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To Lacy Cannon, TSCA Nominating Committee Chair and Members, TSCA Officers, and the TSCA membership:

With great pleasure and honor, I humbly accept the nomination to run for TSCA Vice President Elect.

My experiences with TSCA and the greater educational speech and debate community in Texas has been rich through the years. Having served as a member and as a chairperson for numerous TSCA committees, Vice Chair and Chair of Oral Interpretation and also Theatre Interest Groups, as a District Vice-Chair and District Chair for District 12 many times, and on the EC as the Newsletter Editor for a number of terms throughout my years as a TSCA member culminate to prove invaluable in experiences, learning from the ground up the value and importance of service to the organization and to my fellow educators. In addition, they have all underscored the myriad responsibilities and details that go into making this incredible organization run efficiently. Therefore, when faced with the tasks and four-year cycle that being elected Vice President Elect and the ensuing years and offices potentially hold, I feel that the many jobs I have performed have prepared me uniquely and well for the honor and responsibilities of holding this office. I feel ready and thrilled at the prospect the opportunities hold. A very wise for President of TSCA once pointed out that TSCA runs on volunteerism and service, and so I understand quite well what sort of responsibilities will be expected of me and look forward to the potential of serving at such a high and important level.

I stand at the doorway of this possibility, seeing many of the great leaders of TSCA who have preceded me, and I feel both grateful and slightly in awe of those amazing individuals and the bar of excellence they set in leading TSCA and Texas speech and debate educators on the junior high, high school, and post-secondary education levels. Their examples, generosity, kindness, and frankness are all things that I will not hesitate to call upon, if elected. In addition, having taught, at each of those levels and now, and in serving my district as UIL and Fine Arts Director, I feel that the variety of experience is another positive quality in making me a good fit for this job. Similarly, having taught in small schools and large, and now teaching a college dual credit class, my varied experiences allow me to understand and be able to speak for all of the various levels with a unique voice as well. My vision for TSCA can be summed up, essentially, in a phrase: the past is prelude to the best possibilities of the future. The potential for leadership in Texas communication, rhetoric, argumentation, and competitive speech here in our state and in the nation at large is a rich one that I certainly do not take lightly, and I will pledge to support and uphold the community in every way possible, if elected.

As a member of TSCA, TFA, NTDA, NSDA, and TETA, and many other related organizations, my varied background and active memberships in our world give me the ability to keep my ear to the rails of large amounts of issues, voice of concern, and changes that come each year in our own organizations and in the legislative side of what we all do and love. I will not be shy in standing up for what we as educators and TSCA at large feel are the important issues in what we teach, all the way through speaking on our behalf to the State Legislature individually and as a whole, when necessary. Further, I feel that being the face and voice of TSCA in the years as President and Immediate Past President would be a challenge to which I will gladly and successfully rise, if called upon.

I truly feel honored and thrilled to have been called upon for nomination to run for this office, and if elected, I will strive to do my best at all tasks the office entails. I am honored to be nominated along with my friend Katrese Skinner, whose work in our world and the world of educational theatre I truly respect. I wish her all the best in the pursuit of the VP Elect office as well. Thank you, TSCA, for this new possibility and opportunity to serve you all.

Sincerely,

Aimee Kasprzyk