



2022 Rulebook

Pennsylvania Association of Regular Baptist Churches

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OUR TALENTS FOR CHRIST COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Chairman: Pastor Joshua Franklin – Open Door Baptist Church, Greenburg

Pastor Sean Stouffer – Calvary Baptist Church, Bloomsburg

Mr. Paul Risser – Hope Baptist Church, Hanover

Pastor Earl Shawley – Messiah Baptist Church, Kylertown

Pastor Paul Connor – PARBC State Rep.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of the PARBC Talents for Christ Ministry to give young people an opportunity to develop the talents over which the LORD Jesus Christ has made them stewards in the arena of competition. We endeavor to challenge the participants to serve, not themselves, but God and others through their local churches, thus making Talents for Christ a stepping stone in the process of presenting them complete in Christ and a valuable member of the local body of believers.

“Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.”

Colossians 1:28

Table of Contents

Contents

Table of Contents	4
CATEGORIES.....	6
CHURCH REGISTRATION	7
CONTESTANTS.....	7
Eligibility	7
Entry.....	7
Dress Code	7
JUDGING	8
Judging Standards	8
Disqualifications	8
Awards	8
BIBLE QUIZZING.....	9
Bible Quizzing Rules	9
Bible Quizzing Scoring.....	9
WRITING AND TESTING CONTESTS	9
Extemporaneous Writing	9
Bible Knowledge	10
ART, PHOTOGRAPHY, HOME ECONOMICS CONTESTS.....	10
Art	10
2-Dimensional Art	10
3-Dimensional Art	10
Art Judging Criteria	10
Photography-Standard.....	11
Photography/Graphic Design.....	11
Photography Judging Criteria	11
Home Economics.....	12
Baking Division	12
Needlework/Handiwork Division	13
Sewing Division.....	13

Adjudication Areas	13
MUSICAL CATEGORIES.....	13
General Rules.....	13
Group Instrument & Group Voice	13
Group Size	14
Group Instrument & Group Voice Adjudication Criteria	14
SPEECH CATEGORIES	14
Oral Interpretation.....	14
Oral Interpretation Adjudication Areas.....	14
Public Speaking	15
Topics.....	15
Outlines	15
Example	16
Time Limit	16
Public Speaking Adjudication Areas	16
Visualized Bible Teaching.....	17
Visualized Bible Teaching Adjudication Areas.....	17
Puppetry	17
Puppets.....	17
Sets.....	18
Script.....	18
Techniques	18
Puppetry Adjudication Areas	18
Digital Media	18
Digital Presentation.....	18
Digital Presentation Adjudication Areas.....	19

CATEGORIES

- Extemporaneous Writing
- Bible Knowledge: Old & New Testament
- Art: 2-Dimensional, 3-Dimensional
- Photography
- Home Economics: Baking, Needlework/Handiwork, Sewing
- Bible Quizzing Team
- Vocal
 - Male & Female Solos
 - Large & Small Groups
- Instrumental*
 - Brass: Cornet, Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba, Sousaphone
 - Strings: Violin, Viola, Cello, Bass, Classical Guitar, Folk Strings
 - Woodwinds: Bassoon, Oboe, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, Flute
 - Piano
 - Large & Small Group
- Speech
 - Oral Interpretation
 - Public Speaking: Male & Female
 - Visualized Bible Teaching
 - Puppetry
- Digital Media
 - Digital Presentation

*Exceptions can be made to these categories and instruments with prior approval from the Talents for Christ Committee.

CHURCH REGISTRATION

The registering church should select a TFC Coordinator to fill out the church registration and group registration forms. These need to be completed by the date listed on the website. Any changes or comments to any church, group, or individual registration form can be emailed to parbctfinfo@gmail.com.

*Reminder – If the church has any young men staying overnight at the host church, the home church must provide an adult chaperone to stay with them. The name of the chaperone must be provided with the church registration.

CONTESTANTS

Eligibility

Open to those in grades 7-9 (Junior High Level) and grades 10-12 (Senior High Level).

Contestants must be in regular attendance at a fundamental Baptist church or youth group. Teens from good standing Bible Churches may now participate in TFC if the church has been invited to do so by a church in the PARBC.

Entry

All contestants must complete the online Individual Entry form by the date listed on the website.

For competition, original pieces need to have name on them for music, speech, etc.

Each student may compete in a total of no more than five categories with no more than two categories chosen from the areas of art, photography, and home economics, and no more than three categories chosen from all other areas of competition, whether individual, group, or a combination of individual and group.

