

# INDIANA



# RULEBOOK



## GENERAL GUIDELINES

It is the responsibility of each parent and/or adult sponsor to be familiar with the rules.

All content used for any entry must be Christian in theme and taste.

In group entries, one substitution may be made in case of an emergency. Omissions of persons may be allowed at the festival, however additions are not allowed.

Festival participants should always be mindful of their representation of Christ in regard to their behavior.

ANY PARTICIPANT SHOWING DISRESPECT TO PEOPLE OR PROPERTY WILL BE DISMISSED FROM THE FESTIVAL.

Be courteous to other participants. Do not enter performance rooms when a student is performing. Remain quiet outside performance rooms.

***Students need to be with their leaders or parents during the festival.***

Have FUN!

A piano and drums will be available. Sound systems will be provided in each presentation room.

**For presentations requiring audio, only mp3 recordings are permitted. The Fun Art Festival only provides 3.5mm (1/8") audio plugs. Participants are responsible to bring suitable mp3 players with 3.5 mm (1/8") audio jacks. USB files and CDs are not accommodated.**

Rehearsal rooms will be provided.

Be on time for your scheduled performance. A performance schedule will be posted online one week prior to the festival at [www.indianaag.org/fun-arts](http://www.indianaag.org/fun-arts).

## EVALUATORS

The evaluators for each event are individuals who have excelled in the areas they will coach.

The evaluator will have a sheet in which they will write down comments about each presentation so the students can use them later.

Evaluation forms will be returned to the student at the close of the festival.

Anyone who wishes to listen to a presentation will be allowed in the room. No entry will be allowed once performance has begun.

# **ART DIVISION**

- Graphic Design
- Photography, Digital
- Photography, Mobile
- T-Shirt Design
- Visual Art, 3 Dimensional
- Visual Art, 2 Dimensional, Painting and Drawing

**Evaluation:** Each entry will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- **Selection:** appropriate, fresh concept, style
- **Communication:** initial impression, originality, range of appeal, visual impact
- **Presentation/Technique:** consistency, finished presentation, flow, neatness, organization, proportion, technique, use of color/contrast
- **Effectiveness:** effectiveness, preparation, understandable concept

## **GRAPHIC DESIGN RULES:**

1. In the Graphic Design category, the following submissions are accepted: *Digital Advertisement, Banner, Billboard, Brochure, Bulletin/Program, Business Card, Flyer, Logo, Newsletter, Podcast/Album Cover, Poster, Print Advertisements, Social Media Graphics, Web Page, 3-D Renders*
2. Graphic Design entries must be mounted flat on art board (foam core or matte board). Entries must be mounted, no smaller than 4 by 6 inches and no larger than 18 by 24 inches. The piece must follow standard industry sizes.
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 must submit the best representation of their design.
4. Entries do not have to be overtly religious in subject or theme.

## **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 3 photographs may be used to create 1 image. All photographs used to create the image must appear to the viewer as if they are a single image. Entries must be an original work of 1 student, including all photographs used to create the image, and not submitted to any previous Assemblies of God Fine Arts Festival (with the exception of the festival[s] the entry advanced from).
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 must be mounted on or printed directly on art board (foam core or matte board). Mounting or printing on a stretched canvas is not allowed. The entry may be framed with cut matte board. No other framing or mounting is allowed. The image must be no smaller than 8 by 10 inches and no larger than 16 by 20 inches.

# **ART DIVISION - CONT.**

## **PHOTOGRAPHY, MOBILE RULES:**

1. Only mobile device cameras may be used for photographs entered in the Photography, Mobile category.
2. The credit line page that must accompany the entry must indicate the device, type of application, 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. No collages or montages are permitted in this category.
6. 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.
7. A Photography, Mobile image must be mounted on or printed directly on art board (foam core or matte board). Mounting or printing on a stretched canvas is not allowed. The entry may be framed with cut matte board. No other framing or mounting is allowed. The image must be no smaller than 8 by 10 inches and no larger than 16 by 20 inches.

