

News > Local News

Brother Rice will host Global Debate

Sunday, December 5, 2010

Brother Rice High School is hosting a Global Debate on Tuesday, Dec. 7, in its Media Center from 6 to 8 p.m.

Now entering their fourth year of participation in the United Nation's Foundation and IDEA Debate, Brother Rice Global Debaters have finished first, fifth and eighth in the world standings. There are more than 242 schools from 52 countries competing in the Global Debates this year. This fall's topic is: "Nations of the world should increase the protection of the economic and social rights of migrants."

Brother Rice will focus on

U.S. immigration and specifically the positive role that immigrants play in Michigan. The Global Debates are designed to bring youth from around the world together to discuss and develop solutions to the world's most dire problems. As part of the Global Debates, the participating schools complete service projects related to the topic.

Brother Rice's previous service projects included hosting the Wild and Scenic Environmental Film Festival in Detroit and Flint and inviting leadership groups from local schools to participate; raising money for the Detroit chapter of StandUp for Kids, installing a native Michigan garden on their campus to combat Climate change and support local Michigan produced goods, and raising money to build a PlayPump (a water pump designed to be installed in African villages; the pump mechanism is operated by children playing on typical playground equipment attached to the pump). The service projects for the

immigration debate will include a compilation of personal interviews with local immigrants and their contributions to the Michigan social and economic climate.

Debaters will also attend some local council meetings and present questions to key leaders in elected positions. Brother Rice holds the distinction of being invited to participate twice in the Youth Leadership Summit and once for the IDEA Debate Youth Forum, the culmination of the debates, where youth from around the world discuss solutions to serious international issues.

"We are enthusiastic to be a grassroots, school organization working in conjunction with local leadership on such issues." stated Nancy Lauer, director of debate at Brother Rice.

For more information about the Global Debates, visit <http://theglobaldebates.org/> or contact Alex Tolksdorf: tolksdam@udmercy.edu or call 248-978-1142. Tolksdorf is the assistant director for the Global Debates at Brother Rice, which is located at 7101 Lahser Road, Bloomfield Hills.