



FINE ARTS FESTIVAL

# RULEBOOK 2018



As another season of Fine Arts approaches, let us take a moment to consider the “why” behind this ministry. Why practice so hard to develop ministry gifts? Why make an investment by participating in a Section, District, or National festival? Why allow yourself to be evaluated, why try to decipher evaluator comments, why wait on pins and needles to find out what rating you have received? What is the “why” behind Fine Arts?

Simply put, the “why” behind Fine Arts is to spread the gospel. 2 Corinthians 5:20 reads, “We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God.” Everyone who has received Christ as Savior has been commissioned to be an ambassador for Christ. God is making his appeal through you. He is telling the world the good news about Jesus, and he is doing it through you!

How does this connect with Fine Arts? Fine Arts is ultimately about spreading the gospel, because whether you sing, play an instrument, dance, design, act, or speak, you can be Gospel-Centered, Spirit-Empowered, and Personally-Responsible for the mission of God. There are people all around us who need Christ. They may be in the audience as you sing, act, or preach; they may be in your dance studio; they may be in an art gallery viewing your designs. As these people interact with students using their ministry gifts, they are actually interacting with an ambassador for Christ.

As you approach your Fine Arts presentations this year, let this goal be on your mind and direct your path. Use this ministry as an opportunity to discover, develop, and ultimately to deploy your ministry gifts in a world that needs Jesus. Allow the Lord to sharpen your gifts to their fullest potential. Commit to being an ambassador for Christ: a student who is Gospel-Centered, Spirit-Empowered, and Personally-Responsible for the mission of God. Together, let us follow Colossians 3:17, “And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

National Fine Arts Festival Team

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## NEW FOR THE 2018 NATIONAL FINE ARTS FESTIVAL

1. The location for the 2018 National Fine Arts Festival is Houston, TX

Dates: July 30 - August 3, 2018

Location: George R. Brown Convention Center

1001 Avenida De Las Americas

Houston, TX 77010

Website: <http://www.grbhouston.com/>

Housing: Please visit [www.houston18.ag.org](http://www.houston18.ag.org)

Registration and Deadlines: The postmark/fax deadline is May 18, 2018. Online registration closes at 11:59 pm. (CDT) on June 1, 2018. Visit [www.houston18.ag.org](http://www.houston18.ag.org). See pages 9 through 12 for complete detailed information.

2. The following categories have had rule changes:

- Songwriting - rules regarding accompaniment and lyric sheets
- Songwriting, Modern Hymn - rules regarding accompaniment and lyric sheets
- Art - rules regarding framing
- Dance - rules regarding apparel and presentation time limits
- Writing and Film Categories - delivery instructions have changed
- Flash Fiction - new word count rule
- American Sign Language Categories - new presentation rules

3. Submission guidelines have been changed for writing and film categories. We no longer use a pre-festival upload system.

All writing and film entries for the NFAF must be hand-delivered to the Art/Film/Writing check-in booth by the student or a representative of the student following the completion of on-site check in on Monday, July 30, 2018, between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. For more information on the number of entries for each category please see the individual category rules.

4. There has been a name change to First Person Essay. It is now called Creative Fiction/Memoir.

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## INFORMATION

The General Information section applies to all Kappa Tau participants.

For information pertaining to your district festival, contact your District Youth Director or District Fine Arts Coordinator.

### PURPOSE

Kappa Tau: College Fine Arts is a discipleship tool of the national youth ministries (nym) of the Assemblies of God (AG) designed to help students discover, develop, and deploy their ministry gifts.

Although competitive elements are present, providing a competition venue is not the primary mission of the Fine Arts Festival. Through Fine Arts Festival, students are given the opportunity to have their skills evaluated by qualified ministers, industry professionals, and educators who encourage excellence, offer ideas for improvement, and inspire students to use their gifts in the local church, community, and around the world in ministry or secular vocation. Scores are not as important as lessons learned, experience gained, and skills developed.

### RULES AGREEMENT

Kappa Tau (KT) participants must read and abide by this 2018 Kappa Tau Rulebook. It is the responsibility of each participant to be familiar with the rules and procedures of this festival. No other person may be held responsible for a participant's lack of information.

By signing a District and/or Houston 2018 registration form and attending or participating in a festival, pastors, leaders, parents, and students acknowledge that:

1. They have read, understand, and agree to abide by the rules of this festival.
2. They will accept the decisions of the evaluators and coordinators as final.

### DISTRICT FINE ARTS FESTIVALS

Kappa Tau participants are not required to participate in nor receive an advancing rating from a district Festival. Some districts do offer Kappa Tau categories at their district Festival for students wishing to receive additional experience. Contact your district office for specific information on availability of Kappa Tau categories and how to register for your local festival(s). Visit [www.kappatau.ag.org](http://www.kappatau.ag.org) for district contact information.

It is the participant's responsibility to contact their district office for specifics regarding the district festival. NFAF is not responsible for rules, policies, or category variations specific to district festivals.

## **PARTICIPANT REQUIREMENTS**

Kappa Tau: College Fine Arts is open to all Christian students who meet the following criteria:

1. Participating students must be 18 to 23 years of age and no longer enrolled in high school as of September 1, 2017.
2. Participants must be in good standing with a local AG church and/or AG student ministries organization (e.g., Chi Alpha, Master's Commission or University).

Kappa Tau participants do not need to qualify at a district Fine Arts Festival to register for the National Fine Arts Festival, however, some districts offer a Kappa Tau division. Contact your local coordinators for more information.

## **NATIONAL FINE ARTS FESTIVAL AND AIM OUTREACH REGISTRATION**

Each Fine Arts participant who qualifies by receiving a "Superior with Invitation" or "Advance" rating at their district festival and wishes to participate in the NFAF must submit a Houston 18 registration form or register Online and pay the accompanying fee.

### ***Registration Form***

The Houston18 registration form is available at [www.faf.ag.org](http://www.faf.ag.org) as of February 1, 2018.

The final postmark deadline for all mailed or faxed registration forms is May 18, 2018. No exceptions. Any student wishing to register after this postmark deadline may do so through our online registration system at [www.faf.ag.org](http://www.faf.ag.org) until June 1, 2018.

All forms must be filled out completely and fees calculated correctly. If forms are received at the NFAF office incomplete in any way, the registrant may be assessed an incomplete fee of \$20. If you have any questions regarding the correct procedure for completing the forms, call the NFAF for assistance at 417.862.2781 x. 4458.

If a participant misses the selection of a category on his/her registration, he/she may add it by calling 417.862.2781 x. 4458 or e-mailing [faf@ag.org](mailto:faf@ag.org) through June 1 with complete details and payment information. Any requests to add missed category tickets after this deadline must be made by calling the NFAF office at 417.862.2781 x. 4458. These requests may be considered until June 9, 2018, and will accrue an additional \$10 late fee per category.

NFAF suggests that all mailed forms and fees be sent via certified mail, FedEx, DHL, or UPS. NFAF is not responsible for mail that is lost or delayed by the delivery service chosen by the registrants.

Mailed registration forms and fees should be sent to:

National Youth Ministries  
Attn: Houston18  
1445 North Boonville Avenue  
Springfield, MO 65802-1894

Complete payment must accompany mailed registration forms. Submit only one payment for all registrations in the packet. Credit Cards are the preferred payment method. American Express, Visa, MasterCard, and Discover are accepted. Cash is not accepted.

Faxed registration forms are accepted at 855.611.8959. Credit card payment must accompany the form(s).



## **Online Registration**

Online registration opens for qualified students at [www.faf.ag.org](http://www.faf.ag.org) on February 5, 2018. Online registration closes at 11:59 p.m. (CST) on June 1, 2018. Any requests to register after this deadline must be made by calling the NFAF office at 417.862.2781 x. 4458. Late registrations may be considered until June 8, 2018, and will accrue a \$30 late registration fee, and an additional \$10 late fee per category.

An Online session cannot be saved. All information must be entered, all category tickets must be selected, and all fees must be paid during the session.

Students registering Online receive a medical release form. The medical release form must be completed and mailed or faxed back to the NFAF within ten business days of completing Online registration. Forms not received in this time are subject to the \$20 Incomplete Fee.

If a participant misses the selection of a category ticket on his/her registration, he/she may add it by calling 417.862.2781 x. 4458 or e-mailing [faf@ag.org](mailto:faf@ag.org) through June 1 with complete details and payment information. Any requests to add missed category tickets after this deadline must be made by calling the NFAF office at 417.862.2781 x. 4458. These requests may be considered until June 9, 2018, and will accrue an additional \$10 late fee per category.

The registration fee(s) must be paid at the time of Online registration. Credit Cards are the only available Online payment method. American Express, Visa, MasterCard, and Discover are accepted.

## **Houston18 Registrants and fees**

A National Fine Arts Festival Participant is defined as a student who qualifies for the FAF according to the NFAF Participant Requirements found on page 11, or as a Kappa Tau participant according to the KT Requirements found at [www.kappatau.ag.org](http://www.kappatau.ag.org). Qualifying students must register Online or complete the Houston18 registration form. Fine Arts Participants may only register for the category(ies) for which they qualified at the district festival.

All other attendees must register as a National Youth Convention Attendee or register as a Parent/Leader.

### **Fine Arts or Kappa Tau Participant - \$80 Registration**

This registration **does not** include the first Fine Arts or Kappa Tau category. Each category is an additional ticket of \$20 above the registration fee, please see "Add-on Tickets" below.

Admission to National Youth Convention

Admission to view all FAF and KT presentations

Admission to Workshops

Admission to all evening services

1 Event T-Shirt

1 Official Program

### **Add-on tickets:**

Fine Arts or Kappa Tau Categories: \$20 each (includes initial presentation evaluation sheets and certificates/awards)

Additional Event T-Shirt: \$10

Additional Official Program: \$10

## **Cancellations**

We understand that there are times when unexpected emergencies arise necessitating a change in plans. In this event, requests for refunds may be submitted by calling the NFAF office at 417.862.2781 x. 4458. Any refunds that are approved will incur a 30% non-refundable administrative fee.

## **Overpayment Refunds**

Overpayment refunds are given but may be processed post-festival and require a non-refundable processing fee of \$20. Overpayment refund requests must be submitted in writing via e-mail ([faf@ag.org](mailto:faf@ag.org)) no later than September 15, 2018.

## **On-Site Check-In**

All registrants must be present or represented by an adult to complete the mandatory On-Site Check-In from 9:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. Monday, July 30 in Houston, Texas.

Event materials (Official Program, event shirt, access badge, etc.) are available only during On-Site Check-In. Items not picked up during On-Site Check-In are not guaranteed to be available at a later time and are not mailed post-festival.

## **Evaluation Process and Ratings**

Three qualified evaluators, chosen for their education, expertise, and impartiality, evaluate each presentation using the following general criteria:

- Selection
- Communication
- Presentation and Technique
- Overall Effectiveness

At the NFAF, an average of the scores from three evaluators determines the rating of each entry.

The following ratings are given to presentations at the national level of evaluation:

- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Up to 25 points | Fair           |
| 26 – 30 points  | Good           |
| 31 – 35 points  | Excellent      |
| 36 – 40 points  | Superior       |
| -2 points       | Time Violation |
| -2 points       | Rule Violation |

The following awards are given at the national level of evaluation. Entries must have received a Superior on their Initial Presentation to be eligible for awards.

### **Official Categories**

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Award of Merit | One trophy per group/solo entry and one certificate per individual |
| Top 3          | Entry name recognized at Celebration Service                       |
| Top 10         | Posted Online following the Festival                               |

### **Official Jr. Categories**

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| Award of Excellence | One trophy per group/solo entry and one certificate per individual |
| Top 3               | Entry name recognized at Celebration Service                       |
| Top 10              | Posted Online following the Festival                               |

At the NFAF, callbacks may be conducted in categories with a large number of entries. Callbacks are issued to a top percentage or number of the entries receiving a “Superior” rating. Callbacks serve to assist the evaluators in choosing the Assemblies of God National Award of Merit, Award of Excellence, and Honorable Mention recipients.

Presentations must receive a Superior rating to be considered for a Callback or any other award. However, receiving a Superior does not automatically qualify a student for a Callback or other award. Neither evaluation sheets nor certificates are distributed for callback presentations.

The rating that NFAF participants receive during their initial presentation(s) is the rating reflected on the evaluation sheets and certificate(s) distributed at the NFAF and is the rating that serves as the permanent record for scholarship verification (in addition to any NFAF awards received).

All evaluation sheets and certificates must be picked up by noon Friday, August 6, 2018 at the on-site Certificate Booth and retained for future scholarship verification. No attempt is made after the NFAF to return materials not collected on site. The NFAF cannot print certificates post-Festival.

### ***Code of Conduct***

NFAF maintains a high standard for its participants and attendees. Parents, leaders, students, and guests involved in this festival should be committed to the ministry and should represent Christ in their behavior.

Parents, leaders, students, and guests are expected to demonstrate integrity, respect, and support for all other churches, teams, evaluators, participants and volunteers. An overly competitive attitude, rudeness, or unsportsmanlike conduct is not acceptable and is considered grounds for dismissal.

NFAF provides volunteers who operate as auxiliary staff for the festival. These volunteers give their time and resources and work long hours throughout the week to serve students and the festival. Any rude behavior including verbal/physical abuse directed towards our volunteer staff will not be tolerated and may result in disqualification and dismissal of parents, leaders, students, and guests.

