



Fine Arts Manual

Level III & IV

(Grades 7 – 12)

2025 Edition

SECONDARY FESTIVAL INFORMATION

PURPOSE:

One of the important tasks of the Christian school is to train leadership. The SCACS Bible, Fine Arts, and Academic Festivals help to provide the framework to accomplish that task. Students prepare and practice to participate in these festivals with the purpose of honoring our Lord and Savior. Our goal is to allow students to develop their talents and skills that they will later use as adults in their service for Christ. It is to this end that SCACS provides these festivals.

LEVELS OF PARTICIPATION:

There are two levels of participation available in the secondary festivals. Level III is for grades 7-8. Level IV is for grades 9-12. Students may *not* cross levels in individual events. Seventh and eighth graders may participate in Level IV Orchestra/Band and Level IV Handbell Choir. All School Choir and All School Choral Group are for 6th-12th grade. Sixth grade students may participate in Level III Group events.

EVENTS AVAILABLE:

Please refer to the Fine Arts Events Listing in the Addendum of this SCACS Manual. Events available in any given level will have a three digit number assigned. If there is no number, the event is not available for that level. All 300 numbers refer to Level III; all 400 numbers refer to Level IV.

LIMITATIONS PER SCHOOL:

Each school is allowed *two* participants per event. Exceptions are:

1. Biological Science Project and Physical Science Project – 4 entries each
2. Unlimited number of Academic Tests are allowed
3. Unlimited number of Bible Teaching and Bible Preaching
4. Only 1 entry per large group event

LIMITATION OF PARTICIPANT INVOLVEMENT:

Students may enter as an individual participant in as many as *two* events per area. The areas are Bible, Music, and Speech. For example, a student may enter Vocal Solo, String Solo, and Speech. A student may not enter the same category twice.

A student may enter no more than *three* individual events; he may enter no more than *four* group events; he may enter no more than *five* events overall, with these exceptions:

1. Students may enter two events in Art in addition to the above limitations. Three Art events are allowed if the student is not in any other individual event.
2. A student may take as many academic tests as his school deems appropriate.
3. A student may enter both Bible Quiz and Debate and neither count against the number of events anyone may be involved in.
4. Bible Preaching, Bible Teaching, Spelling, and Bible Memory do not count against the limit.
5. Band, Choir, Choral Group and Handbell Choir do not count against the number of events anyone may be involved in.

This chart may be helpful. A student may be in as many as:

3 individual events and	2 group events
2 individual events and	3 group events
1 individual event and	4 group events
no individual event and	4 group events

Please be advised that this maximum involvement may cause irreconcilable conflicts in scheduling for a participant. If this occurs, he may be required to make a choice between two events. Event coordinators will attempt to reconcile conflicts and reschedule individuals either before or after the original time assigned. If a student has a conflict, he must perform before his event has ended, or he will be disqualified. Spelling Bee and Bible Memory may pose special conflicts-- a school festival director should weigh each case: should the student miss Choir or Spelling Bee?

Scheduling is done around students' events therefore directors or accompanists may pose irreconcilable conflicts if they have too many events to accompany. Additional directors or accompanists are helpful in preventing conflicts.

SCHOOL FESTIVAL COORDINATOR:

Each participating school shall designate someone as its School Fine Arts Coordinator. The job of that person will include the following responsibilities:

1. provide liaison between the school and the SCACS Fine Arts Festival (FAF) Director,
2. promote the festivals, communicate SCACS information to teachers, parents, and students, and secure the school's registrations,
3. complete and forward to the SCACS FAF Director all forms and fees required for participation by the school and its participants,
4. responsible for the behavior, safety, and punctuality of participants at the festivals.

REGISTRATION PROCEDURES:

Each school must first complete the Festival Intent Form. The deadline each year for filing this form is in the fall. Registration forms for group and individual participation must be filled out completely and sent to the appropriate person along with the fees by the deadline announced each year.

DATE AND LOCATION:

The dates for the Secondary Festival will usually fall in the third week in March.

CLASSES OF COMPETITION:

Two class distinctions shall be made in the categories of choral group, handbell/handchimes, and orchestra/band unless noted otherwise in an AACCS Nationals update.

- Class A60 or fewer students in Senior High (grades 9-12)
- Class AA61 or more students in Senior High (grades 9-12)

AWARDS:

Appropriate certificates will be given for distribution by the schools for the ratings of Excellent and Superior. Decimals will be rounded up.