Only one entry is allowed per category. For example, you may not sing two solos or enter two pieces of 2-D art. Bible Quizzing, Bible Knowledge and Extemporaneous Writing are totally separate from these considerations. Contestants may be on a Bible Quizzing Team, write an essay and take the Bible Knowledge test and still compete in a maximum of 5 additional categories.

Dress Code

Friday Evening:

Bible Quiz Contestants Dress Code for Friday evening:

- Young men: dress slacks and dress shirt, collared-shirt, or sweater (no t-shirts/sweatshirts).
- Young ladies: modest dress (covers knees when seated) or dress slacks

After the Bible Quiz Competition and Rally, the gymnasium will be open for various games and activities. Knee length shorts and t-shirts are appropriate for gym activities only and only in the gym and locker room areas.

Saturday Competition, Rally, and Awards ceremony:

- Young men: dress slacks, shirt and tie (suit jacket, blazer, or sweater optional).
- Young ladies: modest dress or skirt and blouse, with dress or skirts knee-length or longer.

JUDGING

Judging Standards

Winners are based solely on total points. In case of a tie, the majority vote of judges will determine the winner. In the case of Bible Knowledge ties, additional written questions will be administered until winners are determined.

- Poor: 0 - 2 points Numerical recognition given solely for effort expended. Performance itself is poor.
- Fair: 3 - 4 points A fair performance, but lacking finesse—needs much more development.
- Meritorious: 5 - 6 points A good performance, but not outstanding in any respect— needs more development.
- Excellent: 7 - 8 points An excellent performance in most respects; defects in performance or effective interpretation only minor—slightly below superior.
- Superior: 9 - 10 points Represents the best conceivable performance and worthy of being recognized as first place.

Disqualifications

- Inappropriate attire.
- Exhibition of a non-Christ-like attitude.
- Exceeding set time limits.
- Failure to appear according to schedule.
- Reading from a score or entire manuscript when memorization is required (Public Speaking and Voice).
- Failure to provide the marked score or outline required (Music and Public Speaking).

Awards

Recognition will be by means of a plaque, trophy, medal and/or certificate. However, the judges may not necessarily deem awards are warranted. Competing does not guarantee placement for any award.

BIBLE QUIZZING

Quiz questions are based on the biblical text listed on the website as recorded in the KJV.

The competition will use a hand button signal with the computer deciding who pressed their button first, second, third, etc.

Two levels: Junior High and Senior High - Teams may be entered at the junior high and/or senior high levels. A team with both junior and senior high students must compete at the senior high level.

- Team size: Three minimum and eight maximum (maximum of 5 active contestants).
- Two churches can quiz together to make a team of 3-5 teens.

Bible Quizzing Rules

1. Up to nine teams will quiz at one time with more than one round of quizzing. Each round will have a maximum of 50 questions plus team questions.
2. Teams will face the audience and quizmaster.
3. The seat judge will recognize the team responding first.
4. A quizzer may answer a total of seven (7) questions before quizzing out in each round, at which time a substitute may be selected from the team.
5. A team may put a substitute in only one time in any one round unless someone quizzes out.
6. The quizmaster and judges will determine the correctness of an answer.
7. No question in whole or in part will be repeated after any quizzer has jumped.
8. Bibles, papers, etc., will not be permitted on the platform.
9. A question incorrectly answered may be answered by a competing team but with no additional information.
10. Contestants have seven (7) seconds to begin their answer after jumping. Only one answer will be accepted.
11. Neither talking nor signaling will be permitted between the quizzers, coach, or the audience during quizzing.
12. If there is more than one team from a church, there can be no interchanging between teams.

Bible Quizzing Scoring

- Each correct answer is worth ten (10) points.
- Every tenth question is a bonus question and worth twenty (20) points.
- At the end of each round there will be a total team question worth an additional twenty (20) points.
- All team members who are seated in a particular round plus any who may have quizzed out are eligible to answer a team question.

WRITING AND TESTING CONTESTS

Extemporaneous Writing

Prior preparation is not required. A topic will be assigned, and instructions given the day of competition. Bibles will be supplied. You may bring a dictionary.

Areas of judging will cover the clearly stated and effective organization and development of the theme/topic assigned, and sincerity (the writer's presentation and conveyance of value of the theme/topic). Additional areas of judging will be those of style, grammar, diction (word choice),

paragraph development, and mechanics (correct punctuation, spelling, capitalization, etc.). The paper must be double spaced with a final draft rewritten. There is a 90 minute time limit.