It is the responsibility of all NFAF participants and attendees to leave a positive impression at the facilities and on the people with whom we work. Therefore, any participant or attendee showing disrespect for people or property in the host city may be disqualified and dismissed from the NFAF.

### ***Dress Code***

Appropriate dress is required for all entries—keeping category norms, intended audience, and ministry effectiveness in mind.

### ***Equipment Provided***

For a list of equipment provided and allowed audio formats at your district festival, contact your District Youth Director or District Fine Arts Coordinator.

For a list of equipment provided and approximate stage sizes at the NFAF, visit [www.faf.ag.org](http://www.faf.ag.org).

Wherever possible, the NFAF provides all listed equipment and listed stage sizes. However, where space or other limitations exist, the NFAF reserves the right to remove or limit the availability of provided equipment and adjust stage sizes.

For presentations requiring audio, the NFAF only provides 3.5mm (1/8”) audio plugs. Participants are responsible to bring a suitable device with 3.5 mm (1/8”) audio jack in order to play their tracks.

**USB files and CDs are not accommodated.**

### ***Room Configuration***

Every effort is made to provide adequate space for all presentations. However, be prepared to adjust your presentation according to room and stage sizes.

### ***Scholarship Information***

Many AG universities, colleges, and Master's Commission programs offer scholarships to qualified district and NFAF participants. Each institution determines and administers their own application process and award amounts. Visit [www.colleges.ag.org](http://www.colleges.ag.org) or contact the AG university or college of your choice for more information.

# GENERAL RULES

## INFORMATION

The General Rules section applies to all Kappa Tau participants.

For General Rule questions pertaining to your district festival, contact your District Youth Director or District Fine Arts Coordinator.

Read the category rules and evaluation criteria for each category in addition to the General Rules.

Category Rules govern the objective elements presentations must follow and are subject to rule violations if not followed.

Evaluation Criteria govern the subjective elements of a presentation and help define what the evaluators are looking for.

## RULE AND TIME VIOLATIONS

Rule and time violations in any category receive a two-point deduction per violation, per evaluator.

## CONTENT

The goal of the NFAF is to spread the gospel whether through preaching, ASL, acting, dancing, singing, playing an instrument, sculpting, painting, or any other medium, the goal remains the same: spreading the gospel. Some categories naturally lend themselves to telling the message of the gospel while others are a celebration of ministry gifts within our students in whom that message resides. The following terms are meant to serve as a guide as you prepare your Fine Arts presentations.

***Christian Message:*** is defined as, “anything that reflects the message of Jesus.” We believe the *Christian Message* is found in the person rather than the presentation. This is illustrated by a Christian student who plays basketball. While there is nothing “Christian” about the sport of basketball, we believe this student can have an incredible witness as a basketball player. Therefore, the *Christian Message* rests in the heart of the person not the presentation of gifts.

***Evident Ministry:*** is defined as, “a presentation that communicates a biblical truth.” Biblical truths are communicated in various ways through different mediums. Biblical truths can also be communicated through illustrations by assigning redemptive value. Please consult the category rules for clarity on which categories require *Evident Ministry*.

***Redemptive Value:*** is defined as, “using an illustration or prop to present a biblical truth which may be outside its original intended purpose.”

***Overall Effectiveness:*** is defined as, “a quality presentation that is deemed appropriate for this festival.

The following content is never allowed in any Fine Arts presentation and will result in disqualification:

1. Explicit songs, lyrics, text, scripts, or images.
2. Cursing.
3. Racial slurs and intentional/blatant racial insensitivity. Remember, you are ministering to a culturally and geographically diverse audience in Fine Arts.

For further information and videos related to these terms simply scan the QR code below or visit: [s1.ag.org/FAFTERMS](http://s1.ag.org/FAFTERMS)



### **TIME LIMITS**

All scheduled events have time limitations (see specific category rules to find out time limits). Each presentation room has an official timekeeper. If a presentation exceeds the time limit, a two-point deduction from each evaluator is assessed.

Time for setup begins when the name of the entry/participant is called as being “up” and the announcement is made that “your setup time begins now.”

Time for the presentation begins when a participant does or says anything to indicate the beginning of the presentation, including introductory remarks.

### **APPROVED LANGUAGES**

Bilingual entries are not permitted.

Entries designated as American Sign Language categories must be presented entirely in American Sign Language. Entries not otherwise designated must be presented entirely in English.

Background vocals must be in the same language as the presentation.

### **GROUP ENTRY PARTICIPANT GUIDELINES**

A group/ensemble entry is defined as a presentation given by two to 10 students.

### **ENTRY LIMIT GUIDELINES**

A participant or group of participants may not enter the same category of a division twice. There is no limit to the number of different categories in each division for which a participant may register.

There is no limit to the number of qualified entries from one church.

## LICENSE

NFAF attendees and/or participants, by their signature on the national registration form, grant permission to The General Council of the Assemblies of God and to national youth ministries to use the registrant's image(s) and to photograph, reproduce, edit, publish, and/or record any musical, dramatic, artistic, photographic, and/or written presentation at the NFAF without compensation to the registrant, author, or creator of the work for the purpose of promoting the NFAF and/or national youth ministries. The author or creator of any entry used retains copyright ownership.

## \*NEW\* INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS REQUIRED

The following rule applies to any presentation, in any category, in any division that utilizes music. Before beginning the presentation, participants must introduce their music selection(s) by stating the title(s), name of the artist/composer, and arranger (if known). If the piece was composed or arranged by the student, that should be stated. Introductory comments DO NOT count toward the set up or presentation time limits. These comments must be minimal (not an opportunity for other comments like a testimonial or any justification for choosing the song(s), 15 to 20 seconds is sufficient). Please follow this example: "Hello, my name is (or) our group name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I/we have chosen to use "Here as in Heaven" by Elevation Worship (and song #2, and song #3) for our presentation."

## COPYRIGHTED MATERIAL

It is the responsibility of the students, parents, and youth leaders to be completely legal and ethical in their conduct regarding copyrighted music, scripts, or any other original published or unpublished works. All NFAF participants should follow these guidelines:

- a. Never use digital or printed copies of music or scripts to avoid purchasing original materials.
- b. Never use software, sound files, video clips, quotes, or any other copyrighted work for your presentation without obtaining the copyrights or the explicit written permission from the publisher or creator. Always give appropriate credit to the author or creator for all copyrighted materials used to create your Fine Arts Festival entries.
- c. Never use unpublished music or scripts without written permission from the author or creator of the work.
- d. Splicing should only be done after obtaining the proper license or permission of the copyright owner(s).

## SUBSTITUTIONS

If you need a substitute for a student who participated at the district level, but is unable to attend the national festival, follow these instructions:

1. Substitutions may be made between the district festival and the national festival as follows:

Small Groups (two to four participants) are allowed one substitution.

Large Groups (five to ten participants) are allowed two substitutions.

Choir is allowed three substitutions.

The original group is understood to be the group members who participated at the district festival. If a student registered for but did not participate in a group at the district festival, he/she is not counted in the original group.

2. Please fill out a Houston 18 registration form for nationals and in the “I am a substitute for” section, list the name of the student who is unable to participate at nationals.

If you need to substitute a student after you have registered your group for the national festival, follow these instructions:

1. There can only be a post-registration substitution if the original group member is paid in full. The Fine Arts office is unable to process new payments after the registration deadline.

2. Please submit a completed Houston 18 substitution registration form (available at [www.faf.ag.org](http://www.faf.ag.org)) whether the substitute is already registered for the national festival or not. Send the completed form either by fax to the Fine Arts office or e-mail it to [faf@ag.org](mailto:faf@ag.org).

3. Substitutions may be sent in through July 20, 2018. Substitutions may also be made at On-Site Check-In on Monday, July 30, 2018.

## APPROVED INSTRUMENT LISTS

Electronic versions of approved instruments are allowed (except where category rules state otherwise) as long as the participant provides the necessary amplifiers and cords, and time limits are not exceeded.

### **Keyboards**

(NFAF provides either a Piano or Keyboard for categories that require them; see individual category rules for specifications.)

Piano                                      Keyboard                                      Synthesizer

### **Woodwinds**

Flute family                                      Oboe                                      English Horn                                      Clarinet family  
Saxophone family                                      Bassoon

### **Brass**

Horn family                                      Trumpet family                                      Trombone family                                      Baritone (T.C./B.C.)  
Euphonium                                      Tuba

### **Traditional Strings**

Violin                                      Viola                                      Cello                                      String Bass                                      Harp

### **Rhythm/Alternate Strings**

(NFAF provides a direct box and an amplifier.)

Acoustic Guitar                                      Bass Guitar                                      Electric Guitar                                      12-string Guitar

\*Guitar Solo may not use a bass guitar

### **Percussion, Traditional**

Drums (and Cymbals)                                      Bongo                                      Cajon                                      Congas  
Djembe                                      Guiro                                      Hand Bells                                      Maracas  
Marimba                                      Orchestra Bells                                      Sandpaper Blocks                                      Shakers  
Tambourine                                      Timbales                                      Timpani                                      Triangle  
Vibraphone                                      Wood Blocks                                      Xylophone



A basic drum set is provided for some categories. See individual category rules for specifications.

Kick Drum/Single Pedal	Snare	Two Rack Toms	Floor Tom
Crash Cymbal	Hi-Hat Cymbal	Ride Cymbal	

Additional percussion accessories are permitted (double bass pedal, extra cymbals, etc.) but must be provided by the participant; setup and tear down time limits apply.

***Other***

Harmonica (Christian Band, Instrumental Ensemble, Contemporary, or Worship Team.)

# ART DIVISION

## CATEGORIES

Registrants in the Art Division may submit entries in the following categories:

Graphic Design

Photography, Film

Visual Art, Three-Dimensional

Visual Art, Two-Dimensional, Painting and Drawing

Photography, Digital

T-shirt Design

Visual Art, Two-Dimensional, Alternative Media

## INFORMATION

Read the General Information and General Rules on pages 9 - 17.

A sample fillable PDF credit line (information page) for all Art Division entries is available at [www.faf.ag.org/resources.cfm](http://www.faf.ag.org/resources.cfm).

## NFAF DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS

Art Division entries for the NFAF must be hand-delivered to the Art Gallery by the artist or a representative of the artist following the completion of On-Site Check-In on Monday, July 30, 2018, between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Art entries are not accepted prior to On-Site Check-In or after On-Site Check-In closes at 6:00 p.m. on July 30, 2018.

The utmost care is taken in the handling of Art Division entries. However, the creator of the work assumes full liability for damage due to the handling of the artwork before, during, and after the Festival. Artists desiring additional protection should personally insure their entries.

## NFAF INFORMATION

The artist/designer is not required to be present at the NFAF.

Artists/designers not attending the NFAF in person must meet registration deadlines and pay the full registration fee.

Art entries may be delivered and/or picked up at the NFAF by an adult representing a participant.

Art Division entries, evaluation sheets, and certificates must be picked up between 9:00 a.m. and noon on Friday, August 3, 2018. No attempt is made to return the art entries to participants after the NFAF.

# ART

## **Rules (apply to all Art Division categories)**

1. Art entries must be entirely the original work of one eligible student and not previously submitted in this festival.
2. **Every Art Division entry must have a typed credit line (information page) attached to the entry upon delivery.** If the credit line is not present, is missing any information, or is handwritten upon delivery at the art gallery, the entry receives a 2-point rule violation per evaluator. The credit line must include the following Information
  - Participant
  - Category
  - Designation of medium (state the material used to create the piece; visual art entries only)
  - Explanation of medium (explain how the piece was created in technical terms by stating equipment used, process, etc.)
  - Church name
3. Only the credit line is required (according to rule #2). An essay or story explaining the message or the theme of the piece is not allowed.
4. If setup or assembly is required for the display of Art Division entries, it must be completed by the student.
5. The overall size (including mounting and mat) of any entry in the Art Division may be no smaller than 8 by 10 inches and no larger than 32 by 32 inches (except for Visual Art, Three-Dimensional, see page 23).
6. Framing other than mat board, foam core, or stretched canvas is not allowed. No glass is allowed.
7. Weapons are not allowed in the Art Gallery. If a student attempts to enter a weapon for evaluation it will be removed from the gallery, held by security for the duration of the festival, and can be retrieved by the student's leader from security on Friday after the Art Gallery closes.

# GRAPHIC DESIGN

***This category must present Evident Ministry (please see pg. 14 for the definition of Evident Ministry at NFAF)***

## **Rules**

1. In the Graphic Design category, the following mediums are accepted:

advertisement	billboard	brochure	bulletin
business card	flier	letterhead	logo
newsletter	poster	web page	
2. Graphic Design entries must be mounted flat on art board (foam core or mat board). Entries must be no smaller than 8 by 10 inches and no larger than 32 by 32 inches.
3. Entries in the Graphic Design category may take any of the following forms: finished piece, full-color drawing, or comprehensive full-color dummy or proof. Digital imagery and computer illustrations are appropriate for this category but must be high-resolution (at least 300 dpi at

100 percent of output size). Students should submit the best representation of their design.

## **Evaluation Criteria**

### **SELECTION**

Appropriate – appropriate for this festival in subject and taste; appropriate level of difficulty.

Fresh concept – demonstrates a fresh approach.

### **COMMUNICATION**

Initial impression – immediate visual impact; meaning and message readily grasped.

Originality – displays an individualistic style; avoids overused ideas or concepts.

Range of appeal – relevant and appealing to multiple audiences.

Visual impact – imagery that is visually compelling; forceful, subtle, or vivid.

### **PRESENTATION AND TECHNIQUE**

Clarity – well defined in its intent.