## **T-SHIRT RULES:**

1. T-Shirt Design entries may take any of the following forms: finished T-shirt, digital drawing, or comprehensive full-color computer mock-up. Students must submit the best representation of their designs.
2. Entries submitted as a finished T-shirt require all graphics to be permanently affixed to the shirt by screen printing, heat transfer, embroidery, or similar.
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 must be no smaller than 8 by 10 inches and no larger than 18 by 24 inches. The entry may be framed with cut matte board. Framing other than matte board is not allowed.
4. Entries do not have to be overtly religious in subject or theme.

## **VISUAL ART, 3 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, Pottery, Woodwork/ Wood Carvings, Metal Works, Paper Maché, Mixed Media Abstract, Architectural Models*
3. Entries do not have to be overtly religious in subject or theme.
4. Mounting is not required; but if used, Visual Art, Three-Dimensional entries may be mounted on wood, plastic, metal, etc. The overall size may be no smaller than 6 by 6 by 6 inches and no larger than 32 by 32 by 32 inches.
5. Weapons are not allowed in the National Fine Arts Festival 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 after the Art Gallery closes.
6. Stand-alone fiber arts and fashion design entries are not accommodated in this category.
7. 3D printed entries must include the CAD/digital designs created by the artist. 3D printed items may not be stand-alone single print items. 3D printed items must include multiple printed items combined into a single entry.

## **VISUAL ART, 2 DIMENSIONAL, PAINTING & DRAWING RULES:**

1. Visual Art, Two-Dimensional, Painting and Drawing entries are defined as art that is created using traditional methods with traditional mediums, on a traditional canvas/base where no physical texture or dimension is present other than that created by the accepted chosen medium.
2. 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)*
3. Entries do not have to be overtly religious in subject or theme.
4. Texture added to a painting or drawing entry is prohibited, except for texture created by paint if used.
5. Visual Art, Two-Dimensional, Painting and Drawing entries must be mounted on foam core, matte board, Masonite board, or similar. 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.

# COMMUNICATION DIVISION

- American Sign Language, Solo
- Puppetry Group
- Puppetry Solo
- Short Film
- Short Sermon
- Spoken Word

Evaluation: Each entry will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Selection: appropriate, Christian message, originality
- Communication: choreography, expression/body language, focus, presentation, physical energy, posture, stage presence, timing, vocal clarity
- Presentation/Technique: delivery and timing, elicits response, entrances and exits, dynamics, lip synchronization, mouth action, presentation, posture, rod arm/human arm technique, staging and blocking, structure of content, transitions, use of scripture, use of illustrations
- Effectiveness: evident ministry, preparation, relevance, understandable concept.

**Time Limits for each category:**

**5 minutes for American Sign Language Solo, Puppetry Group & Solo, Short Film, Short Sermon**  
**3 minutes for Spoken Word**

## AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ASL) RULES:

1. American Sign Language Group/Solo is an interpretation of a prerecorded 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. The English-to-ASL interpretation must be an original interpretation by the student and not a copy of another's work or sign choices.
4. 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.
5. 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).
6. The presenter(s) must maintain a professional appearance. Attire and accessories must not create visual distractions. Costumes and costume makeup are not allowed. Participants must wear a solid top contrasting with his/her skin tone.
7. Mouthing lyrics/lip syncing is not used in American Sign Language. Only linguistically appropriate facial grammar must 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 nonsigned facial grammar that can influence the meaning of the sign. These must be used as is fitting within the language itself.
8. No live music is allowed.