Bible Knowledge

The Bible Knowledge tests are based on the texts listed on the website. Contestants may also test on either or both the New Testament passage and Old Testament passage (King James Version).

A variety of questioning methods may be employed (completion, quotes, multiple choice, references, fill-in-the blank, etc.). There are no essay questions.

Participants may choose to take either one or both tests.

There is a time limit of 90 minutes per test. All tests must be completed by noon.

ART, PHOTOGRAPHY, HOME ECONOMICS CONTESTS

Art

- Only one 2D and one 3D art entries permitted per contestant.
- Works submitted must be the contestant's alone and not traced.
- Works of the following nature may be submitted:

2-Dimensional Art

THEME: Use a Bible verse to relate your picture to scripture, or to scripturally support your picture.

POLYCHROMATIC: (more than one color)

Medium: oils, watercolor, pastels, crayons, or colored pencils

MONOCHROMATIC: (only one color)

Medium: pencil, charcoal, chalk, or ink

Size: Any size so long as it is sealed with a protective spray, matted, framed, and backed. A painting on canvas does not need to be matted or covered with glass.

3-Dimensional Art

Materials: wood, metal, plastic, ceramic, plaster, Paper Mache, stone, glass and stained glass.

Sculpture guidelines:

- Not to be a religious icon - An icon is a religious image or representation of an object, deity or sacred figure or event.
- Must be free standing (no mobiles)
- May be functional or a free-form piece
- May be from 6 to 36 inches in height
- May be made of different materials

Art Judging Criteria

Works will be judged for the skill displayed, originality and creativity, harmony and visual balance, and its effectiveness in communicating or portraying a message from the scripture you have chosen.

- Originality
- Use of positive and negative space
- Use of textures, shapes, and forms

- Use of repetition, contrast, and balance
- Unity in its elements and theme
- Craftsmanship

Photography-Standard

- Submit one picture that is to be at least 8”x 10”, matted, backed, and framed for presentation. Pictures can be submitted in color or black & white.
- Photographs should be of Landscape (i.e. sunsets, trees, streams, buildings) or Still-Life/Portraits (i.e. people, animals, objects).
- No multi image composites, texture layering, or extensive manipulation to add or remove elements is allowed.
- Black or White mat ONLY— no writing or distracting elements on mat or frame.
- Attach a 3 x 5 card to the back of the frame with the following information listed: Name, Grade, and Church.
- All entries are to be in good taste and be a good testimony to Christ.

Photography/Graphic Design

- Submit one original picture that is to be at least 8”x 10”, matted, backed, and framed for presentation. Pictures can be submitted in color or black & white.
- Photographs should be of Landscape (i.e. sunsets, trees, streams, buildings) or Still-Life/Portraits (i.e. people, animals, objects).
- Choose a verse which relates to the picture and, using software, incorporate it into the original picture. In an effort to streamline the judging, please use the King James Version.
- Black or White mat ONLY— no writing or distracting elements on mat or frame.
- Attach a 3 x 5 card to the back of the frame with the following information listed: Name, Grade, and Church.
- All entries are to be in good taste and be a good testimony to Christ.

Photography Judging Criteria

- Following directions: meeting size and labeling requirements.
- Framing Composition – perspective, balance, clear focal point, rule of thirds, leading lines, horizon line, layout of the verse in the picture (Verse Art).
- Focus – subject clear and sharp, correct exposure, correct depth of field for the image.
- Lighting – effective light balance; appropriate highlighting; appropriate lens flare.
- Color/B&W Contrast – balanced saturation, not faded or exaggerated, attractive use of color or contrast.
- Creativity and Impact – strong visual impact; fresh, unique, or intriguing treatment of subject. For graphic design, does the picture represent the verse well.
- For Graphic Design – does the entry show a good understanding of the basics of graphic design.