Consistency – consistent use of medium.

Finished presentation – completeness; graphic design entries must be mounted flat on art board or matte board; and no smaller than 8 by 10 inches and no larger than 32 by 32 inches.

Organization – apparent focal point; organization of compositional elements.

Proportion – appropriate use of space.

Technique – proper use of the medium.

Use of color/values – consistent and visually enhancing color and/or gradation.

Use of type – correct spelling, interesting use of fonts and font sizes, interesting use of upper/lower case.

### **OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS**

Effectiveness – produces an overall effective visual impression or impact.

Preparation – an apparent effort of time and thought in preparation.

Understandable concept – the combination of subject selection, communication, presentation and technique, and effectiveness in attaining a response.

## **PHOTOGRAPHY**

### **Photography, Digital Rules**

1. Only digital cameras may be used for photographs entered in the Photography, Digital category.
2. The credit line page that must accompany the entry must indicate the camera, type of software, and any other form of technology used to produce the image under “Explanation of medium.”
3. Entries do not have to be overtly “religious” in subject or theme.
4. Computer-generated improvements are allowed in order to enhance the original photograph (cropping, color depth or hue, color contrast, etc.).
5. A montage of up to three photographs may be used to create one image. All photographs used to create the image must appear to the viewer as if they are a single image. All photographs used to create the image must be the original work of the student.
6. No collages are permitted in this category.

7. No typography is to be added to the finished image. Words or letters in the photograph must appear to the viewer as if they are a part of the image.
8. A Photography, Digital image may be mounted on or printed directly on art board (foam core or matte board), or stretched canvas. The entry may be “framed” with cut matte board. No other framing is allowed. The image must be no smaller than 8 by 10 inches and no larger than 32 by 32 inches.

## **Evaluation Criteria**

### **SELECTION**

Appropriate – appropriate for this festival in subject and taste; overtly “religious” subject, symbols, or themes is not required; appropriate level of difficulty.

Fresh concept – demonstrates a fresh approach.

Style – keeps with genre (traditional or digital).

### **COMMUNICATION**

Initial impression – immediate visual impact; meaning and general intent readily grasped.

Originality – displays an individualistic style; avoids overused ideas or concepts.

Range of appeal – relevant and appealing to multiple audiences.

Visual impact – imagery that is visually compelling; forceful, subtle, or vivid.

### **PRESENTATION AND TECHNIQUE**

Consistency – consistent use of medium.

Elements of design – incorporation of shape, line, pattern, texture, space, framing, size, angle, and cropping.

Finished presentation – completeness; photograph must be mounted (no framing other than matte) with overall size no smaller than 8 by 10 inches and no larger than 32 by 32 inches.

Flow – a natural flow of image(s) for viewer’s eye.

Lighting – effective use of light; develops mood and nuance.

Organization – apparent focal point; organization of compositional elements.

Proportion – appropriate use of space.

Technique – proper use of the medium.

Use of color/contrast – black and white reveals contrast; color is clear and appropriate for image.

### **OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS**

Effectiveness – produces an overall effective visual impression or impact.

Preparation – an apparent effort of time and thought in preparation.

Understandable concept – the combination of subject selection, communication, presentation and technique, and effectiveness in attaining a response.

## **T-SHIRT DESIGN**

***This category must present Evident Ministry (please see pg. 14 for the definition of Evident Ministry at NFAF)***

### **Rules**

1. T-Shirt Design entries may take any of the following forms: finished T-Shirt, full-color drawing, or comprehensive full-color computer dummy or proof. Students should submit the best representation of their designs.

2. Entries submitted in a finished-shirt format must be displayed over art board, T-Shirt board, or cardboard. Neither mannequin nor bust displays are permitted.
3. Entries submitted in full-color drawing format or as a computer-generated image must be mounted on art board (foam core or matte board) and may be no smaller than 8 by 10 inches and no larger than 32 by 32 inches. The entry may be framed with cut matte board. Framing other than matte board is not allowed.

## **Evaluation Criteria**

### **SELECTION**

Appropriate – appropriate for this festival in subject and taste; appropriate level of difficulty.  
Fresh concept – demonstrates a fresh approach.

### **COMMUNICATION**

Initial impression – immediate visual impact; meaning and message readily grasped.  
Originality – displays an individualistic style; avoids overused ideas or concepts.  
Range of appeal – relevant and appealing to multiple audiences.  
Visual impact – imagery that is visually compelling; forceful, subtle, or vivid.

### **PRESENTATION AND TECHNIQUE**

Clarity – well defined in its intent.  
Consistency – consistent use of medium.  
Finished presentation – completeness; design submitted in finished T-shirt format should be mounted on art or T-shirt board no larger than 32 by 32 inches. T-shirt design submitted in color proof format should be mounted on art board no smaller than 8 by 10 inches and no larger than 32 by 32 inches.  
Organization – apparent focal point; organization of compositional elements.  
Proportion – appropriate use of space.  
Technique – proper use of the medium.  
Use of color/values – consistent and visually enhancing color and/or gradation.  
Use of type – correct spelling, interesting use of fonts and font sizes, interesting use of upper/lower case.

### **OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS**

Effectiveness – produces an overall effective visual impression or impact.  
Preparation – an apparent effort of time and thought in preparation.  
Understandable concept – the combination of subject selection, communication, presentation and technique, and effectiveness in attaining a response.

## **VISUAL ART**

### **Visual Art, Three-Dimensional Rules**

1. Visual Art, Three-Dimensional entries are defined as either sculpture that can be viewed from all sides or a work that simulates the effect of depth or the illusion of a third dimension.
2. In the Visual Art, Three-Dimensional category, the following mediums are accepted:  
mixed media                      sculpture
3. Entries do not have to be overtly “religious” in subject or theme.

4. Mounting is not required. The overall size may be no smaller than 6 inches by 6 inches by 6 inches and no larger than 32 inches by 32 inches by 32 inches.
5. Weapons are not allowed in the Art Gallery. If a student attempts to enter a weapon for evaluation it will be removed from the gallery, held by security for the duration of the festival, and can be retrieved by the student's leader from security on Friday after the Art Gallery closes.

### **Visual Art, Two-Dimensional, Alternative Media Rules**

1. In the Visual Art, Two-Dimensional, Alternative Media category, mediums accepted include, but are not limited to:

collage	montage	mosaic	comic strip
mixed media	stained glass	found materials	prints
beads	wires		

2. Entries do not have to be overtly "religious" in subject or theme.
3. Visual Art, Two-Dimensional, Alternative Media entries must be mounted on foam core or matte board. The entry may be framed with cut matte board. Framing other than matte board is not allowed. Entries may be no smaller than 8 by 10 inches and no larger than 32 by 32 inches.
4. Weapons are not allowed in the Art Gallery. If a student attempts to enter a weapon for evaluation it will be removed from the gallery, held by security for the duration of the festival, and can be retrieved by the student's leader from security on Friday after the Art Gallery closes.

### **Visual Art, Two-Dimensional, Painting and Drawing Rules**

1. In the Visual Art, Two-Dimensional, Painting and Drawing category, mediums accepted include, but are not limited to:

acrylics	watercolor	oils	tempera
sketches (ink, pencils, chalk, charcoal, pastels)			

2. Entries do not have to be overtly "religious" in subject or theme.
3. Visual Art, Two-Dimensional, Painting and Drawing entries must be mounted on foam core or matte board. Paintings on stretched canvas are considered mounted already. The entry may be framed with cut matte board. Framing other than matte board is not allowed. Entries may be no smaller than 8 by 10 inches and no larger than 32 by 32 inches.

### **Evaluation Criteria**

#### **SELECTION**

Appropriate – appropriate for this festival in subject and taste; overtly "religious" subject, symbols, or theme are not required; appropriate level of difficulty.

Fresh concept – demonstrates a fresh approach.

#### **COMMUNICATION**

Initial impression – immediate visual impact; meaning and general intent readily grasped.

Originality – displays individualistic style; avoids overused ideas or concepts.

Range of appeal – relevant and appealing to multiple audiences.

Visual impact – imagery that is visually compelling; forceful, subtle, or vivid.

#### **PRESENTATION AND TECHNIQUE**

Consistency – consistent use of medium.

Finished presentation – completeness; 2D entries must be mounted (with no framing other than matte); overall size, including mounting, can be no smaller than 8 by 10 inches and no larger than 32 by 32 inches; 3D entries may be no larger than 32 x 32 x 32 inches.

Flow – a natural flow of image(s) for the viewer's eye.

Neatness – clean appearance; free of smudges.

Organization – apparent focal point; organization of compositional elements.

Proportion – appropriate use of space.

Technique – proper use of the medium.

Use of color/values – consistent and visually enhancing color and/or gradation.

## **OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS**

Effectiveness – produces an overall effective visual impression or impact.

Preparation – an apparent effort of time and thought in preparation.

Understandable concept – the combination of subject selection, communication, presentation and technique, and effectiveness in attaining a response.



# COMMUNICATION DIVISION

## CATEGORIES

Registrants in the Communication Division may submit entries in the following categories:

American Sign Language Group  
Short Film  
Spoken Word

American Sign Language Solo  
Short Sermon

## INFORMATION

Read the General Information and General Rules on pages 9 - 17.

# AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE

## ***This category must present Evident Ministry (please see pg. 14 for the definition of Evident Ministry at NFAF) Information***

A set of lyric sheets (without glossing) may be hand delivered to the evaluators for the evaluators' benefit at each level of participation, but is not required. Lyric sheets must be typed with the lyrics divided into the sections of the song (chorus, verse, bridge, etc.) and must have a title page or heading that includes the following Information

Title  
Category  
Lyricist(s)  
Credits  
Church name

## **Rules**

1. American Sign Language Solo/Group is an interpretation of a pre-recorded song using American Sign Language (ASL) to encourage a cross-cultural experience, explore the correlation between ASL and English, and to prepare the participant for Deaf Ministry.
2. The interpreted song must be a musical track that includes lyrics.
3. ASL Group entries may consist of two to 10 eligible students.
4. ASL Solo entries have a time limit of five minutes. ASL Group entries have a time limit of seven minutes. Both have 90 seconds for setup and 90 seconds for tear down.
5. The English-to-ASL interpretation must be an original interpretation by the student and not a copy of another's work or sign choices.
6. Presenters must use ASL linguistic features in the interpretation. This may include, but is not limited to, ASL sentence structure, sign choices that reflect meaning, appropriate body shifts, appropriate use of space, and correct palm orientation. The presentation must be a visualization of the interpretation, not simply in English word order.
7. If the presenter(s) is deaf, he/she may use a cue (not a sign) or have someone mouth the words in order to stay in sync with the music. This person is not considered part of the entry, but evaluators must be informed of their presence and how they are cueing the participant(s).
8. The presenter(s) must maintain a professional appearance. Attire and accessories must not create visual distractions. Costumes and costume makeup are not allowed. Please wear a solid top contrasting your skin tone.
9. Mouthing lyrics/lip syncing is not used in American Sign Language. Only linguistically appropriate facial grammar should be present. This may include, but is not limited to, puffed cheeks/pursed lips, head tilt/forward nod/head shake, raised eyebrows, appropriate eye gaze, mouth morphemes, and other non-signed facial grammar that can influence the meaning of your sign. These should be used as is fitting within the language itself.
10. No live music is allowed.

11. Before beginning the presentation, participants must introduce their music selection(s) by stating the title(s), name of the artist/composer, and arranger (if known). If the piece was composed or arranged by the student, that should be stated. Introductory comments DO NOT count toward the set up or presentation time limits. These comments must be minimal (not an opportunity for other comments like a testimonial or any justification for choosing the song(s), 15 to 20 seconds is sufficient). Please follow this example: "Hello, my name is (or) our group name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I/we have chosen to use "Here as in Heaven" by Elevation Worship (and song #2, and song #3) for our presentation."

## ***Evaluation Criteria***

### **SELECTION**

Appropriate – appropriate for this festival; appropriate level of difficulty.

Christian message – presents a Christian perspective and message with ministry effectiveness in mind.

### **COMMUNICATION**

ASL structure – ASL grammatical structure (not English word order).

Clarity and hand-positioning – hands should be clearly within signing space; finger spelling should be clear and accurate.

Clarity of signs – signs easily understood individually.

Conceptual accuracy – appropriate choice of signs for overall meaning; message is easily understood.

Facial expression – demonstrates appropriate emotion for the conceptual sign; eye contact.

Interpretation of meaning – shows a visual picture instead of signing only word order.

Originality – use of inventive and creative ideas; demonstrates a fresh approach.

### **PRESENTATION AND TECHNIQUE**

Creative elements – thoughtful and creative application of signs.

Directionality – proper direction of signs for whom the message is intended.

Energy – demonstrates the emotion of song with appropriate energy.

Presenter appearance – professional attire; shoes; solid color shirt that contrasts with skin tone; hair pulled back, if necessary; absence of visual noise such as rings, watches, necklaces, etc.

Sign placement – setting up the space appropriately.

Spacing – use of space; signs are large enough to be seen by entire audience.

Stage presence – command of stage; control, confidence, and comfort.

Synchronization – uniform precision of signers during synchronized parts of the song.

Use of classifiers – hand shapes that represent a person or object.

### **OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS**

Evident ministry – evidence of spiritual motivation demonstrated with sincerity and passion.

Interpretation – overall effectiveness and visual impact.

Memorization – strong knowledge of lyrics and signing of the selection.

Preparation – an apparent effort of thought and time in preparation.

