanced positions on world issues that draw from their personal experiences.

Debate offers a platform for young people to refine critical skills in crafting coherent, effective, and persuasive messages that can aid passionate advocacy throughout their lives.

## What will **your support** make possible?

### Debate Expertise—

Funds from the capital campaign will be used to recruit and hire the finest debate minds from around the country, allowing them to work for the development of urban students rather than just over-resourced private schools.

- Every 1 million raised ensures that, each year, BAUDL will be able to hire an additional debate professional. Each debate professional will assist 4 schools.
- BAUDL works with 20 schools throughout the Bay Area, so full coverage can be achieved in perpetuity with 5 million raised.

### Endowment—

BAUDL currently depends on yearly fundraising to meet our budget. Through this capital campaign, we will create an endowment that will provide a sustainable and dependable source of revenue for the organizations, ensuring that we never have to let down a committed debate student due to lack of funds.

#### BAUDL 2020

An unfair debate field due to structural inequalities and lack of resources

- Amateur coaches
- Ad hoc, volunteer judges
- Over-reliance on case packets and limited access to research
- Limited access to school sites and work spaces

#### Your Investments

Investment in Bay Area students and Black and Brown excellence

- Salaries for professional coaches
- Training program for judges
- Subscriptions for access to premium research
- Making sites more available to ease the burden on schools

#### BAUDL 2024

A more equitable debate stage and improved career and educational outcomes

- National champion
- Top tier debaters
- Highest caliber coaching
- Fair and actionable judging

*All donors who give over \$250,000 will have a fellowship named for them at one of our participating schools to recognize their support in providing the debate team with debate expertise.*