Possible Points	4	3	2	1
Christ Honoring Correct Size Labeling	All Requirements Met	One Element Missing	Two Elements Missing	Three Elements Missing
Framing Composition	Perspective Excellent Balance Focal point clear Rule of thirds Leading lines Horizon line	Some composition attempted Not as dramatic Not all aspects effectively used	Perspective or balance awkward Cluttered Subject in center	Cannot determine focal point-subject Flawed framing
Focus	Subject clear and sharp Correct exposure Depth of field correct for the image	Good but unremarkable focus	Depth of field not addressed Sharpness marginal	Incorrect exposure Lack of clarity in any chosen spot
Lighting	Effective light balance Appropriate highlighting No lens flare, glare, excess reflections	Flat appearance No evidence of planning for light balance	Dark with unwarranted shadows “fill flash” absent	Lens flare or reflection mistakes Hot spots or glare detract from the image
Color B&W Contrast	Balanced saturation Not faded or exaggerated Attractive use of color or contrast	Color/contrast adequate but not exceptional	Color/contrast not used effectively to improve the picture quality	Color faded Little evidence of balance or contrast
Creativity and Impact	Strong visual impact Fresh, unique, or intriguing treatment of the subject	Visual impact interesting but no WOW factor	Limited impression Not compelling Very common	Lacks imagination and purpose

Home Economics

Your name, grade, and church must be attached to each project.

Baking Division

- There are 3 categories (note the submission quantities per entry): Cakes (1), Pies (1), Goodies (brownies (12 pcs), cookies (12), Cupcakes (6), fudge (12 pcs), etc.).
- All projects must be baked. No-bake projects will not be allowed.
- All projects must include **the ingredient listed on the website** in the recipe.
- No mixes permitted.
- Submit your entry on a sturdy paper plate enclosed in a plastic bag with a copy of the recipe attached.

Needlework/Handiwork Division

- Yarn (Crochet, Knitting).
- Embroidery (counted cross stitch, English smocking, and needlepoint).
- Patterns should be of a sacred nature or a pattern which portrays God's creation (e.g., flowers, animals, etc.).

Sewing Division

- Wearing apparel (clothes, accessories).
- Stuffed toys and gifts (animals, dolls, etc.).

Adjudication Areas

- Food entries will be judged on their general appearance, flavor, and texture and use of the focus ingredient. (Entries will be served as dessert at lunch).
- Needlework and sewing entries will be judged in the areas of choice of colors, smoothness of stitches, and the skill level displayed.

MUSICAL CATEGORIES

General Rules

Prepare one sacred selection — a song which glorifies the Lord and resembles a traditional hymn and gospel song style, rather than the world's style of music as is seen and heard in Contemporary Christian Music (CCM).

Contestants must have an original score* for yourself and three copies for the judges, each marked "For Educational Purpose" and with measures numbered. If your song is memorized, give the judges *one original score and two copies*. Downloaded originals must have proof of purchase. Please include your name and your church name on the copies you provide the judges to ensure your copies are returned to you.

If you desire alteration of rhythm to coincide with your interpretation, those changes must be edited into the musical score provided to the judges. If you plan to play the piece in a transposed key, the score you provide the judges must agree with what you will play even if it is handwritten.

**Musical score must be an original unless it is out of print and you have written permission from the publisher to photocopy. (Provide publisher's letter for the judges to see.) Copies must be legible.

Furnish your own accompanist if you desire accompaniment. Piano is the only acceptable instrument for accompaniment. A recording of the piano accompaniment may be used, but it is the responsibility of the contestant to provide the necessary equipment.

Memorization of your selection is required only if you are a senior high voice contestant.

Only senior high level instrumentalists will be required to sight-read a score supplied by the judges.

* CCLI does not cover photocopies.

Group Instrument & Group Voice

Two Levels: Junior High and Senior High.

Groups at each level may be entered or a combined group may be entered which would compete at the senior high level.

Group Size

- Small Group - two to four participants.
- Large Group - five or more participants.
- Christian School Choir - twelve or more participants.

Neither memorization nor sight-reading is required for groups.

Group Instrument & Group Voice Adjudication Criteria

- Memorization (senior high solo voice only).
- Sight-reading (senior high solo instrumentalists only).
- Technique—preparedness demonstrated, accuracy, fingering, tonguing and steadiness (brass/woodwinds), bowing (strings), use of pedals and hand positions (piano), resonance and clarity of pitch (voice). *The vocal line must be clear. Any vocal ornamentations (such as slurs) must be indicated in the musical score itself.*
- Rhythm—accuracy, steadiness, flow.
- Musicianship—sincerity, spirit, dynamic contrast, tempo, phrasing, style.
- Tone/Intonation—control, production, quality, pitch.
- Breath support and/or posture.
- Articulation—accuracy in interpretation of markings, tonguing, fingering, bowing.
- Accurate interpretation—artistry, dynamic contrast, phrasing, style, tempo.
- Diction (voice).
- Undesignated/Bonus (given at judges' discretion).

SPEECH CATEGORIES

Oral Interpretation

One selection of a sacred nature (e.g., a poem, a published speech or essay, a commercially produced children's story or other religious reading).