Understandable concept – the combination of song selection, communication, presentation and technique, and effectiveness in attaining a response.

# SHORT FILM

***This category must present Evident Ministry (please see pg. 14 for the definition of Evident Ministry at NFAF)***

## ***NFAF Delivery Instructions***

Film entries for the NFAF must be hand-delivered on two flashdrives (multiple file formats encouraged) to the Art/Film/Writing check-in booth by the student or a representative of the student following the completion of on-site check-in on Monday, July 30, 2018, between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. Film entries are not accepted prior to on-site check-in or after on-site check-in closes on July 30, 2018.

## ***NFAF Information***

The Short Film participant is not required to be present at the NFAF.

Short Film participants not attending the NFAF in person must meet registration deadlines and pay the full registration fee.

Short Film evaluation sheets and certificates must be picked up by the participant or a responsible adult representing the participant on-site before noon on Friday, August 3, 2018.

Short Film entries are evaluated prior to the NFAF.

Short Film entries are on display at the NFAF.

Results of the evaluations are released at the NFAF.

## ***Rules***

1. The creation of a Short Film is the art and process of producing a film containing a combination of visual images and sounds to communicate effectively a mood, emotion, and/or message by one to 10 eligible students.
2. In the Short Film category, the following genres are accepted:  
animation                      comedy                      documentary                      drama  
experimental                      fiction/live action                      music video
3. Entries in Short Film have a time limit of five minutes.
4. The creator(s)/producer(s) of the film must meet the NFAF age or grade requirements and must register as participants. Adults may not serve as the primary director(s) or editor(s) of the film being submitted by the participant(s). However, those appearing in the film or supporting the production (actors, grips, lighting, boom operator, etc.) do not need to meet age requirements nor register as participants.
5. Copyright policy: national youth ministries and The General Council of the Assemblies of God are not responsible for assuring that all material included in students' film productions is in compliance with existing copyright laws. It is the responsibility of the students, parents, and youth leaders to be completely legal and ethical in their conduct regarding copyrighted material used to create an entry for the NFAF. Students must obtain either the copyrights or explicit written permission for use of all software, graphics, parodies, recorded music, and/or sound files included. See page 16 for an additional list of guidelines.
6. Credits must be included and count toward the overall time limit of five minutes.
7. Any script or story line must be the original work of the participant(s) and not previously submitted in this festival.

## **Evaluation Criteria**

### **SELECTION**

Appropriate – appropriate for this festival; appropriate level of difficulty.

Christian message – should present a clear Christian message; overtly “religious” subjects, symbols, or themes are not required.

Script development – fresh and creative script; not tired or cliché.

### **COMMUNICATION**

Body communication – actors effectively and believably communicate with body language and facial expression.

Directing – choice of camera shots, angles, and movement that help communicate mood and emotion.

Imagery – the use of color, reflections, shadows, shapes, or icon images effectively enhance the mood and message.

Music – contributes to mood and helps communicate the message.

Originality – use of original and creative ideas; demonstrates a fresh approach.

Verbal communication – dialogue/narrative flows naturally and communicates effectively while moving the story and message forward.

### **PRESENTATION AND TECHNIQUE**

Appropriate shot – appropriate shots are used for the specific situation (wide, medium, close-ups, pans, zooms, dolly, crane, etc.).

Audio mix – balanced and clearly understood audio; voices and voice-overs can be clearly heard and understood above the music.

Balanced lighting – consistent lighting with appropriate balance between foreground and background.

Color balance – appropriate color/temperature light is used for the specific situation.

Color correction – shots in the same scene are similar in color balance, contrast, and appearance.

Flow and pacing – frames flow together into a cohesive story; edits do not cause the story to be jumpy or to drag.

F/X and Foley – natural and appropriate use of audio and visual effects.

Hook – opening sequence immediately grabs the attention of the audience.

Lighting – effective use of light; develops mood and nuance.

Open/close – title and credits are appropriate for the production.

Proper framing – camera shots have proper headroom and nose room.

Setting and set – setting and location for the story being told is appropriate and the set is believable. The set should carry both dimension and depth.

Storytelling – shots and the sequence of editing are selected for effective storytelling.

The line of action – shots do not cross the line of action.

Transparent editing – edits are unnoticeable and do not detract from the story.

Wardrobe – wardrobe selections are appropriate for the roles played by the actors as well as scene setting.

### **OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS**

Acting effectiveness – the performance of the actors is effective overall (i.e., were they believable?).

Climax – believable plot reaches a climax that resolves the conflict.

Conflict – conflict clearly established.

Introduction – time, setting, and main characters are quickly revealed.

Message effectiveness – evokes a powerful viewer response appropriate to the film's message.

Plot development – develops toward a climax.

Production effectiveness – an overall cohesiveness of story, casting, production technique, style, and genre.

Resolve – the story ties up loose ends. If the audience is left hanging, it is intended. A hanging end should not be the result of poor scripting.

## SHORT SERMON

***This category must present Evident Ministry (please see pg. 14 for the definition of Evident Ministry at NFAF)***

### **Rules**

1. An entry in Short Sermon is the art of verbally communicating a biblical message that includes Scripture quotations or readings presented by one eligible student.
2. Scripture reference must be cited with all scripture quotations or readings.
3. Short Sermon entries have a time limit of five minutes.
4. Presentations must be in harmony with the Statement of Fundamental Truths of the Assemblies of God. A copy of the Statement of Fundamental Truths is available Online at [www.ag.org](http://www.ag.org) under the "Beliefs" tab.
5. Entries must be original material, not just a memorization of someone else's sermon. Participants are permitted to use illustrations, personal testimonies, statistics, stories, etc. Sources must be cited.
6. Participants are allowed to use notes. The sermon does not need to be memorized.
7. Participants may only use a Bible, notes, a podium, and hand-held visual aids. The festival provides only the podium.
8. All aspects of the sermon must take place within the boundaries of the stage.
9. The wearing of costumes is not permitted.
10. The use of audio or audiovisual devices is not permitted. Neither flammable nor liquid visual aids are permitted.
11. Presentations must be given with due reverence for God and His people and must not be a cynical or satirical portrayal of any form of the ministry.

### **Evaluation Criteria**

#### **SELECTION**

Appropriate – appropriate for this festival; appropriate level of difficulty.

Christian message – presents a solid biblical perspective with ministry effectiveness in mind.

#### **COMMUNICATION**

Expression/body language – use of nonverbal communication (i.e. facial expressions, hand and arm gestures) that enhance the delivery of the sermon.

Originality – use of original and creative ideas; demonstrates a fresh approach.

Posture – effective stance appropriate for public speaking, stage presence, and proper breath support.

Stage presence – command of stage; control, confidence, and comfort.

Timing – the ability to move from point to point smoothly, and with a sense of pacing; effective use of allotted time spent on opening, main points, and conclusion.

Vocal clarity – appropriate volume for audience; proper pronunciation of words with appropriate tone and inflection.

## PRESENTATION AND TECHNIQUE

Elicits response – demonstrates purpose of sermon with a question for a response in conclusion.

Opening/conclusion – use of quote, question, illustrations, or story is used to capture the audience's interest in topic of sermon; the conclusion recaps the main points and calls for a final response.

Structure of content – effective, logical organization of thoughts communicated for understanding, believability, and remembrance.

Transitions – statements that bridge the main points of the sermon.

Use of illustrations – incorporates vivid image, examples, testimony, statistics, or quotations as reinforcements to sermon topic with proper recognition of sources.

Use of Scripture – Scriptural text/quotations foundational to overall presentation; reference(s) cited.

## OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS

Evident ministry – evidence of spiritual motivation demonstrated with sincerity and passion.

Preparation – an apparent effort of time and thought in preparation.

Relevance – appropriate and relevant application.

Understandable concept – the sermon selection, communication, presentation and technique, and effectiveness in attaining a response.

# SPOKEN WORD

***This category must present Evident Ministry (please see pg. 14 for the definition of Evident Ministry at NFAF)***

## ***Rules***

1. An entry in Spoken Word is for the art and ministry of communicating poetry that is specifically composed for performance before an audience.
2. Spoken Word entries must be entirely the original work of one eligible student.
3. There is a time limit of three minutes for all Spoken Word entries. Time begins when the participant does or says anything to indicate the beginning of the presentation.
4. The entire presentation must be memorized.
5. The use of additional media is not permitted.
6. Neither live nor recorded music nor singing by the student is permitted.
7. Neither costumes nor props are permitted.

## **Evaluation Criteria**

### **SELECTION**

Appropriate – appropriate for this festival in subject and taste.

Originality – unique use of original and creative ideas; demonstrates a fresh approach.

### **COMMUNICATION**

Development – full development of ideas and expressions throughout the piece.

Diction – choice and arrangement of words.

Flow of thought – connectivity and progression of ideas.

Fresh imagery/word play – figures of speech, sound devices, and linguistic effects achieved through various patterns and variations in diction.

Freshness of expression – avoidance of clichés; creating fresh and vivid imagery.

Sound devices – assonance, alliteration, consonance, rhyme, repetition, etc.

Writing style – command of lyrical, narrative, or dramatic conventions.

### **PRESENTATION AND TECHNIQUE**

Clarity/style – demonstrates a distinctive mode of expression.

Energy – appropriate physical, emotional, and audible connectivity to the subject and theme of the piece.

Movement – if used, movement is intentional and enhances content.

Posture/facial expression – use of nonverbal communication to enhance the impact and performance of the piece.

Rhythm/musicality – audible experience of the written work including sound devices, rhythm, and the way sound compliments the meaning and intent of the piece.

Stage presence – command of stage; control, confidence, and comfort.

Timing/delivery – demonstrates an understanding/execution of pacing, movement, and tone.

Voice – unique presence of the creator of the piece; not necessarily the speaker in the piece but a recognizable presence of a distinctive author behind and inside everything in the work.

### **OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS**

Evident connection – overall impact of the piece combining writing, communication and performance.

Evident message – understandable concept; evident impact.

Preparation – apparent effort of thought and time in all elements of presentation.



# DANCE DIVISION

## CATEGORIES

Registrants in the Dance Division may submit entries in the following categories:

Urban Solo

Worship Dance Solo

Urban Troupe

Worship Dance Troupe

## INFORMATION

Read the General Information and General Rules on pages 9 - 17.

Entries in the Dance Division must be presented in the accepted genres defined as follows:

**Ballet** (Worship Dance): A classical form of dance characterized by formally precise steps and poses. A basic vocabulary of recognized ballet technique is used as criteria for the evaluation of entries in the ballet genre.

**Contemporary** (Worship Dance): An expressive style of dance that combines elements of several dance genres including modern, jazz, lyrical, and classical ballet. Contemporary dance may be performed to many different styles of music.

**Step**: A contemporary form of dance characterized by the incorporation of percussive sounds and movements.

**Urban**: Also known as “street dance;” incorporating the various rhythms, techniques, and skills of hip-hop.

# DANCE

## ***Rules (apply to all Dance Division categories)***

1. A Dance Division entry is for the art and ministry of communicating a story or message and expressively and worshipfully interpreting music using recognized dance technique.
2. Troupe entries may consist of two to 10 eligible students.
3. All dance entries have a time limit of a two-minute minimum to a four-minute maximum. Time violations will only be assessed if the entry is less than two minutes or greater than four minutes.
4. The musical track that accompanies a Dance entry may or may not contain lyrics. Spoken words may be present in Urban entries but must not be predominant. Mouthing lyrics/lip syncing is not permitted.
5. Live accompaniment is not permitted.
6. Modest attire must be worn. Clothing must be appropriate for effective interpretation, intended audience, and a worshipful atmosphere. Low-cut tops, open-front shirts, backless shirts, tight apparel, short shorts, extremely baggy pants, and see-through skirts without leggings are never acceptable. Solid non-see-through leggings are required, no opaque or see-through tights. If any shorts are worn, leggings are still required.
7. Dancers may choose to wear or not to wear shoes. Ballet slippers, paws, or jazz shoes are acceptable. Socks are not suggested as footwear for dance.  
\*Please note: the NFAF cannot guarantee that every venue will have flooring conducive to pointe technique.
8. Fine Arts Festival holds a high standard and does not permit suggestive movements, music, or attire. Any movement, music, or attire that is deemed inappropriate may receive either Selection or Effectiveness point deductions or rule violations.
9. The use of percussion instruments is not permitted.
10. The use of streamers, ribbon, banners, or flags is permitted but must not become the focal point of the presentation at the expense of recognized and legitimate dance technique.
11. The use of a director during the presentation is not permitted.
12. Dance entries are evaluated based on the criteria for the category entered. Dances must demonstrate specific skills, movements and elements of the chosen style.
13. The splicing of up to three songs is allowed. Entries may have more than three splicings as long as there are three songs maximum. See page 16 "Copyrighted Materials."
14. Before beginning the presentation, participants must introduce their music selection(s) by stating the title(s), name of the artist/composer, and arranger (if known). If the piece was composed or arranged by the student, that should be stated. Introductory comments DO NOT count toward the set up or presentation time limits. These comments must be minimal (not an opportunity for other comments like a testimonial or any justification for choosing the song(s), 15 to 20 seconds is sufficient). Please follow this example: "Hello, my name is (or) our group name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I/we have chosen to use "Here as in Heaven" by Elevation Worship (and song #2, and song #3) for our presentation."

## ***Urban Evaluation Criteria***

### **SELECTION**

Appropriate – appropriate for this festival; appropriate attire for genre with ministry effectiveness in mind.

Creativity – use of style or combination of original hip hop movement.