## PUPPETRY RULES:

1. Puppetry Group/Solo is the art of presenting a puppet ministry for the purpose of communicating a biblical message in a presentation geared toward children ages 5–10.
2. An entry in Puppetry Group may consist of 2 to 10 eligible students.
3. A Puppetry entry is not required to be original, but originality is encouraged.
4. Participants are not permitted to bring their own puppet stage and are not permitted to alter the dimensions of the stage, move, add onto, or change the stage in any way.
5. No interaction between live presenters and puppets is permitted.
6. The placement of props and signs in and around the puppet stage is permitted, all other aspects of the entry must take place within the boundaries of the stage. Students may not throw items (candy, prizes, etc.) into the audience area.
7. Neither flammable nor liquid props or elements are permitted in Puppetry entries.
8. The entire presentation must consist of only hand-manipulated puppets; full-body costumes (such as human mascots/characters) are not permitted in Puppetry entries.
9. Ventriloquism is not allowed in Puppetry categories.

# **COMMUNICATION DIVISION - CONT.**

## **SHORT FILM RULES:**

Short Film entries must upload entries to <https://www.indiananextgen.org/fun-fine-arts>. The NextGen Department does not accept any other form of submission. Short Film entries registered for, but still not received by midnight March 21, 2024, are considered canceled and no attempt will be made to obtain the entries.:

Every Short Film entry must have a PDF file of the credit line (information page) uploaded with the entry. The credit line must include the following information as listed in the order given below:

- Participant(s)
- Grade(s)
- Category
- Film Title
- Explanation of medium (how the piece was created in technical terms by stating processes, equipment used, etc.)
- Church name, city, state

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 1 to 10 eligible students.
2. Entries must be an original work of the registrants, including both script and storyline.
3. In the Short Film category, the following genres are accepted: *animation, comedy, documentary, music video, drama, fiction/live action*
5. 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.
6. Copyright policy: Assemblies of God 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.
7. Model Release policy: Assemblies of God Youth Ministries and The General Council of the Assemblies of God are not responsible for assuring that all use of human subjects included in students' film productions are in compliance with existing model release laws. It is the responsibility of the registrants, authors, creators, students, parents, and youth leaders to be completely legal and ethical in their conduct regarding the use of people's images and likenesses.

## **SHORT SERMON RULES:**

1. Short Sermon is the art of verbally communicating a biblical message that includes Scripture quotations or readings presented by 1 eligible student.
2. Scripture reference must be cited with all Scripture quotations or readings.
3. 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.
4. Participants are allowed to use notes. The sermon does not need to be memorized.
5. Participants may only use a Bible, notes, and a podium. Small handheld props are allowed in Short Sermon entries. Props are limited to what presenters can carry by hand into the presentation space. Neither flammable nor liquid props are permitted.
6. All aspects of the sermon must take place within the boundaries of the stage, including use of props.
7. Costumes, costume makeup, and masks of any kind are not permitted.
8. The use of audio or audiovisual devices is not permitted.
9. 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.

## **SPOKEN WORD RULES:**

1. An entry in Spoken Word is for the art and ministry of communicating poetry that is specifically composed for presentation before an audience.
2. Entries must be an original work of 1 student.
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. Costumes, costume makeup, masks, and props of any kind are not permitted.

# DANCE DIVISION

- Hip Hop Solo
- Worship Dance Solo

Evaluation: Each entry will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Selection: appropriate, creativity, style
- Communication: choreography, expression, staging
- Presentation/Technique: body control and strength, body placement, difficulty, execution of technical skill, execution/uniformity, musicality, synchronization
- Effectiveness: evident ministry, overall effect, preparation, stage presence and projection

**Time Limits for each category:  
5 minutes**

## DANCE RULES:

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. The musical track that accompanies a Dance entry may or may not contain lyrics. Spoken words may be present in Worship Dance, Step and Hip Hop entries but must not be predominant. Mouthing lyrics/lip syncing is not permitted.
3. Live accompaniment is not permitted.
4. Modest attire must be worn. Clothing must be appropriate for effective interpretation, intended audience, and a worshipful atmosphere. Leotard bottoms must be covered with a skirt, wrap, or shorts. See-through skirts must have solid, non-see-through leggings underneath. Low-cut tops, open-front shirts, backless shirts, tight apparel, short shorts, extremely baggy pants, and see-through tights are never acceptable. If any shorts are worn, leggings are still required.
5. 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.
6. 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.
7. The use of percussion instruments is not permitted.
8. 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. No other props are permitted.
9. The use of a director during the presentation is not permitted.
10. Dance entries are evaluated based on the criteria for the category entered. Dances must demonstrate specific skills, movements, and elements of the chosen style.
11. The splicing of up to 3 songs is allowed but not required. Entries may have more than 3 splicings as long as there are 3 songs maximum. Voice-overs and sound effects do not count toward the 3-song limit.