- Because of copyright laws, each one who performs a speech should have one copy of the original publication on hand to show to the judges.
- You may have to write to a publisher or the copyright holder requesting permission to make a photocopy.

Failure to provide these materials will result in disqualification.

Memorized - submit original copy to judges.

Time limit: 4 -10 minutes (plus 40 seconds grace).

Other areas judged will be interpretation of the selection, gestures, diction, and poise.

Oral Interpretation Adjudication Areas

- Theme—significant; original; not too broad or general; stated well.
- Style and articulation—grammar; variety; correct pronunciation; vocal quality; breath control; variety in volume, rate and pitch.
- General delivery—appearance and grooming; facial expression; posture; mannerisms; gestures; sincerity; confidence.

- General effectiveness—how well speaker related to the audience; delivery; accomplishment of purpose.

Public Speaking

Topics

We encourage you to get pastoral help in selecting a topic, but the oration itself must be your work. Some of the acceptable subject areas are Bible doctrine, Christian education, Christian living, Christian youth, evangelism, foreign missions, Baptist history, or the Christian and his country. The male public speaking category may include sermonic preaching. The female public speaking category may include a devotional or challenge. You may use a Bible only for sermonic preaching (male) or for a devotional or challenge (female). Visuals are allowed, and a podium may be used.

Outlines

Submit three copies of the outline of your speech—one original and two legible copies. Print or type the original outline on 8½" x 11" white paper, single-spaced with double-spacing between major points. The outline must be no longer than two pages and must contain each major point and sub point stated as a brief but complete sentence (not a topic outline).

1. Center your title near the top of your paper. Type your name below your title.
2. Skip two lines and type the word "TOPIC" followed by a colon; then type your topic sentence. Example: TOPIC: Our country's greatest need today is prayer.
3. Skip two more lines and type the word "Introduction" followed by a colon; then type your introduction word for word. The introduction should include your topic sentence.
4. Skip two more lines and begin your outline. You may have two to five main points, but three is usually best. Each main point should have at least two sub points.
5. All points should be written in complete sentences and should be parallel in construction. See following:

NOT PARALLEL

- I. Our country needs prayer.
- II. The importance of prayer.
- III. How to pray for our country.

PARALLEL

- I. Our country's needs are great.
- II. God is the answer to our needs.
- III. Prayer is the way to reach God.

6. Illustrations should not be a main point or sub point. Put them in parentheses underneath the point they illustrate.

Example

I. Our country's needs are great.

A. Our crime rate is high.

(Illus.: story of children in Florida attacking parents)

B. Our divorce rate is high.

(Illus.: God's plan for marriage—Gen. 2:23-25)

7. When your outline is complete, skip two lines and write the word "Conclusion" followed by a colon. Type the conclusion word for word.
8. On the second page list the resources you used for the speech. Your resources should include the Bible and at least two other sources. Title this page BIBLIOGRAPHY and format properly.

SAMPLE BOOK ENTRY (One author)

Pickering, Ernest. *Biblical Separation: The Struggle for a Pure Church*. Schaumburg, IL: Regular Baptist Press, 1979.

SAMPLE MAGAZINE ENTRY (Periodical article)

Gower, David M. "Pastoral Holiness," *Baptist Bulletin* (February 1988), pp. 7, 11.

Time Limit

A minimum of eight (8) minutes and a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes are required. At the end of fifteen minutes the timekeeper will stand long enough to notify you that the allotted time has ended. At fifteen minutes and forty seconds, the timekeeper will stand again and remain standing until you stop. Any contestant exceeding the forty-second extension will be penalized.

Public Speaking Adjudication Areas

- Theme—significant; original; not too broad or general; stated well.
- Content of material—shows investigation and knowledge; supporting materials.
- Arrangement and organization—outline; ideas; conclusions; transitions; balance of intellectual, emotional, volitional elements.
- Illustrations—accurately applied; purposeful; balance between supporting materials and remainder of content.
- Style and articulation—grammar; variety; correct pronunciation; vocal quality; breath control; variety in volume, rate and pitch.
- General delivery—appearance and grooming; facial expression; posture; mannerisms; gestures; sincerity; confidence; freedom from dependency on notes.
- General effectiveness—how well speaker related to the audience; delivery; accomplishment of purpose.

Visualized Bible Teaching

A Bible lesson centered on a Biblical character or event, or a story that illustrates Biblical truth. The lesson must include some type of visual aid (handmade or purchased).