Style – movement complements the music.

### **COMMUNICATION**

Choreography – use of levels, group work, variety of movements to support dance style.

Expression – use of both facial expression and body language

Staging – use of formations (with correct spacing); use of creative transitions and movement from one formation to another; seamless transitions.

### **PRESENTATION AND TECHNIQUE**

Body control and strength – demonstrates proper support from core to deliver intentional movement; energy evident in all movements throughout presentation; energy levels should parallel energy of music.

Body placement – isolations and fluidity, angles in tutting.

Difficulty- incorporation of challenging movements/and or skills (jumps, freezes/stalls, partner works, and floor work), footwork, and variety of styles.

Execution of technical skill – proper execution of hip hop technical elements (freezes/stalls, tutting, tricks).

Group execution/uniformity – use of all dancers throughout entirety of troupe routine.

Musicality – execution of hip hop movements using rhythmic variations; accents beats and sounds in music through movement.

Synchronization – precision of arm and body placement; group timing with the music.

### **OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS**

Evident ministry – evidence of spiritual motivation demonstrated with sincerity and passion.

Overall effect – the combination of music selection, communication, presentation and technique, and effectiveness in attaining a response.

Preparation – an apparent effort of thought and time in preparing the selection; memorization.

Stage presence and projection – ability to connect with audience during performance (includes: genuine expression, emotion, and energy).

## ***Worship Dance Evaluation Criteria***

### **SELECTION**

Appropriate – appropriate for this festival; appropriate level of difficulty; appropriate attire for genre with ministry effectiveness in mind.

Originality – use of original and creative movement to create artistic effect.

Style – compliments the music; keeps with genre.

### **COMMUNICATION**

Choreography – use of levels, group work, and variety of movements to support dance style.

Expression – use of both facial expression and body language.

Staging – use of formations (with correct spacing); use of creative transitions and movement from one formation to another; seamless transitions.

## **PRESENTATION AND TECHNIQUE**

Alignment – proper lines according to arms and feet positions, legs, and body composition.

Artistry – connection and interpretation of song.

Difficulty – incorporation of challenging movements/and or skills (leaps, turns, kicks, extensions, and floor work).

Execution of technical skill – proper execution of technical elements and movements (turns, leaps, jumps, kicks, extensions, and floor work); includes basic fundamentals (posture, turnout, initiation of movement, and control).

Group execution – uniformity (use of all dancers throughout entirety of troupe routine).

Musicality – execution of movements throughout the routine, complementing the beats and rhythm of the music.

Synchronization – precision of arm and body placement; group timing with the music.

## **OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS**

Evident ministry – evidence of spiritual motivation demonstrated with sincerity and passion.

Overall effect – the combination of music selection, communication, presentation and technique, and effectiveness in attaining a response.

Preparation – an apparent effort of thought and time in preparing the selection; memorization.

Stage presence and projection – ability to connect with audience during performance (includes: genuine expression, emotion, and energy).

# DRAMA DIVISION

## CATEGORIES

Registrants in the Drama Division may submit entries in the following categories:

Drama Ensemble

Dramatized Quoting

Human Video Solo

Drama Solo

Human Video Ensemble

## INFORMATION

Read the General Information and General Rules on pages 9 - 17.

# DRAMA

***This category must present Evident Ministry (please see pg. 14 for the definition of Evident Ministry at NFAF)***

## ***Information***

Entries in Drama categories must be presented in the accepted genres defined as follows:

**Play:** A selection where all focus is strictly on-stage or off-stage (not both) and presented as if the audience is not present.

**Combination:** A selection where a combination of both on- and off-stage focus is used at appropriate places within the presentation.

**Presentational:** A selection where all focus is off-stage and interaction with the audience is acceptable.

## ***Rules***

1. A Drama Ensemble/Solo presentation is the art of telling a culturally relevant story through verbal communication and action.
2. Drama Ensemble, Small entries may consist of two to 10 eligible students.
3. A time limit of five minutes is allowed for drama entries. There are 90 seconds for setup and 90 seconds for teardown.
4. Drama entries do not have to be original but originality is encouraged.
5. The entire presentation must be memorized.
6. No recorded or electronic sound effects are allowed. Neither sound tracks nor live background music is allowed.
7. All aspects of the drama must take place within the boundaries of the stage.
8. Chairs may be used as props. However, standing on chairs is not allowed and may result in disqualification. The only chairs allowed are the chairs available on-site in the presentation room. Participants and groups may not bring their own chairs to the NFAF.
9. Small, hand-held props are allowed in Drama entries. Neither flammable nor liquid props are permitted.
10. Costumes are permitted in Drama entries.
11. Neither masks nor costume makeup is allowed.

## ***Evaluation Criteria***

### **SELECTION**

Appropriate – appropriate for this festival; appropriate level of difficulty.

Christian message – presents a clear Christian message with ministry effectiveness in mind.

Originality – use of inventive and creative ideas; demonstrates a fresh approach.

### **COMMUNICATION**

Character development – a full realization of who the character(s) become(s) throughout the presentation.

Expression – nonverbal communication (i.e. facial expressions, gestures, posture) that enhances mood of the presentation.

Posture – use of whole body to enhance character.

Stage presence – command of stage; control, confidence, and comfort.

Vocal clarity – appropriate volume; proper pronunciation of words with effective tone and inflection.

## PRESENTATION AND TECHNIQUE

Action – natural movement of the actor(s) that is both original and creative, enhancing the idea of the presentation.

Actor's focus – to whom or where is the actor speaking? Ability to remain "in character;" if multiple characters are being played by a single actor, transitions should be clear, distinctive, and creative.

Blocking – proper staging; movement with purpose; staging that best allows full view of actor's face and body placement with appropriate spacing to provide a clean and uncluttered stage picture.

Characterization – believable representation of human motives, thoughts, actions, and emotions.

Delivery – strong delivery of lines using proper pronunciation of words to help develop an effective mood and tone of the line.

Timing/dialogue – understanding and excellent execution of the pacing of the scene and the delivery of the lines.

## OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS

Evident ministry – evidence of spiritual motivation demonstrated with sincerity and passion.

Interpretation – a conclusive voice stating the overall message.

Memorization – strong knowledge of the lines and action of the piece.

Preparation – an apparent effort of thought and time in preparation.

Understandable concept – the combination of script selection, communication, presentation and technique, and effectiveness in attaining a response.

# DRAMATIZED QUOTING

***This category must present Evident Ministry (please see pg. 14 for the definition of Evident Ministry at NFAF)***

## **Rules**

1. Dramatized Quoting is the art of telling a story through verbal communication and action by the direct quote of a scripture portion of the Bible by one eligible student.
2. A time limit of five minutes is allowed for Dramatized Quoting entries. There are 90 seconds for setup and 90 seconds for tear down.
3. The scripture portion used must be memorized, presented from consecutive verses, and quoted word perfect. The version used is the choice of the student.
4. Four typed copies of the selected scripture portion must be presented to the evaluators at the assigned presentation time. Typed scripture pages must be in black Arial or Times New Roman 12 point font, double-spaced, and include complete version, book, chapter, and verse references.
5. Participants must introduce their presentations by stating the version, book, chapter, and verses used. Introductory remarks count toward the overall time limit.

6. All aspects of the drama must take place within the boundaries of the stage.
7. Chairs may be used as props. However standing on chairs is not allowed and may result in disqualification. The only chairs allowed are the chairs available on-site in the presentation room. Participants may not bring their own chairs to the NFAF.
8. Hand-held props are allowed. Neither flammable nor liquid props are permitted.
9. Costumes are permitted.
10. Neither masks nor costume make up is allowed.

## ***Evaluation Criteria***

### **SELECTION**

Appropriate – the selected portion should provide adequate opportunity for the actor to explore and effectively interpret the words and actions of multiple characters in a range of settings. Appropriate for this festival; appropriate level of difficulty. Scripture portion used is substantial enough for full setting, character, and story development.

Originality – use of inventive and creative ideas; demonstrates a fresh approach.

### **COMMUNICATION**

Character development – a full realization of who the character(s) become(s) throughout the presentation.

Expression – nonverbal communication (i.e. facial expressions, gestures, posture) that enhances mood of the presentation.

Memorization – word perfect recitation of the selected scripture portion.

Posture – use of whole body to enhance character.

Stage presence – command of stage; control, confidence, and comfort.

Vocal clarity – appropriate volume; proper pronunciation of words with effective tone and inflection.

### **PRESENTATION AND TECHNIQUE**

Action – natural movement of the actor(s) that is both original and creative, enhancing the idea of the presentation.

Actor's focus – to whom or where is the actor speaking? Ability to remain "in character;" when multiple characters are being played, transitions should be clear, distinctive, and creative.

Blocking – proper staging; movement with purpose; staging that best allows full view of actor's face and body placement with appropriate spacing to provide a clean and uncluttered stage picture.

Characterization – believable representation of human motives, thoughts, actions, and emotions.

Delivery – strong delivery of scripture using proper pronunciation of words to help develop an effective mood and tone.

Timing/dialogue – understanding and excellent execution of the pacing of the scene and the delivery of the lines.

### **OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS**

Evident ministry – evidence of spiritual motivation demonstrated with sincerity and passion.

Interpretation – a conclusive voice stating the overall message.

Preparation – an apparent effort of thought and time in preparation.

Understandable concept – the combination of scripture, communication, presentation and technique, and effectiveness in attaining a response.



# HUMAN VIDEO

***This category must present Evident Ministry (please see pg. 14 for the definition of Evident Ministry at NFAF)***

1. A Human Video Ensemble/Solo presentation is the art of telling a story easily understood by the audience through a non-verbal drama presentation that accompanies a musical track.
2. Human Video Ensemble entries may consist of two to 10 eligible students.
3. The musical track that accompanies Human Video entries must include song lyrics. Voice-overs may be present in the recording but may not completely replace the lyrics.
4. The Human Video technique of “lip sync” is foundational to the genre and must be woven throughout the presentation.
5. The splicing of up to three songs is allowed. Entries may have more than three splicings as long as there are three songs maximum. Voice-overs do not count toward the three-song limit. See page 16 “Copyrighted Materials.”
6. Live accompaniment is not permitted in Human Video presentations.
7. No live vocal communication of any form from the actor(s) is permitted.
8. A time limit of five minutes is allowed for Human Video, Solo entries. There are 90 seconds for setup and 90 seconds for tear down.
9. A time limit of seven minutes is allowed for Human Video, Ensemble entries. There are 90 seconds for setup and 90 seconds for tear down.
10. All aspects of the human video must take place within the boundaries of the stage.
11. Safe gymnastic elements and/or cheer-type mounts are acceptable Human Video technique but must fit believably within the story line or be vital to character or story development.
12. No student may have more than one other person on his/her shoulders.
13. Chairs are the only allowed prop. Standing on chairs is not allowed and may result in disqualification. The only chairs allowed are the chairs available on-site in the presentation room. Participants and groups may not bring their own chairs to the NFAF.
14. Costumes are not permitted in Human Video entries.
15. T-shirts in various colors are not considered costumes unless they are added, removed or manipulated so as to portray a new place or character.
16. Neither masks nor costume makeup is allowed.
17. Before beginning the presentation, participants must introduce their music selection(s) by stating the title(s), name of the artist/composer, and arranger (if known). If the piece was composed or arranged by the student, that should be stated. Introductory comments DO NOT count toward the set up or presentation time limits. These comments must be minimal (not an opportunity for other comments like a testimonial or any justification for choosing the song(s), 15 to 20 seconds is sufficient). Please follow this example: “Hello, my name is (or) our group name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I/we have chosen to use “Here as in Heaven” by Elevation Worship (and song #2, and song #3) for our presentation.”

## **Evaluation Criteria**

### **SELECTION**

Appropriate – appropriate for this festival: appropriate level of difficulty.

Christian message – presents a clear Christian message with ministry effectiveness in mind.

Composition quality – quality and unaltered sound; splicing should flow easily with a clear connection between selections.

Originality – use of original and creative ideas; demonstrates a fresh approach.

### **COMMUNICATION**

Body language – appropriate gestures and body movement for individual character(s).

Character development – a full realization of who the character(s) become(s) throughout the presentation.

Facial expression – facial expressions convey the character's disposition/mood and include lip sync of song's lyrics.

Physical energy – demonstrates the emotion with exaggerated energy of character(s).

Stage presence – command of stage; control, confidence, and comfort.

### **PRESENTATION AND TECHNIQUE**

Action – natural movement of the actor(s) that is both original and creative to enhance the idea of the presentation.

Actor's focus – to whom or where is the actor speaking? Ability to remain "in character;" if multiple characters are being played by a single actor, transitions should be clear, distinctive, and creative.

Blocking – proper staging; movement with purpose; staging that best allows full view of actor's face and body.

Characterization – believable representation of characters' motives, thoughts, actions, and emotions.

Development – complete, understandable, and believable development of the story line and characters.

Mounts – mounts, object-building, gymnastic, or cheer-type elements fit believably within the story line or character development.

Presentation of story line – well-developed and recognizable story line; actor(s) successfully convey intended purpose of character(s) throughout presentation (with facial expression, motion, body language, and action).

Timing/delivery – understanding and excellent execution of the pace of the scene(s).

Uniformity – uniform body movements; uniform lip sync between multiple characters (ensemble).

### **OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS**

Evident ministry – evidence of spiritual motivation demonstrated with sincerity and passion.

Interpretation – actual conveyance of the message of the song through the overall presentation.

Memorization – strong and evident knowledge of the lyrics.