# DRAMA DIVISION

- Drama Solo
- Dramatized Quoting
- Human Video Ensemble
- Human Video Solo
- Stand Up Comedy

Evaluation: Each entry will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Selection: appropriate, Christian message, composition quality, originality
- Communication: body language, character development, facial expression, physical energy, stage presence
- Presentation/Technique: action, actor's focus, blocking, characterization, development, mounts, presentation of story line, timing/delivery, uniformity
- Effectiveness: evident ministry, interpretation, memorization, preparation, understandable concept

**Time Limits for each category:**

**5 minutes for Drama Solo, Dramatized Quoting, Human Video Solo, and Stand Up Comedy**  
**7 minutes for Human Video Ensemble**

## DRAMA SOLO RULES:

1. A Drama Solo presentation is the art of telling a culturally relevant story through verbal communication and action.
2. Drama entries do not have to be original but originality is encouraged.
3. The entire presentation must be memorized.
4. No recorded or electronic sound effects are allowed. Neither sound tracks nor live background music is allowed.
5. All aspects of the drama must take place within the boundaries of the stage, including use of props.
6. 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.
7. Props are allowed in Drama Solo. Props are limited to what presenters can carry by hand into the presentation space. Neither flammable nor liquid props are permitted.
8. Costumes are permitted in Drama entries. Costume makeup and masks of any kind are not permitted.

## DRAMATIZED QUOTING SOLO 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
2. The Scripture portion used must be memorized, presented from consecutive verses, and quoted word perfect. The version used is the choice of the student.
3. At the assigned presentation time, 3 typed copies of the selected Scripture portion must be presented to the evaluators.
4. All aspects of the drama must take place within the boundaries of the stage, including use of props.
5. 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.
6. Props are allowed in Dramatized Quoting entries. Props are limited to what presenters can carry by hand into the presentation space. Neither flammable nor liquid props are permitted.
7. Costumes are permitted in Dramatized Quoting entries. Costume makeup and masks of any kind are not permitted.

# **DRAMA DIVISION - CONT.**

## **HUMAN VIDEO ENSEMBLE/SOLO RULES:**

1. A Human Video Ensemble/Solo presentation is the art of telling a story easily understood by the audience through a nonverbal drama presentation that accompanies a musical track.
2. Human Video Ensemble entries may consist of 2 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 3 songs is allowed but not required. Entries may have more than 3 splicings as long as there are 3 songs maximum. Voice-overs and sound effects do not count toward the 3-song limit.
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. All aspects of the Human Video must take place within the boundaries of the stage.
9. Safe gymnastic elements and/or cheer-type mounts are acceptable Human Video techniques but must fit believably within the storyline or be vital to character or story development.
10. No student may have more than 1 person on his/her shoulders.
11. 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.
12. Costumes, costume makeup, and masks of any kind are not permitted.
13. T-shirts in various colors are not considered costumes unless they are added, removed, or manipulated to portray a new place or character.

## **STAND-UP COMEDY RULES:**

1. Stand-Up Comedy is the art of telling stories, jokes, and/or one-liners to an audience with the purpose of eliciting laughter and provoking thought. As ministry, Stand-Up Comedy intends to bring the listener to a point of hearing a gospel message by tying together themes found in the comedic monologue.
2. Stand-Up Comedy is a solo presentation.
3. Stand-Up Comedy is to be comprised of original material.
4. The entire presentation must be memorized.
5. All aspects of the stand-up routine must take place within the boundaries of the stage.
6. Costumes, costume makeup, masks, and props of any kind are not permitted.
7. 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.