Awards, either medallion or trophy, will be given for first, second, and third place. Points will be awarded as follows: for individual categories, three points for first place, two points for second place, one point for third place; for group categories, six points for first place, four points for second place, two points for third place. The school that accumulates the highest points in each Area (Bible, music, speech, art, and academics) will receive an award. Five awards will be given; one for each area.

DRESS AND CONDUCT CODE:

The SCACS Fine Arts Festivals are the highest level of participation/competition among Christian schools in the state of South Carolina. For this reason adherence to the following standards is expected of all participants and adult sponsors:

1. Boys should wear dress (or school type) slacks and neat shirts (tucked in), unless the group has matching outfits or uniform dress. Hair should be neatly trimmed: no hair over the ears, eyebrows, or collar. Jeans are not acceptable attire for anyone involved in this festival. Tennis shoes are not acceptable.
2. Girls' dress shall be feminine and modest in proportion to size and age. Girls' hemlines should be no shorter than the top of the knee.
3. Boys' and girls' hair must be a natural color.

Students may not request the room be cleared for their performance. If they wish to clear the room they will receive comments only. No placement or certificate will be given.

RULES OF COMPETITION:

All rules are taken from the AACS National Competition Manual 2025 Revision. They have final authority in questions involving rules on the secondary level except where noted on the jr. high level.

LIMITATIONS REGARDING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE:

Generative artificial intelligence (AI) is not the work of the student and work generated with AI tools or software must not be entered in any category, except as explicitly permitted in the rules for a category.

Prohibition of AI Writing Tools: The use of AI writing tools, including but not limited to Gemini, ChatGPT, or any other AI platform, is strictly prohibited unless the rules for the category explicitly permit its use. This prohibition extends to the use of AI features within word processing software, such as rewrite or polish. The prohibition also includes AI writing suggestions in Google Docs or Microsoft Word (e.g., CoPilot). Any entry found to have violated this rule will be disqualified.

SCACS has adopted AACS rules for AI technology use; therefore, because AI technology is changing so rapidly, the AACS Competition Committee does not feel that we can write a policy

that will remain appropriate for the entire five-year duration of this manual. The current AI policy will be posted on the AACS website with annual competition information. SCACS will have a link to the AACS page on our website. Competitors and sponsors are responsible for reviewing the current AI policy.

1. **In preaching and teaching categories** Artificial intelligence tools or software may not be used to generate content. AI tools may appropriately be used to suggest edits or revisions to student-created content as long as the software does nothing more than suggest changes. All revisions must be made by the student.
2. **In Original Persuasive Oratory** Artificial intelligence tools or software may not be used to generate content. AI tools may appropriately be used to suggest edits or revisions to student-created content as long as the software does nothing more than suggest changes. All revisions must be made by the student.
3. **In Extemporaneous Speaking** Artificial intelligence tools or software may not be used at any stage of the process. AI tools or software may not be used to generate ideas, to suggest edits or revisions, or for any other purpose. The speech must be entirely the work of the student.
4. **In art categories**, Artificial intelligence tools or software may appropriately be used for concept development at preliminary stages in the design process, but no part of the final submission may be AI generated.
5. **In composition categories** Artificial intelligence tools or software may not be used at any stage of the process except for pre-writing research. In pre-writing research, the writing prompt may not be entered into AI software for any purpose. AI tools or software may not be used to generate ideas in writing to suggest edits or revisions, or for any other purpose. From beginning to end, except for pre-writing research, the submission must be entirely the original work of the student. In the composition categories, the competitor and the school proctor will both be required to sign this statement as part of the statement of originality: “I certify that this submission is entirely my original work and that I received no help in completing this project other than general instruction and supervision. Except for pre-writing research, I did not use any AI tools or software to create my writing submission. I did not enter the writing prompt in AI software to assist me. When writing, I followed conscientiously the instructions regarding ‘Prohibition of AI writing tools’ in the general rules.”

MUSIC AND SCRIPTS FOR JUDGES:

See General Music Rules for music copyright information and for number of copies for judges.

Each speech participant must furnish *one* copy of his speech. Room coordinator will be responsible to prompt if needed.

SCACS suggests a (file) folder for each student containing his music or speech and judging sheets with his name, school, school number, and the name of his selection marked clearly on the outside of the folder.