Lesson is to be presented as if it were being taught to a children's class (grades 1-6).

It should motivate the class to some specific action, e.g., salvation, obedience to the Lord in baptism, obedience to parents, telling friends and family about Jesus, sharing, telling the truth, etc.

You may use your Bible and a copy of your outline, but obvious dependency on your outline will result in a reduction in points.

Time Limit: Minimum of eight (8) minutes and a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes.

See the Outlines section under Public Speaking.

Your outline for this category should include the following:

- Topic
- Objectives of the lesson
- Scripture reference

The outline is to be followed by a bibliography of all sources used to develop your lesson (For example, see Outlines; Page 15).

Visualized Bible Teaching Adjudication Areas

- Lesson Theme— significant; specific; well-stated; appropriate to age group (elementary-age children).
- Content—shows investigation and knowledge; supporting material.
- Visuals—attention getting; attractive; used effectively; appropriate to age group.
- Arrangement and organization—outline; introduction; concepts; transitions; conclusion; balance of intellectual, emotional, volitional elements.
- Supporting Examples — accurately applied; purposeful; balance between supporting material and remainder of content.
- Style and articulation — grammar; vocabulary appropriate to child's age; variety; correct pronunciation; vocal quality; breath control; variety in volume, rate and pitch.
- General delivery — appearance and grooming; facial expression; posture; mannerisms; gestures; sincerity; confidence; freedom from dependency on notes.
- General effectiveness — how well speaker adapted to audience (children grades 1-6); balance of content, style and delivery; accomplishments of objectives stated in outline; balance of content, style, and delivery; accomplishments of objectives stated in outline.
- Time Limit: Minimum of eight (8) minutes and a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes.

Puppetry

Puppets

- Hand puppets must have arm rods or arm-hand sleeves.
- Costumes must reflect the time period and culture of the script.
- Props may be used to enhance the presentation.
- Groups may watch each other perform.

Sets

- Puppet stage and sound system will be provided. The stage has seven feet of horizontal performance area.
- Background sets are optional.
- Scenery must be painted on cloth (e.g., muslin). Remember, scenery is to enhance the whole effect of the story.
- Scenery must be 81” (w) x 40” (h).

Script

- May be a Bible story or a secular narrative that illustrates biblical concepts and applies biblical truths.
- Must involve multiple characters.
- May be professionally produced or created by you.
- Time limit: Minimum of three (3) minutes and a maximum of ten (10) minutes are required.

Techniques

- Head Posture—puppets should not “flip their lid” or “star gaze” when speaking.
- Body Posture—puppets must perform at their waist height.
- Lip-Sync—words spoken or sounds made by the puppets must fit the mouth action of the puppet.
- Entrance & Exit—use the three-stair-step technique unless the script calls for something special.
- Emotions— must be displayed by puppets.
- Interaction—puppets must interact with each other on stage and with the audience.

Puppetry Adjudication Areas

Based on the overall presentation and communication of biblical concepts plus how the puppetry techniques are used.

Digital Media

Digital Presentation

Competitors will develop an automated presentation using digital media. Choose either a digital slide presentation of the gospel and/or Biblical study, or a DVD video of some Biblical or Christian story (e.g. Bible narrative, Christian biography, and/or Biblical/Christian history) or some creation of God (e.g. stars, animals, and things in creation that reveal God’s deity and greatness).

Sound and graphics that are in your project may include professional clips but must be less than half the presentation. You must give appropriate credits and are responsible to abide by all copyright laws. Any music used must be that which glorifies God (see the music categories for further insight) and credits and permission granted to use the music from the publisher.

Automated Microsoft PowerPoint or Mac Keynote presentation must be on a USB flash drive and be between 5 and 10 minutes long. Videos must be on DVD disc playable on a DVD player and be between 5 and 12 minutes long.

Digital presentations must be made ahead of time and given to the judges on competition day along with a paper with your name, title of presentation, your target audience, reason for choosing your subject and design, and how the presentation could be used (for ministry). See the website for the form.

Digital Presentation Adjudication Areas

- Theme - how the presentation emphasizes, clearly explains, and supports the theme.
- Style - how viewers would be attracted to and engrossed in the presentation.
- Originality - evidence of uniqueness/effort involved in production.
- Effectiveness - how viewers would be encouraged and benefited by the presentation.
- Detail - consistency in layout

Presenter must be at presentation when shown and be prepared to answer questions from the evaluating judges. If files cannot be opened and presented by judges, entry will not be evaluated.