# INSTRUMENTAL DIVISION

- Guitar Solo
- Percussion Solo, Traditional
- Percussion, Unconventional
- Piano Solo

Evaluation: Each entry will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Selection: appropriate arrangement/composition, originality
- Communication: communication, communicative skill, expressiveness, posture, stage presence
- Presentation/Technique: blend, breathing, control, dynamics, fingering, intonation, phrasing, precision/accuracy, rhythmic stability, tone quality
- Effectiveness: evident ministry, preparation, understandable concept

**Time Limits for each category:  
5 minutes**

## GUITAR AND PIANO SOLO RULES:

1. An Instrumental Ensemble/Solo is the art of presenting a musical composition using only musical instruments.
2. Music must be memorized for all solo entries. Presenters are encouraged to present sheet music to the evaluators, but are not required to.
3. A conductor or director is not permitted. Rhythm, balance/blend, or cut-off cues from a person in the audience are not allowed.
4. 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.
5. Sound track levels may be adjusted to compensate for different recording levels.
6. A participant may play more than 1 instrument in an Instrumental entry as long as the setup and teardown time limits are not exceeded.
7. Use of preprogrammed or prerecorded loops/software is not allowed; any looping or sequencing technology must function only in response to manual and live hands-on control.
8. Piano Solo and Percussion entries are not allowed accompaniment (neither live nor recorded).
9. Click tracks, metronomes, or other rhythmic stability assistance devices or technology are not allowed.
10. Accompaniment:
  - Instrumental entries may choose to have or not to have accompaniment (except for Piano Solo/Piano Solo, Classical and Percussion).
  - The 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.

# **INSTRUMENTAL DIVISION- CONT.**

## **PERCUSSION SOLO, TRADITIONAL RULES:**

1. A Percussion Ensemble/Solo, Traditional entry is the art of presenting a musical entry using traditional orchestral percussion instruments and techniques.
2. A Percussion Ensemble, Traditional entry consists of 2 to 10 eligible students.
3. Personal drum sets may not be brought to the festival.
4. No talking or singing is permitted in this category.

## **PERCUSSION, UNCONVENTIONAL RULES:**

1. Percussion, Unconventional is the art of presenting a musical entry in which sound is produced by striking or tapping an object upon another.
2. Clear and discernible rhythmic pattern by percussion must be present throughout the entire presentation.
3. Percussion technique must be the primary focus for an entry in this category. It must be the composition and presentation of percussion techniques incorporating alternative and creative items such as trash cans, pipes, sticks, etc.
4. Neither flammable nor liquid elements are permitted in Percussion, Unconventional presentations. The entirety of the presentation must remain within the stage area and must not cause damage to any person or property. No items may be thrown or projected into the audience.
5. Speaking and singing is allowed but must not be predominant. While story and drama elements may be included, they will be evaluated in the Communications criteria portion only, and should not be the main focus of this percussion entry.
6. Standing on chairs, tables, and any prop is not allowed and may result in disqualification.
7. Safe gymnastic elements and/or cheer mounts and/or dance type movements are acceptable but must be presented and coordinated into the current rhythmic pattern being presented.
8. A Percussion, Unconventional entry consists of 1 to 10 eligible students.
9. Percussion instruments from the Traditional Percussion list may be incorporated into the entry but must be provided by the participant. A drum set is not provided for Percussion, Unconventional.