JUDGING FORMS:

Judging forms can be found online. Forms may be duplicated on white paper. The top half of each judging form should be filled out completely. The student's/group's folder, including their completed judging sheets and all copies of their music/speech, will be handed to the room coordinator by the student at the time of their performance.

Incomplete forms will be returned to the student. If time does not permit waiting on the completion of these forms, the student may be required to reschedule his performance time or take a deduction for not having the required completed forms. Additional forms may be purchased at the office. Please be prepared. SCACS understands that this is not typically the fault of the student; however, there must be a penalty for incomplete preparation.

Two judging forms are required for every event except Bible Quiz, Bible Memory and Spelling Bee, which do not require judging forms.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

SCACS: Dated materials will be provided at the Fine Arts Coordinators' Meeting or emailed to the school. Regular letters updating information or reminding School Coordinators of deadlines will be emailed.

SCHOOLS: SCACS expects each school to reproduce and distribute all pertinent material (rules, judging forms, registration forms, guidelines, and correspondence) to the teachers that coach the students, as well as, to the individual students, and their parents. It is the responsibility of the School Coordinator to review each registration form and judging sheet for completeness and forward the registration forms to SCACS with the correct payment.

SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS: SCACS expects that an adult sponsor is designated and responsible for each student and that each student is aware of his adult sponsor. SCACS recommends that no student perform without an adult sponsor for support and encouragement. Please encourage your students to get extra rest the night before and urge them to eat a proper meal prior to their performance.

PARENTS: SCACS suggests that the School Coordinator send a letter home to all participants in the Fine Arts Festivals with a permission form to be signed by the parents.

1. Parents must be informed of all rules pertinent to the events in which their children participate. (See sample letter)
2. Parents should not ask the SCACS FAF Director, a judge or any event coordinator what score their child received. The SCACS FAF Director does not check scores unless there is a question or problem brought up by either an event coordinator or a school director.
3. Parents are not to directly challenge a judge or master of an event. If there has been an error, the participant may quietly approach the coordinator of the event by raising his hand to be recognized (this specifically applies to Spelling or Bible Memory).

PROBLEMS: If a parent or a teacher has a suggestion, question, problem, or criticism, he should bring it to his School Coordinator. If the School Coordinator cannot answer or settle the matter, he then should contact the SCACS FAF Director. SCACS recommends that the school director write down the date, school, persons/issue involved and possible recommendations to give to the SCACS FAF Director.

PENALTIES: Failure to comply with any rule will result in deduction of points from the total averaged score. Certain rule violations may result in disqualification; however, no student is ever prevented from being evaluated.

JUDGES: Judges are not to be disturbed while they are evaluating students. Judges are supplied with a set of guidelines of how we expect them to adjudicate. Judges will be given time at the end of each event to review their scoring to insure the best evaluations. The judges' scores will be averaged by the event coordinator. The judging sheets will then be turned in to the office to be checked and put into the school's envelope.

SHOWCASE: Numbers chosen for showcase presentation are not chosen on the basis of score (superior or excellent), but rather for audience appeal, unusualness or moving nature.

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY: As a Christian school organization, SCACS requires that any student participating in a SCACS sponsored event must be a legitimate student in a member school. A “legitimate student” is defined as one who has followed the member school’s requirements for registration and has paid all associated fees (i.e. registration, SCACS, accident insurance, band, art, athletic, etc.) that are paid by other participants in the SCACS sponsored events. Further, a student must be enrolled in at least one on-campus academic class with regular attendance (Bible, band, art, P.E. etc. are not considered academic classes) at that member school. Students must comply with various SCACS related handbooks (such as academic requirements in the SCACS athletic handbook).

RECAP MEETING:

A recap meeting is held immediately following the festivals for the purpose of remedying any issues that may have occurred, as well as planning for the coming year. This meeting should be attended by at least the school fine arts director. The meeting is held via conference call and will take approximately one hour. Minutes of the meeting will be mailed to all participating schools.

INSURANCE:

Each school must provide documentation of the following:

- **Student Accident Insurance:** School must furnish to SCACS a certificate of insurance that provides a minimum of \$500,000 medical coverage for each participant.
- **School Liability Insurance:** School must furnish to SCACS a certificate of insurance demonstrating the school has liability insurance with a minimum coverage of \$1,000,000.

If your school participates in sports and has sent this information to us already it is not necessary to send it again.