Preparation – an apparent effort of thought and time in preparation.

Understandable concept – the combination of music selection, communication, presentation and technique, and effectiveness in attaining a response.

# INSTRUMENTAL DIVISION

## CATEGORIES

Registrants in the Instrumental Division may submit entries in the following categories:

Bass Solo  
Piano Solo

Guitar Solo

## INFORMATION

Read the General Information and General Rules on pages 9 - 17.

Bass Solo may use only a Bass Guitar.

Piano Solo may only use the Piano provided by the festival.

Guitar Solo may use instruments from the Rhythm/Alternate Strings list under General Rules, except for a Bass Guitar.

# INSTRUMENTAL

## **Rules (apply to all Instrumental Division categories and are the only rules for Bass Solo, Guitar Solo, and Piano Solo.)**

1. An instrumental solo is the art of presenting a musical composition using only musical instruments.
2. A time limit of five minutes is allowed for Instrumental entries). There are 90 seconds for setup and 90 seconds for tear down. The instrumentalists may use this time to tune their instruments or conduct a brief warm up.
3. Music must be memorized.
4. Participants must introduce their selection by stating the name of the composer, arranger, and selection title. If the piece was composed or arranged by the student, that should be stated. Introductory comments count toward the overall presentation time limit.
5. To ensure consistent sound level, microphones, if used, are set prior to the festival by an official sound technician. Participants may not ask for special sound settings. It is the responsibility of the participants to make sure the microphones are turned on and to move microphones to accommodate blend and volume.
6. Sound track levels may be adjusted to compensate for different recording levels.
7. A participant may play more than one instrument in an Instrumental entry as long as the setup and tear down time limits are not exceeded.
8. Use of pre-programmed or pre-recorded loops/software is not allowed; any looping or sequencing technology must function only in response to manual and live hands-on control.
9. Piano Solo entries are not allowed accompaniment (neither live nor recorded).
10. Click tracks, metronomes, or other rhythmic stability assistance devices or technology are disallowed.
11. Accompaniment:
  - Instrumental entries may choose to have or not to have accompaniment (except for Piano Solo and Percussion).
  - An accompanist is not considered part of the entry.
  - The accompanist may be an adult or student.
  - Accompanists are allowed to use music.
  - Only a piano, keyboard, or acoustic guitar may be used for live accompaniment. (Guitar may not be used to accompany a Guitar Solo.) Only a piano is provided by the festival.
  - If an accompaniment track is used, the instrument(s) played by the student(s) cannot be predominant on the accompaniment track.
  - Neither live nor recorded background vocals are permitted.
12. Before beginning the presentation, participants must introduce their music selection(s) by stating the title(s), name of the artist/composer, and arranger (if known). If the piece was composed or arranged by the student, that should be stated. Introductory comments DO NOT count toward the set up or presentation time limits. These comments must be minimal (not an opportunity for other comments like a testimonial or any justification for choosing the song(s), 15 to 20 seconds is sufficient). Please follow this example: "Hello, my name is (or) our group name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I/we have chosen to use "Here as in Heaven" by Elevation Worship (and song #2, and song #3) for our presentation."

## ***Bass and Guitar Solo Evaluation Criteria***

### **SELECTION**

Appropriate – appropriate for this festival; appropriate level of difficulty.

Arrangement/composition – a well-rounded, cohesive musical statement.

Originality – use of original and creative ideas; demonstrates a fresh approach.

### **COMMUNICATION**

Communication – ability to connect with audience.

Communicative skill – interprets the overall musical intent (i.e. emotion, energy, musical line, personal involvement/connectivity to theme of arrangement).

Expressiveness – appropriate musical interpretation; both musical and facial expression.

Posture – conducive for performance.

Stage presence – command of stage and instrument; control, confidence and comfort.

### **PRESENTATION AND TECHNIQUE**

Control – command of the instrument to produce desired tone and affect.

Dynamics – effective use of contrasting volumes.

Fingering/fingerplaying/picking/slapping, etc. – smooth and consistent dexterity in chords, scales, arpeggios, and patterns in chosen technique(s).

Intonation/tuning – accurate pitch of the instrument, maintaining correct intervals.

Phrasing – produces complete musical sentences.

Pocket/groove (Bass Solo) – playing in time with consistent and reliable motion in the music

Precision/accuracy – skillful exactness of the presentation.

Rhythmic stability – evenness of rhythm.

Tone quality – clarity and accuracy of pitch, volume, and timbre.

### **OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS**

Evident ministry – evidence of spiritual motivation demonstrated with sincerity and passion.

Memorization – strong knowledge of the arrangement, melody, and movements of the song(s).

Preparation – an apparent effort of thought and time in preparation.

Understandable concept – the combination of music selection, communication, presentation and technique, and effectiveness in attaining a response.

## ***Piano Solo Evaluation Criteria***

### **SELECTION**

Appropriate – appropriate for this festival; appropriate level of difficulty.

Arrangement/composition – a well-rounded, cohesive musical statement.

Originality – if written or arranged by the student, use of original and creative ideas; demonstrates a fresh approach.

### **COMMUNICATION**

Communication – ability to connect with audience.

Expressiveness – appropriate musical interpretation.

Interpretive skill – interprets the overall musical intent (i.e. emotion, energy, musical line, personal involvement/connectivity to theme of arrangement).

Posture – conducive for performance.

Stage presence – command of stage and instrument; control, confidence and comfort.

## **PRESENTATION AND TECHNIQUE**

Chording technique – if the piece is improvised, skillful use of various chords, progressions, inversions, etc. to enhance the arrangement.

Control – command of the instrument to produce desired tone and effect.

Dynamics – effective use of contrasting volumes.

Fingering – smooth dexterity in chords, scales, arpeggios, and patterns.

Modulating technique – accurate key changes (if it is improvised, the effective use of chords, progressions, scales, and arpeggios, etc. in making key changes).

Phrasing – produces complete musical sentences.

Precision/accuracy – skillful exactness of the presentation.

Rhythmic stability – evenness of rhythm.

## **OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS**

Evident ministry – evidence of spiritual motivation demonstrated with sincerity and passion.

Memorization – complete knowledge of the piece from memory.

Preparation – an apparent effort of thought and time in preparation.

Overall effectiveness– the combination of music selection, communication, Presentation and Technique to achieve overall effectiveness.

# VOCAL DIVISION

## CATEGORIES

Registrants in the Vocal Division may submit entries in the following categories:

Christian Band

Rap Solo

Songwriting, Modern Hymn

Vocal Solo, Male

Rap Group

Songwriting

Vocal Solo, Female

Worship Team

## INFORMATION

Read the General Information and General Rules on pages 9 - 17.

A sample fillable PDF lyric sheet for Rap and Songwriting entries is available at [www.faf.ag.org/resources.cfm](http://www.faf.ag.org/resources.cfm).

A participant may enter the same song in more than one category. For example, the student may sing a solo version of a song that is used for Songwriting. However, a student or group of students may not enter the same category twice.

Synthesizers/keyboards are only provided for Christian Band, Rap, and Worship Team.

A piano or keyboard is provided for Songwriting and Vocal Solos.

# VOCAL

## **Rules (for all Vocal Division categories)**

1. Use of pre-programmed or pre-recorded loops/software is not allowed; any looping or sequencing technology must function only in response to manual and live hands-on control.
2. Click tracks, metronomes, or other rhythmic stability assistance devices or technology are disallowed.
3. Conductor/Director Rules:
  - Vocal Solos are not permitted to have a conductor/director in the audience.
  - Rhythm, balance/blend, cut-off cues, etc. from anyone in the audience is not allowed.
  - Any cut-off cues for ensembles may only come from a student participating in the ensemble who is on the stage. Remember, if a vocalist will be giving cut-off cues, their main priority is communicating to the audience, not directing the ensemble.
  - Personnel will be in the rooms at the NFAF to verify that rhythm, balance/blend, cut-off cues, etc., are not being provided from members of the audience.
4. General Accompaniment Rules
  - Vocal entries may choose to have or not to have accompaniment.
  - Accompanists are not considered part of the entry.
  - The accompanist may be an adult or student.
  - Accompanists are allowed to use music.
  - A maximum of four instruments from the allowed instruments list may be used for live accompaniment (with the exception of Songwriting). A piano is the only instrument that is provided for Vocal Ensemble/Solo and Songwriting entries.

**\*Consult the rules under each category for further guidelines.**

5. Before beginning the presentation, participants must introduce their music selection(s) by stating the title(s), name of the artist/composer, and arranger (if known). If the piece was composed or arranged by the student, that should be stated. Introductory comments DO NOT count toward the set up or presentation time limits. These comments must be minimal (not an opportunity for other comments like a testimonial or any justification for choosing the song(s), 15 to 20 seconds is sufficient). Please follow this example: "Hello, my name is (or) our group name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I/we have chosen to use "Here as in Heaven" by Elevation Worship (and song #2, and song #3) for our presentation."

# CHRISTIAN BAND

**This category must present Evident Ministry (please see pg. 14 for the definition of Evident Ministry at NFAF)**

## **Rules**

1. The Christian Band category is the art of performing Christian music by students whose focus is to perform with ministry effectiveness in mind.
2. Christian Band entries may consist of two to 10 eligible students.



3. Entries in this category must include both music and lyrics.
4. Christian Bands have a time limit of five minutes with 2 1/2 minutes for setup and 2 1/2 minutes for tear down. Participants may have assistance with setup.
5. All individuals within a Christian Band entry must meet the age or grade requirements. No adult accompanists or vocalists are allowed.
6. Original songs are encouraged (though not required), but if a cover song is performed evaluators will be looking for originality with arrangement, instrumentation, vocalization, etc.
7. All music must be memorized.
8. Additional instruments, equipment, and/or percussion accessories are permitted but must be provided by the participants and only if they can be set up and torn down within the allotted time limit. Individuals are not allowed to bring their own drum sets.
9. Students must refrain from any actions that may be deemed offensive or inappropriate. "Inappropriate" actions include but are not limited to improper gestures or moves, stage diving, and language unbecoming of a Christian. Any festival equipment damaged as a result of inappropriate actions is the responsibility of the students to replace. Failure to adhere to this standard results in disqualification.
10. Sound engineers are provided by the festival.
11. Before beginning the presentation, participants must introduce their music selection(s) by stating the title(s), name of the artist/composer, and arranger (if known). If the piece was composed or arranged by the student, that should be stated. Introductory comments DO NOT count toward the set up or presentation time limits. These comments must be minimal (not an opportunity for other comments like a testimonial or any justification for choosing the song(s), 15 to 20 seconds is sufficient). Please follow this example: "Hello, my name is (or) our group name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I/we have chosen to use "Here as in Heaven" by Elevation Worship (and song #2, and song #3) for our presentation."

## ***Evaluation Criteria***

### **SELECTION**

Appropriate – appropriate for this festival; appropriate level of difficulty.

Arrangement – consistent with genre.

Christian message – presents a clear Christian message with ministry effectiveness in mind.

Originality – use of original and creative ideas; demonstrates a fresh approach.

### **COMMUNICATION**

Communicative skill – interprets the overall musical intent (i.e. emotion, energy, musical line, personal involvement/connectivity to theme of arrangement).

Expressiveness – musical and facial expression; use of body language.

Stage presence – command of stage and/or instrument; control, confidence, and comfort.

Unity – cohesiveness of vocalists and instrumentalists.

Vocal clarity – articulation; enunciation of words, projecting with the correct inflection and control appropriate for the presentation.

### **PRESENTATION AND TECHNIQUE**

Blend – creates a balanced sound.

Breathing – proper breath management.

Dynamics – effective use of contrasting volumes.

Energy – demonstrates vitality appropriate for the selection.

Intonation – ability to sing and play in tune.

Musical transitions – flow of music.

Phrasing – completeness of a musical statement.

Rhythmic precision – ability to internalize the pulse.

Tone quality – vocally consistent with genre; musically, a sound having a definite pitch, volume, and texture.

## OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS

Evident ministry – evidence of spiritual motivation demonstrated with sincerity and passion.

Interpretation – actual conveyance of the message of the piece through the presentation.

Memorization – strong knowledge of the chord progressions, lyrics, and movements of the selection.

Preparation – an apparent effort of thought and time in preparation.

Understandable concept – the combination of music selection, communication, presentation and technique, and effectiveness in attaining a response.

# RAP

**This category must present Evident Ministry (please see pg. 14 for the definition of Evident Ministry at NFAF)**

## **Rules**

1. Rap is the urban art of communicating through rhythm and rhyme.
2. A Rap Group entry may consist of two to 10 eligible students.
3. Rap entries have a time limit of five minutes. There are 90 seconds for setup and 90 seconds for tear down.
4. Rap lyrics must be the original works of the student(s).
5. Any previously created beat or musical hook samplings taken directly from other performers used to create the rap entry for this festival must be given proper credit on the lyric sheet under “Credits”.
6. Three sets of lyric sheets must be hand delivered to the evaluators at each level of participation. Lyric sheets must be typed with the lyrics divided into the sections of the song (chorus, verse, bridge, etc.) and must have a title page or heading that includes the following Information
  - Title
  - Category
  - Lyricist(s)
  - Credits
  - Church name
7. A keyboard and standard drum set are provided. Students wishing to use drum machines must provide their own equipment and adhere to the setup and tear down time limits.
8. Rap entries that include additional “beat-box” or “hype-man” members are considered group entries. All participants must meet the age or grade requirements of the NFAF and register as

participants.

