

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 10, 2025 Media Contact: Melissa Giller (805) 522-2977

## Nathan Dsilva Advances to the National Championship After Winning the Georgia Regional Competition of the Ronald Reagan Debate Series

(Simi Valley, CA) The Reagan Foundation proudly announces Nathan Dsilva, a sophomore at Milton High School, as the winner of the Georgia Regional Competition of the Ronald Reagan Debate Series which was hosted on Saturday, March 8 at Northview High School. This fiercely contested event showcased the incredible talent and determination of local high school students who demonstrated exceptional skill in persuasive public speaking and respectful discourse.

The final round judges for the competition included Board President Kristin McCabe, Johns Creek Mayor John Bradberry, Zone Superintendent Brian Downey, and People and Culture of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta Krista deKryger.

Dsilva's commanding performance during the competition earned them a coveted spot at the National Championship, to be held this July at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum in Simi Valley, California. He has also been awarded an all-expenses paid trip to the National Championship for themselves and a chaperone, as well as the opportunity to compete for a share of \$50,000 in scholarship money.

The Ronald Reagan Debate Series is designed to foster respectful dialogue, critical thinking, and effective communication among high school students. Dsilva exemplified these values during the regional competition, skillfully engaging with complex topics and presenting arguments with clarity and poise.

"Nathan's performance truly embodied the spirit of President Reagan—a commitment to respectful discourse and connecting with others to find common ground," said Dr. Richard Schroeder, Chief Education Programming Officer. "We are thrilled to see them represent Georgia in the National Championship this summer and wish them the best in their pursuit of excellence."

"Ronald Reagan is my favorite president, and he always cared about the youth as the future of our nation," said Dsilva. "I'm so excited to compete at nationals because this is just an embodiment of his constant desire to always empower youth, empower their speaking, and for us to try to imitate the greatness that he had." The Reagan Foundation congratulates Dsilva and all participants for their remarkable efforts. For more information about the Ronald Reagan Debate Series, including upcoming events and resources for students, please visit <u>www.reaganfoundation.org/debate</u>.

## About the Ronald Reagan Debate Series

The Ronald Reagan Debate Series is an initiative by the Reagan Foundation to inspire the next generation of leaders to engage in meaningful dialogue and cultivate the skills necessary to solve the challenges of tomorrow. Through its competitions, the program emphasizes the values of respectful discourse, pragmatism, and thoughtful communication embodied by President Reagan.

## About the Reagan Foundation and Institute

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute (RRPFI) is the sole nonprofit organization created by President Reagan charged with advancing his legacy and principles – individual liberty, economic opportunity, freedom and democracy, peace through strength, and national pride.

A globally recognized nonpartisan organization based in Simi Valley, CA, with a leading policy institute in Washington, DC, RRPFI delivers impactful public affairs programming, policy convenings and projects of national and international significance, and distinctive educational initiatives. In addition, RRPFI sustains the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum, the largest and most visited presidential library, which routinely hosts major special exhibitions.

An hour from Los Angeles International Airport, RRPFI's Simi Valley campus sits on 400 acres, serves as the final resting place of America's 40th President and former First Lady Nancy Reagan, displays a chunk of the Berlin Wall, and houses the plane President Reagan flew as Air Force One to 26 countries. Onsite are the Reagan Center for Public Affairs, Presidential Learning Center, Air Force One Pavilion, and the Reagan Leadership Center. More information is available at <u>www.reaganfoundation.org</u>.