POINT DEDUCTIONS FOR HIGH SCHOOL FESTIVAL

MUSIC:

- Measures not numbered -3 points
- Any deviations from music *not noted on music* -4 points
- Any choreography, planned or unnecessary bodily movement – including hand clapping, finger-snapping, foot-stomping -5 points
- Music not memorized (in appropriate categories) *Disqualified
- Photocopied music (see General Music rules) *Disqualified
- Over the time limit by *15 to 60 seconds*: -5 points
- Over the time limit by *61-120 seconds*: -10 points
- Over the time limit by *121 seconds*: *Disqualified
 - See Time Limit Sheet for times

SPEECH:

- No script -5 points
- Publication not given for Author Unknown piece -5 points
- Over or under the time limit by *15 to 60 seconds*: -5 points
- Over or under the time limit by *61-120 seconds*: -10 points
- Over or under the time limit by *121 seconds*: *Disqualified
 - See Time Limit Sheet for times

BIBLE TEACHING/ PREACHING:

- No outline -5 points
- Over or under the time limit by *15 to 60 seconds*: -5 points
- Over or under the time limit by *61-120 seconds*: -10 points
- Over or under the time limit by *121 seconds*: *Disqualified
 - See Time Limit Sheet for times

ART:

- Only one judging form completely filled out -1 point
- No label attached to front -2 points
- Wrong category (obvious misplacement) -2 points
- No judging forms -2 points
- No *Artist's Idea Statement* -3 points
- No mat or frame *Disqualified
- Photography incorrectly matted *Disqualified

*Disqualified – comments only; no score given

BIBLE

301	401	Bible Quizzing	306	406	Expository Preaching
304	404	Bible Memory	307	407	Evangelistic Preaching
305	405	Bible Teaching	308	408	Topical Preaching

BIBLE QUIZZING

Bible Quizzing is a jump-quizzing competition measuring Bible knowledge and speed of recall. Three opposing teams are challenged by an oral question, and any team member who responds first is given opportunity to answer within a time limit. Points are scored for correct answers and penalties assessed for incorrect and incomplete answers. Both individual and team scores are kept. The highest scoring team is declared winner at the game's end. Competition proceeds as in a double-elimination tournament.

Quiz Panel

The quiz panel will officiate each quiz which may consist of the quizmaster, scorer, timekeeper, and one or two judges. All decisions by the quiz panel will be final.

Team Membership

1. For each game, a team will be composed of two to five members and may include up to two substitutes from the same school.
2. A team may change team members after the conclusion of a given game in the tournament.

Team Coaches

Each team's coach will be present during competition.

1. Although the number of coaches for pre-contest preparation will be at the school's discretion, each team will have no more than two official coaches present during competition.
2. The coach will be responsible for the behavior of the team at all times.
3. The coach's behavior will be considered as team behavior and, as such, will meet the Dress and Conduct Code outlined in the General Rules.
4. The coach may lodge a protest solely with the quizmaster after a game has been completed. The judges will not entertain protests at any time. Protests presented courteously to the quizmaster will be received courteously.

Study Cycle

1. The SCACS will use the KJV Bible for judging Bible competition categories. The King James Version will be the only authorized translation used in any competition category. (See AACCS website for current publication and ordering information.)
2. The cycle for the next six years is as follows:

2025–2026	Romans, James
2026–2027	Mark, 1, 2, & 3 John, Jude
2027–2028	1 & 2 Thessalonians, 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus
2028–2029	Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, Philemon
2029–2030	John
2030–2031	Acts
2031–2032	1 & 2 Corinthians
2032–2033	Matthew

Bible Quiz procedures can be found on the website.

BIBLE MEMORY

Competition will be conducted in the traditional spelling bee fashion. Bible Memory verses are located on the website. The six year cycle by school year is stated below:

2025–2026	God’s Promises
2026–2027	The Wisdom of God
2027–2028	Soul-winning
2028–2029	The Triune God
2029–2030	Sin and Salvation
2030–2031	Prayer