9. Background vocals are allowed for solo entries. Background vocals are not allowed for group entries. If background vocals are used on the soundtrack of a solo entry, they must not be predominating, but should be complementary.
10. Entries must be memorized.
11. A maximum of four instruments may be used for accompaniment (either recorded or live).
12. All students who perform live at the NFAF must meet the age or grade requirements of the NFAF. Students performing live as accompanists do not need to register as participants. No adult accompanists or group members are allowed.
13. Before beginning the presentation, participants must introduce their music selection(s) by stating the title(s), name of the artist/composer, and arranger (if known). If the piece was composed or arranged by the student, that should be stated. Introductory comments DO NOT count toward the set up or presentation time limits. These comments must be minimal (not an opportunity for other comments like a testimonial or any justification for choosing the song(s), 15 to 20 seconds is sufficient). Please follow this example: "Hello, my name is (or) our group name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I/we have chosen to use "Here as in Heaven" by Elevation Worship (and song #2, and song #3) for our presentation."

## **Evaluation Criteria**

### **SELECTION**

Appropriate – appropriate for this festival; appropriate level of difficulty.

Arrangement – creative structure of verse and/or chorus with music and vocals.

Christian message – presents a clear Christian message with ministry effectiveness in mind.

Originality – use of original and creative ideas; demonstrates a fresh approach.

### **COMMUNICATION**

Clear concept – understandable concept of lyrical message.

Expression – facial expression and body language that reflect the tone and intent of the lyrics.

Interpretation – overall effectiveness/impact of the message.

Stage presence – command of stage and/or instrument; control, confidence, and comfort.

Vocal clarity – enunciation of words, projecting with the correct, clear inflection, and control appropriate for the presentation.

### **PRESENTATION AND TECHNIQUE**

Control – maintaining quality sound with appropriate volume.

Creativity – unique physical response to rhythm and rhyme.

Energy – demonstrates the emotion with exaggerated energy for the lyrics.

Motions – hand and arm gestures that enhance the performance.

Phrasing – employs creative and innovative wording rather than trite or cliché.

Precision/stability – lyrics, motions, and music compliment each other.

Synchronization – multiple vocalists' gestures or movements in proper rhythm with each other and the music (ensemble).

Timing – allows for lyrical delivery and audience response.

## OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS

Evident ministry – evidence of spiritual motivation demonstrated with sincerity and passion.

Memorization – strong knowledge of the lyrics and melody of the song(s).

Preparation – an apparent effort of thought and time in preparation.

Understandable concept – the combination of music selection, communication, presentation and technique, and effectiveness in attaining a response.

## SONGWRITING

**This category must present Evident Ministry (please see pg. 14 for the definition of Evident Ministry at NFAF)**

### **Information**

Entries in the Songwriting category must be presented in the accepted genres defined as follows:

**Performance:** A piece written for performance.

**Worship:** A piece written for corporate/congregational singing.

Songwriting entries are not evaluated on the presentation of the performer(s). However, the performance of the song can either strengthen or weaken the entire presentation. The criteria used to evaluate Songwriting entries will not support Rap entries.

### **Rules**

1. Songwriting is for the art of writing a song including both music and lyrics.
2. Songwriting entries may consist of one to five eligible students.
3. Entries are allowed five minutes to present their selection. There are 90 seconds for setup and 90 seconds for teardown.
4. Three sets of lyric sheets in the form of chord charts must be hand delivered to the evaluators at each level of participation. Lyric sheets must be typed with the sections of the song clearly marked (chorus, verse, bridge, etc.), must have the chords listed above the lyric, and must have a title page or heading that includes the following information:
  - Title
  - Category
  - Composer(s)
  - Church name
5. Songwriting entries must be entirely the original work of the student(s) and not submitted in any previous National Fine Arts Festival.
6. Only one instrument may be used for accompaniment (either pre-recorded or live). The accompanist may be an adult or student. All students participating in writing the song must meet the age or grade requirements of the NFAF and must register as participants. Any student accompanist who did not participate in writing the song does not need to register as a participant for Songwriting and does not need to pay the \$20 category fee.

7. If you wish to present your Songwriting entry with a full band, we encourage you to register for both of the following categories: Songwriting (with one instrument) and Christian Band (with two or more instruments).
8. Accompanists may choose any one instrument from the approved instrument lists under General Rules. The NFAF only provides a piano/keyboard, guitar amp, and one direct box.
9. All live music performed by the presenter must be memorized. If an accompanist is used, the accompanist is allowed to use music.
10. Before beginning the presentation, participants must introduce their music selection(s) by stating the title(s), name of the artist/composer, and arranger (if known). If the piece was composed or arranged by the student, that should be stated. Introductory comments DO NOT count toward the set up or presentation time limits. These comments must be minimal (not an opportunity for other comments like a testimonial or any justification for choosing the song(s), 15 to 20 seconds is sufficient). Please follow this example: "Hello, my name is (or) our group name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I/we have chosen to use "Here as in Heaven" by Elevation Worship (and song #2, and song #3) for our presentation."

## **Evaluation Criteria**

### **SELECTION**

Appropriate – appropriate for this festival; appropriate level of difficulty.

Arrangement – well-rounded, cohesive musical statement.

Christian message – presents a clear Christian message with ministry effectiveness in mind.

Originality – original in its concept, lyrics, and melody; demonstrates a fresh approach.

### **COMMUNICATION**

Clear message – reveals a message that is clearly understood by the listener.

Lyrical hook – composed around a lyrical concept/phrase that is restated or woven throughout the selection.

Rhyme scheme – follows a rhyme scheme that is unique in its wording.

Use of poetic language – employs poetic language, such as similes and metaphors.

### **PRESENTATION AND TECHNIQUE**

Clear theme – overall concept and melodic motif clearly developed.

Contrast/variation – variations and contrasts in the harmonic structure and the melodic line.

Harmonic structure – the harmonic structure of the song must follow acceptable musical principles and should be enriched beyond the primary chords of I, IV, and V.

Introduction/song length – an introduction that sets the mood of the song; a song that is not too long or too short.

Melodic development – variations in the melody after being stated in its initial form.

Memorable tune – melody is memorable and singable.

Phrasing – melodic and lyrical phrasing follows the concept of the song.

Song form – structure of the composition is in "song" form (for example, introduction, verse, chorus, verse, chorus, bridge, modulation into chorus, coda/tag).

Time frame/development – development of the overall harmonic structure that fits into a proportional time frame where one section is not emphasized to the detriment of another section.

Use of figurative language – creative and effective use of descriptive words, creates a mental picture.

## OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS

Evident ministry – evidence of spiritual motivation demonstrated with sincerity and passion.

Interpretation of clear thought – consistent interpretation of the musical style and lyrical line throughout the song.

Relevance – music and lyrics are in a style and form that connects with the listener.

Understandable concept – the combination of music selection, communication, presentation and technique, and effectiveness attaining a response.

## SONGWRITING, MODERN HYMN

**This category must present Evident Ministry (please see pg. 14 for the definition of Evident Ministry at NFAF)**

### **Information**

Entries in the Songwriting, Modern Hymn category must be presented in the accepted genres defined as follows:

**Chorus:** A public domain hymn with a new chorus or bridge.

**Melody:** A public domain hymn lyric set to a completely new melody in any style.

**Original Hymn** with lyrics that are rich in theology and poetry and a melody that is reminiscent of the historic hymns genre.

### **Rules**

1. Songwriting, Modern Hymn is for the art of rewriting a traditional hymn or writing a modern hymn in a traditional style, including both music and lyrics for the purpose of congregational worship in a church setting.
2. Songwriting, Modern Hymn entries may consist of one to five eligible students.
3. Entries are allowed five minutes to present their selection. There are 90 seconds for setup and 90 seconds for tear down.
4. Songwriting, Modern Hymn entries must be an original work of the student(s), with the exception of blended public domain lyric and melody elements; and not previously submitted in this festival
5. Three sets of lyric sheets in the form of chord charts must be hand delivered to the evaluators at each level of participation. Lyric sheets must be typed with the sections of the song clearly marked (chorus, verse, bridge, etc.), must have the chords listed above the lyric, and must have a title page or heading that includes the following information:
  - Title
  - Category
  - Public domain lyrics and/or melody used (clearly marked as such)
  - Original lyrics (clearly marked as such)
  - Church name
6. Only one instrument may be used for accompaniment (either recorded or live). The accompanist may be an adult or student. All students participating in writing the song must meet the age or grade requirements of the NFAF and must register as participants. Any student accompanist who did not participate in writing the song does not need to register as a participant for Songwriting and does not need to pay the \$20 category fee.

7. Accompanists may choose the instrument from the approved instrument lists under General Rules. The NFAF only provides a piano/keyboard, guitar amp, and one direct box.
8. All music performed live must be memorized. If an accompanist is used, the accompanist is allowed to use music.
9. Before beginning the presentation, participants must introduce their music selection(s) by stating the title(s), name of the artist/composer, and arranger (if known). If the piece was composed or arranged by the student, that should be stated. Introductory comments DO NOT count toward the set up or presentation time limits. These comments must be minimal (not an opportunity for other comments like a testimonial or any justification for choosing the song(s), 15 to 20 seconds is sufficient). Please follow this example: "Hello, my name is (or) our group name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I/we have chosen to use "Here as in Heaven" by Elevation Worship (and song #2, and song #3) for our presentation."

## **Evaluation Criteria**

### **SELECTION**

Appropriate – appropriate for this festival; appropriate level of difficulty; appropriate for congregational worship.

Arrangement – supports and underlines the lyrical content.

Content – lyrics that are rich in theology and poetry; timeless melody.

Originality – original and non-clichéd even when blended with public domain elements.

### **COMMUNICATION**

Clear message – develops a theological message that anchors the worshiper in truth.

Rhyme scheme – new lyrical content needs to follow a rhyme scheme that is in keeping with the hymns genre.

Use of language – employs theological concepts and poetic language.

### **PRESENTATION AND TECHNIQUE**

Clear theme – overall concept and melodic motif clearly developed.

Contrast/variation – variations and contrasts in the harmonic structure and the melodic line.

Harmonic structure – the harmonic structure may keep to the hymns genre or deviate totally.

Introduction/song length – the introduction should sets the mood of the hymn; the hymn that is not too long or too short.

Memorable tune – melody should be memorable and singable.

Phrasing – melodic and lyrical phrasing follows the concept of the song.

Song form – structure of the composition could be in "strophic" (a single verse repeated over and over again without the addition of a chorus or bridge, methodically developing a theme from one verse to the next) or "song" form (includes intro, verse, chorus, bridge, outro, etc).

Time frame/development – development of the overall harmonic structure that fits into a proportional time frame where one section is not emphasized to the detriment of another section.

Use of figurative language – creative and effective use of descriptive words, creates a mental picture.

### **OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS**

Evident ministry – evidence of spiritual motivation demonstrated with sincerity and passion.

Interpretation of clear thought – consistent interpretation of the musical style and lyrical line throughout the song.

Relevance – music and lyrics are in a style and form that connects with the listener.

Understandable concept – the combination of music selection, communication, presentation and technique, and effectiveness attaining a response.

## VOCAL

**This category must present Evident Ministry (please see pg. 14 for the definition of Evident Ministry at NFAF)**

### **Rules**

1. An entry in a Vocal Solo category is for the art of presenting a vocal song selection with ministry effectiveness in mind.
2. Bilingual entries are not permitted.
3. A time limit of five minutes is allowed for all vocal solos and ensembles. There are 90 seconds allowed for setup and 90 seconds for tear down.
4. Music must be memorized.
5. Participants may not ask for special sound settings. To ensure consistent sound level, microphones are set prior to the festival by an official sound technician. It is the responsibility of the participants to make sure the microphones are turned on and to move microphones to accommodate blend and volume.
6. Sound track levels may be adjusted to compensate for different recording levels. Background vocals are allowed for solo entries. Background vocals are not allowed for group entries. If background vocals are used on the soundtrack of a solo entry, they must not be predominating, but should be complementary.
7. Before beginning the presentation, participants must introduce their music selection(s) by stating the title(s), name of the artist/composer, and arranger (if known). If the piece was composed or arranged by the student, that should be stated. Introductory comments DO NOT count toward the set up or presentation time limits. These comments must be minimal (not an opportunity for other comments like a testimonial or any justification for choosing the song(s), 15 to 20 seconds is sufficient). Please follow this example: "Hello, my name is (or) our group name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I/we have chosen to use "Here as in Heaven" by Elevation Worship (and song #2, and song #3) for our presentation."

### **Evaluation Criteria**

#### **SELECTION**

Appropriate – appropriate for this festival; appropriate level of difficulty.

Arrangement – well-rounded, cohesive musical statement.

Christian message – presents clear Christian message with ministry effectiveness in mind.

Display of vocal range – demonstrates a wide vocal range.

#### **COMMUNICATION**

Communicative skill – ability to connect with audience.

Expressiveness – both facial expression and use of body language.

Posture – relaxed body stance for proper breath support and management.

Stage presence – command of stage; control, confidence, and comfort.



## PRESENTATION AND TECHNIQUE

Articulation – executes clear and coherent phrases (i.e. ‘staccato’ – short, ‘marcato’ – marked, and ‘legato’ – connected).

Breathing – proper breath management.

Diction – proper enunciation of words.

Dynamics – effective use of contrasting volumes.

Intonation – ability to sing in tune.

Phrasing – completeness of a lyrical statement.

Rhythmic precision – ability to internalize the pulse.

Tone quality – ability to produce clear and pleasant tone.

## OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS

Evident ministry – evidence of spiritual motivation demonstrated with sincerity and passion.

Memorization – strong knowledge of the lyrics and melody of the song(s).

Preparation – an apparent effort of thought and time in preparing the selection.

Understandable concept – the combination of music selection, communication, presentation and technique, and effectiveness in attaining a response.

# WORSHIP TEAM

**This category must present Evident Ministry (please see pg. 14 for the definition of Evident Ministry at NFAF)**

### **Rules**

1. A Worship Team entry is the art of leading others in worship.
2. Worship Team entries may consist of two to 10 eligible students.
3. Worship Team entries have a time limit of seven minutes with 2 1/2 minutes for setup and 2 1/2 minutes for tear down. Participants may have assistance with setup.
4. All individuals within a Worship Team entry must meet the age or grade requirements. No adult accompanists or vocalists are allowed.
5. Worship Team entries must consist of both vocalists and instrumentalists. Entries are required to have more than one vocalist.
6. All music must be memorized.
7. Additional instruments, equipment, and/or additional percussion accessories are permitted but must be provided by the participants, and only if they can be setup and torn down within the allotted time limit. Individuals are not allowed to bring their own drum sets.
8. Sound engineers are provided by the festival.
9. Before beginning the presentation, participants must introduce their music selection(s) by stating the title(s), name of the artist/composer, and arranger (if known). If the piece was composed or arranged by the student, that should be stated. Introductory comments DO NOT count toward the set up or presentation time limits. These comments must be minimal (not an opportunity for other comments like a testimonial or any justification for choosing the song(s), 15 to 20 seconds is sufficient). Please follow this example: “Hello, my name is (or) our group name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I/we have chosen to use “Here as in Heaven” by Elevation Worship (and song #2, and song #3, etc.) for our presentation.”

## **Evaluation Criteria**

### **SELECTION**

Appropriate – appropriate for this festival; appropriate level of difficulty.

Arrangement – well-rounded, cohesive musical statement.

Christian message – presents a clear Christian message with ministry effectiveness in mind.

Musical transitions – thoughtful flow of music; theme unity (holiness, the Cross, etc.); smooth flow from one song to the next.

Originality – use of original and creative ideas; demonstrates a fresh approach.

### **COMMUNICATION**

Communicative skill – interprets the overall musical intent (i.e. emotion, energy, musical line, personal involvement/connectivity to theme of arrangement).

Expressiveness – both facial expression and use of body language to lead in worship.

Posture – relaxed body stance for proper breath control.

Stage presence – command of stage and/or instrument; control, confidence, and comfort.

Unity – cohesiveness of vocalists and instrumentalists.

Worshipful lyrics – appropriate lyrics for application of audience; avoiding trite expressions.

### **PRESENTATION AND TECHNIQUE**

Articulation – executes articulate phrases (i.e. ‘staccato’ – short, ‘marcato’ – marked, and ‘legato’ – connected).

Blend – creates a balanced sound.

Breathing – proper breath management.

Diction – proper enunciation of words.

Dynamics – effective use of contrasting volumes.

Energy – demonstrates vitality appropriate for the selection(s).

Harmony – knowledgeable and effective use of unison and multi-part harmony.

Intonation – ability to sing and play in tune.

Phrasing – completeness of a musical statement.

Rhythmic precision – ability to internalize the pulse.

Tone quality – ability to produce clear and pleasant tone.

### **OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS**

Evident ministry – evidence of spiritual motivation demonstrated with sincerity and passion; able to draw a worshipful response.

Memorization – strong knowledge of the lyrics and melody of the song(s).

Preparation – an apparent effort of thought and time in preparation.

Understandable concept – the combination of music selection, communication, presentation and technique, and effectiveness in attaining a response.

# WRITING DIVISION

## CATEGORIES

Registrants in the Writing Division may submit entries in the following categories:

Book Chapter  
Flash Fiction

Creative Nonfiction/Memoir  
Poetry

## INFORMATION

Read the General Information and General Rules on pages 9 - 17.

## NFAF DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS

Three copies for each writing entry for the NFAF must be hand-delivered to the Art/Film/Writing check-in booth by the student or a representative of the student following the completion of on-site check-in on Monday, July 30, 2018, between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Writing entries are not accepted prior to on-site check-in or after on-site check-in closes on July 30, 2018.

## NFAF INFORMATION

A Writing entry participant is not required to be present at the NFAF.

Writing entry participants not attending the NFAF in person meet registration deadlines and pay the full registration fee.

Writing Division evaluation sheets and certificates must be picked up by the participant or a responsible adult representing the participant on-site before noon on Friday, August 3, 2018.

# BOOK CHAPTER

**This category must present Evident Ministry (please see pg. 14 for the definition of Evident Ministry at NFAF)**

## **Rules**

1. The Book Chapter entry is for the submission of the first chapter of either a fiction or non-fiction book for a target audience of teens to adults.
2. Entries must be the original work of one student and not previously submitted in this festival.
3. Entries must be submitted typed in a 12-point black Times New Roman or Arial font, double-spaced with at least 1-inch margins on all sides, and may not contain art, Word Art, borders, etc.
4. The first chapter of the book submission must be 1,500-1,800 words.
5. The writer must include a summary of the book no longer than 150 words.
6. The chapter must communicate a Christian message.
7. Submissions must include a title page on page one of the document, the summary on page two, and the entry beginning on page three. The title page and summary may not be separate documents. The following information is required:

Title

Category

Author

Church name

Word count

## **Evaluation Criteria**

### **SELECTION**

Appropriate – appropriate for this festival; appropriate level of difficulty.

Christian message – presents a clear Christian message.

Originality – unique use of original and creative ideas; demonstration of a fresh approach.

Style – keeps within genre.

Title selection – interesting title.

### **COMMUNICATION**

Development – strong incorporation of key components (plot, character development and conflict).

Flow of thought – connected ideas and flow.

Freshness of expression – avoidance of clichés; creating fresh and vivid imagery.

Use of language – proper usage and easily understood components of the English language.

### **PRESENTATION AND TECHNIQUE**

Grammar – correct verb tenses, usage of pronouns, etc.

Mechanics/spelling – correct word spelling.

Punctuation – correct use of commas, semi-colons, apostrophes, etc.

Sentence structure – proper placement of phrases and words.

Transitional elements – consistent flow of topics from paragraph to paragraph.

Unique wording – excellent word selection; avoidance of repetitive or common vocabulary.

Visual elements – cover sheet, spacing, margins, and word count.

## OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS

Effectiveness – overall ability of the writer to capture interest and impact the reader.

Evident ministry – evidence of spiritual motivation demonstrated with sincerity and passion.

Preparation – an apparent effort of time and thought in preparing the piece.

Understandable concept – combination of the selection, communication, presentation and technique, and effectiveness in attaining a response.

## CREATIVE NONFICTION/MEMOIR

**This category must present Evident Ministry (please see pg. 14 for the definition of Evident Ministry at NFAF)**

### **Rules**

1. A First Person Essay is the art of writing an essay based on personal experience.
2. A First Person Essay must have a minimum of 500 words and a maximum of 1,200 words. Dialogue is allowed.
3. Entries must be the original work of one student and not previously submitted in this festival.
4. Entries must be submitted typed in a 12-point black Times New Roman or Arial font, double-spaced with at least 1-inch margins on all sides, and may not contain art, Word Art, borders, etc.
5. Submissions must include a title page on page one of the document, with the entry beginning on page two. The title page may not be a separate document. The following information is required:

Title

Category

Author

Church name

Word count

### **Evaluation Criteria**

#### SELECTION

Appropriate – appropriate for this festival; appropriate level of difficulty.

Originality – unique use of original and creative ideas; demonstration of a fresh approach.

Style – keeps within genre (nonfiction, written in first person).

#### COMMUNICATION

Flow of thought – ideas connecting from the beginning to the end of the piece.

Freshness of expression – avoidance of clichés – creating fresh and vivid imagery.

Title selection – definite reflection of the tone and message of the essay.

Unique wording – excellent word selection; avoidance of repetitive or common vocabulary.

Use of language – proper usage and easily understood components of the English language.

#### PRESENTATION AND TECHNIQUE

Development – strong incorporation of key components (conflict, plot, and resolution involving speaker).

Grammar – correct verb tenses, usage of pronouns, etc.

Mechanics/spelling – correct word spelling.

Punctuation – correct use of commas, semi-colons, apostrophes, etc.

Sentence structure – proper placement of phrases and words.

Transitional elements – consistent flow of topics from paragraph to paragraph.

Visual elements – cover sheet, spacing, margins, and word count.

## OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS

Evident ministry – evidence of spiritual motivation demonstrated with sincerity and passion.

Interpretation – overall conveyance of writer's theme-related idea.

Preparation – an apparent effort of time and thought in preparing the piece.

Understandable concept – combination of the selection, communication, presentation and technique, and effectiveness in attaining a response.

# FLASH FICTION

**This category must present Evident Ministry (please see pg. 14 for the definition of Evident Ministry at NFAF)**

## **Rules**

1. Flash Fiction is the art of writing a compelling fictional tale in few words.
2. Flash Fiction entries are bound by a 600-word maximum. Dialogue is allowed.
3. Entries must be the original work of the student and not previously submitted in this festival.
4. Submissions must be submitted typed in a 12-point black Times New Roman or Arial font, double-spaced with at least 1-inch margins on all sides, and may not contain art, Word Art, borders, etc.
5. Each entry must include a title page on page one of the document, with the entry beginning on page two. The title page may not be a separate document. The following information is required:

Title

Category

Author

Church name

Word count

## **Evaluation Criteria**

### SELECTION

Appropriate – appropriate for this festival; appropriate level of difficulty.

Originality – unique use of original and creative ideas; demonstration of a fresh approach.

Style – keeps within genre (fiction, non-fiction, written in first person, etc.).

### COMMUNICATION

Flow of thought – ideas connecting from the beginning to the end of the piece.

Freshness of expression – avoidance of clichés – creating fresh and vivid imagery.

Title selection – definite reflection of the tone and message of the essay.

Unique wording – excellent word selection; avoidance of repetitive or common vocabulary.

Use of language – proper usage and easily understood components of the English language.

## PRESENTATION AND TECHNIQUE

Development – strong incorporation of key components (conflict, plot, and resolution involving speaker).

Grammar – correct verb tenses, usage of pronouns, etc.

Mechanics/spelling – correct word spelling.

Punctuation – correct use of commas, semi-colons, apostrophes, etc.

Sentence structure – proper placement of phrases and words.

Transitional elements – consistent flow of topics from paragraph to paragraph.

Visual elements – cover sheet, spacing, margins, and word count.

## OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS

Evident ministry – evidence of spiritual motivation demonstrated with sincerity and passion.

Interpretation – overall conveyance of writer's theme-related idea.

Preparation – an apparent effort of time and thought in preparing the piece.

Understandable concept – combination of the selection, communication, presentation and technique, and effectiveness in attaining a response.

# POETRY

**This category must present Evident Ministry (please see pg. 14 for the definition of Evident Ministry at NFAF)**

### **Rules**

1. A Poetry entry is the art of composing a piece of literature that uses the sounds and layered meaning of words to evoke a feeling or communicate an idea. Poetry is often referred to as the best words in the best order.
2. A Poetry entry may be rhymed, unrhymed verse, metered, or free lines, with a maximum of 30 lines of text.
3. Entries must be the original work of the student and not previously submitted in this festival.
4. Submissions must be submitted typed in a 12-point black Times New Roman or Arial font, with at least 1-inch margins on all sides, and may not contain art, Word Art, borders, etc.
5. Poetry entries are not required to be double-spaced.
6. Entries must include a title page on page one of the document, with the entry beginning on page two. The title page may not be a separate document. The following information is required:

Title

Category

Author

Church name

Line count

### **Evaluation Criteria**

#### SELECTION

Appropriate – appropriate for this festival; appropriate level of difficulty.

Originality – unique use of original and creative ideas; demonstration of a fresh approach.

Style – keeps within genre (fiction, non-fiction, written in first person, etc.).

## **COMMUNICATION**

Flow of thought – ideas connecting from the beginning to the end of the piece.

Freshness of expression – avoidance of clichés – creating fresh and vivid imagery.

Title selection – definite reflection of the tone and message of the essay.

Unique wording – excellent word selection; avoidance of repetitive or common vocabulary.

Use of language – proper usage and easily understood components of the English language.

## **PRESENTATION AND TECHNIQUE**

Development – strong incorporation of key components (conflict, plot, and resolution involving speaker).

Grammar – correct verb tenses, usage of pronouns, etc.

Mechanics/spelling – correct word spelling.

Punctuation – correct use of commas, semi-colons, apostrophes, etc.

Sentence structure – proper placement of phrases and words.

Transitional elements – consistent flow of topics from paragraph to paragraph.

Visual elements – cover sheet, spacing, margins, and word count.

## **EFFECTIVENESS**

Evident ministry – evidence of spiritual motivation demonstrated with sincerity and passion.

Interpretation – overall conveyance of writer's theme-related idea.

Preparation – an apparent effort of time and thought in preparing the piece.

Understandable concept – combination of the selection, communication, presentation and technique, and effectiveness in attaining a response.

## **OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS**

Effectiveness – overall ability of the writer to capture interest and impact the reader.

Evident ministry – evidence of spiritual motivation demonstrated with sincerity and passion.

Preparation – an apparent effort of time and thought in preparing the piece.

Understandable concept – combination of the selection, communication, presentation and technique, and effectiveness in attaining a response.