# VOCAL DIVISION

- Rap Solo
- Songwriting
- Vocal Solo, Female
- Vocal Solo, Male
- Worship Team

Evaluation: Each entry will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Selection: appropriate arrangement, Christian message, display of vocal range
- Communication: communicative skill, expressiveness, posture, stage presence
- Presentation/Technique: articulation, breathing, diction, dynamics, intonation, phrasing, rhythmic precision, tone quality
- Effectiveness: evident ministry, interpretation, memorization, preparation, understandable concept

**Time Limits for each category:**

**5 minutes for Rap Solo, Songwriting, and Vocal Solos**

**7 minutes for Worship Team**

## RAP SOLO RULES:

1. Rap is the urban art of communicating through rhythm and rhyme.
2. Entry lyrics must be an original work of the student(s).
3. Any previously created beat or musical hook samplings taken directly from other presenters used to create the Rap entry for this festival must be given proper credit on the lyric sheet under "Credits."
4. Three sets of lyric sheets must be hand-delivered to the evaluators. 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, city, state
5. A keyboard and standard drum set are provided. Students wishing to use drum machines must provide their own equipment.
6. Rap entries that include additional "beat-box" or "hype-man" members are considered group entries.
7. 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 predominant, but must be complementary.
8. Entries must be memorized.
9. A maximum of 4 instruments may be used for accompaniment (either recorded or live).

## SONGWRITING RULES:

1. Songwriting is for the art of writing an entirely original song including both music and lyrics, or rewriting a traditional hymn by adding modern elements.
2. Songwriting entries may consist of 1 to 5 eligible student writers. All students participating in writing the song must meet the age or grade requirements and must be registered.
3. At each level of participation, 3 sets of lyric sheets in the form of chord charts must be hand-delivered to the evaluators. Lyric sheets must be typed with the sections of the song clearly marked (chorus, verse, bridge, etc.), must have the chord listed above the lyrics, and must have a title page or heading that includes the following information: Title, Category, Composer(s), Genre, Church name, city, state
5. Songwriting entries must be an original work of the student(s), with the exception of blended public domain lyric and melody elements.
6. Only 1 instrument may be used for accompaniment (either prerecorded or live). The accompanist may be an adult or student.
7. All live music presented by the presenter must be memorized. If an accompanist is used, the accompanist is allowed to use music.

# **VOCAL DIVISION - CONT.**

## **VOCAL SOLO 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. Music must be memorized.
4. A Vocal Solo must not contain worship leading elements. The intent of a Vocal Solo is to present a song meant for performance to an audience, rather than leading congregational music.
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. If background vocals are used on the soundtrack of a solo entry, they must not be predominant, but must be complementary.

## **WORSHIP TEAM RULES:**

1. A Worship Team entry is the art of leading others in worship.
2. Worship Team entries may consist of 2 to 10 eligible students.
5. All individuals within a Worship Team entry must meet the age or grade requirements. No adult accompanists or vocalists are allowed.
6. Worship Team entries can consist of vocalists and instrumentalists or vocalists and worship video.
7. All music, words, movements must be memorized.
8. Additional instruments, equipment, and/or additional percussion accessories are permitted but must be provided by the participants. Individuals are not allowed to bring their own drum sets.
9. In-ear metronomes are only permitted for drummers.

# WRITING DIVISION

- First Person Essay
- Poetry

Evaluation: Each entry will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Selection: appropriate, Christian message, originality, style, title selection
- Communication: development, flow of thought, freshness of expression, use of language
- Presentation/Technique: consistency, flow, grammar, mechanics/spelling, punctuation, sentence structure, unique wording, visual impact
- Effectiveness: effectiveness, evident ministry, preparation, understandable concept

## **FIRST PERSON ESSAY 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 an original work of 1 student.
4. Entries must be 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, WordArt, borders, etc.
5. Submissions must include a title page on page 1 of the document with the entry beginning on page 2. The following information is required in the order given below on the title page:

Title

Category

Author

Grade

Church name, city, state

Word count

## **POETRY 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 verse, with a maximum of 30 lines of text.
3. Entries must be an original work of 1 student.
4. Entries must be submitted as 4 copies, 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, WordArt, borders, etc.
5. Poetry entries are not required to be double-spaced.
6. Entries must include a title page on page 1 of the document with the entry beginning on page 2. The following information is required in the order given below on the title page:

Title

Category

Author

Grade

Church name, city, state

Line count

**NEXTGEN**  
**INDIANA** **MINISTRIES**

8750 Purdue Rd/Indianapolis/IN/46268