1. Students are not required to provide judging forms for Bible Memory.
2. All students will stand, forming a single line facing the Bible Memory master. The master will question from left to right.
3. All questions will be taken from the official memory material.
4. The master may conduct only two styles of quizzing as follows:
 - Style 1: Master cites reference; student recites verse. Master may continue this style for as many rounds as he chooses.
 - Style 2: Master refers to application of verse; student cites both reference and verse. Master may continue this style for as many rounds as he chooses.
5. Each student will be given a question different from that given the preceding student.
6. The student will not begin speaking until the master’s questioning is completed.
7. A student will be permitted one error before his elimination. Upon commission of his second error, the student will be eliminated by the master with confirmation from the judges.
8. The SCACS will use the KJV Bible for judging Bible competition categories. The King James Version will be the only authorized translation used in any competition category. (See AACS website for current publication and ordering information.)
9. The following will constitute errors:
 - a. Any incorrect reference citation.
 - b. Any deviation from the verbatim quotation of Scripture, i.e., any addition, omission, reversal, or change of words.
 - c. Incomplete answers at the call of time.
 - d. Only one error per question may be scored against a student.
 - e. Pronunciation mistakes will not constitute errors.
 - f. Having begun either to cite a reference, quote a verse, or both, a student may stop and begin again, repeating exactly as begun; but in the repeating, there can be no change of reference or quotation. If such change occurs, the student will be declared in error.
10. The student will have 15 seconds to begin to say a verse or verse reference but must finish within 35 seconds of start of timer.
 - a. Timing will begin at the master’s signal, “Time!”
 - b. If the student wishes a repetition of the question, to prevent the starting of the clock, he will signify his request by saying, “Please repeat the question.”
 - c. Only one repeat request per question will be permissible.
11. Having already correctly cited a passage, a student will not be asked to recite the same passage in a later round.

12. The correct citation or quotation will not be given after a response has been deemed in error. However, a contestant who has been ruled in error may immediately request that the master give a brief summary of the nature of the error.
13. A student may state a challenge for one of the following reasons:
 - a. The student believes that the master ruled an incorrect response of another student to be correct.
 - b. The student believes that the master ruled a correct answer to be incorrect.
 - c. The student believes that the master has not correctly enforced a rule.The challenge must be stated immediately following the response to the question being challenged. The student will initiate the challenge by saying, "Excuse me, Mr. Quizmaster, I would like to challenge." The master will have sole authority to accept or reject the challenge.
14. After a student's elimination, the proceedings continue as normal. The next question from the master's official list will then be given to the next student.
15. When the students have been reduced to two, provided that each student has committed one error or that each student is errorless, the elimination procedure changes, but not before the completion of the current round. At that point, when one student commits an error, the opponent will be given an opportunity to correctly answer that same question. If the opponent will answer correctly that same question, plus answer the next question correctly on the master's list, then he will be declared champion.
16. If one of the last two students commits an error and the other student, after correcting the error, commits an error on the extra question, then the first student may attempt to answer the extra question. If the first student then succeeds in correcting that error and then correctly answers another extra question, he will be declared champion.
17. If both of the finalists commit errors on the same question, both will continue in competition. The question will be answered correctly by the master, and the competition will continue with the next question directed to the one who erred first on the prior question. The competition will resume under rule 14 and 15.
18. Any protest relating to the reference or quotation of a verse will be referred to the judges immediately. Only a student participant may lodge a protest. The deadline for lodging a protest will be before the affected student would have received his next question had he not been eliminated. No protest will be entertained after a contested question has been given to another student. When only two students remain, a protest must be made immediately, i.e., before the second student has begun to answer the question, or, if both have missed the same question, before the correct answer is given to the audience.
19. When oral quizzing has continued for at least 20 rounds or for at least 1.5 hours without producing a winner (whichever comes first), the master will institute written quizzing.
 - a. If, when written quizzing is instituted, some competitors have one error while others are errorless, the errorless competitors shall be allowed three unpenalized errors in written quizzing.
 - b. In written quizzing, the competitors will be given ten outline statements. The competitor must write the reference(s) and verse(s) that correspond with each outline statement.
 - c. A thirty-minute time limit will be established for written quizzing. If a competitor finishes his writing before the time limit expires, he may turn in his work and the time elapsed will be recorded on his paper. All work will be collected when the time limit has expired.

- d. In written quizzing, errors will be weighted numerically. Any word error (incorrect word, omitted word, or added word) will be given a weight of 3. Any error in spelling, punctuation, or capitalization will be given a weight of 1.
 - e. If a tie remains after the writing is scored, the times for competitors (19.c.) will be used to break the tie. In the case of a continuing tie, the entire writing process will be repeated for the tied competitors.
20. The master and judges have complete authority and control. Their decisions will be final.

BIBLE TEACHING

Competition in this category shall provide opportunity for developing organizational and teaching talent for God's use.

1. Students may be either young men or young women.
2. Each student will prepare and teach a Bible lesson 10–15 minutes in length. A missionary biography or contemporary story is not sufficient. The lesson should be based on a Bible character, a Bible doctrine, or a concept taught in Scripture.
3. Artificial intelligence tools or software may not be used to generate content. AI tools may appropriately be used to suggest edits or revisions to student-created content as long as the software does nothing more than suggest changes. All revisions must be made by the student.
4. Each lesson will be prepared for a class of junior-age children, ages 9–12.
5. Each lesson may include some type of audio and/or visual aid. These aids do not have to be original.
6. Lessons may be original or from published or unpublished sources.
7. Each student will submit one copy of the typewritten lesson outline to the judges at the time of presentation. Failure to do so will result in disqualification.
8. The lesson outline will include the following:
 - a. Outline of lesson content
 - b. Objectives of lesson
 - c. Specific principle(s) to be taught
 - d. Scripture references
 - e. Materials required
 - f. Brief summary of lesson
 - g. Bibliography of references
8. The King James Version will be the only authorized translation.
9. **Recording is absolutely prohibited** except for the recording of a **single entry** by representatives of the participant's school for personal use. The recording of all or portions of the performance of more than one entry in an event is prohibited. In any case, the head judge in a competition may prohibit recording. No recording made by anyone other than competition officials may be considered for adjudication purposes.

BIBLE PREACHING

1. Students will be restricted to young men.
2. Each student will prepare a sermon 10–15 minutes in length.
3. Artificial intelligence tools or software may not be used to generate content. AI tools may appropriately be used to suggest edits or revisions to student-created content as long as the software does nothing more than suggest changes. All revisions must be made by the student.

4. Each student will present one copy of his typewritten sermon outline to the judges at the time of delivery.
5. The outline guidelines are as follows:
 - a. It should be done in a standard subordination format.
 - b. It should be done in sentence form, with transition sentences.
 - c. It should include a written introduction and conclusion.
 - d. It should include a title, theme, and Scripture references.
6. The King James Version will be the only authorized translation.
7. **Recording is absolutely prohibited** except for the recording of a **single entry** by representatives of the participant's school for personal use. The recording of all or portions of the performance of more than one entry in an event is prohibited. In any case, the head judge in a competition may prohibit recording. No recording made by anyone other than competition officials may be considered for adjudication purposes.

EXPOSITORY: An expository sermon is one in which a portion of Scripture is interpreted in relation to one theme or central idea. The bulk of the material for the sermon is drawn directly from the passage, and the outline consists of a series of progressive ideas centered on that one main idea.

EVANGELISTIC: An evangelistic sermon may be either expository, topical, or textual, but one which is primarily directed toward the lost, with the goal of drawing them to Christ. Since an evangelistic sermon may be textual in nature, it is good to have a definition of textual preaching also. A textual sermon is one in which the main divisions are derived from a text consisting of a brief portion of Scripture. Each of these divisions is then used as a line of suggestion, and the text provides the theme of the sermon.

TOPICAL: A topical sermon is one in which the main divisions are derived from the topic, independently of a text. Scripture passages should be used to support the topic.

MUSIC

313	n/a	All School Choral Group	325	425	Woodwind Solo
314	n/a	All School Choir	326	426	Percussion Solo
315	415	Female Vocal Solo	327	427	Small Instrumental Ensemble
316	416	Male Vocal Solo	328	428	Large Instrumental Ensemble
317	417	Small Vocal Ensemble	329	429	Orchestra/Band
318	418	Large Vocal Ensemble	332	432	Sacred Piano
319	419	Choral Group	333	433	Classical Piano
321	421	Choir	334	434	Sacred Piano Duet
322	422	Classical Guitar Solo	335	435	Classical Piano Duet
323	423	Brass Solo	340	440	Handbell/Handchime Ensemble
324	424	String Solo	341	441	Handbell/Handchime Choir

GENERAL MUSIC RULES:

1. Vocal and instrumental selections will be from the following types of music: sacred, spirituals, patriotic, folk, semi-classical, or classical.
 - a. The term *classical* will not be limited to denote music from that period of history but will apply to selections of a classical nature as opposed to those of popular music.
 - b. Piano selections must be sacred or classical according to the rules of the category.
 - c. Folk music is the body of literature that identifies with a culture or a country in the form of ballads, religious songs, work songs, cowboy songs, patriotic and political songs, and love songs. Many such folk songs have been taught by one generation to another generation and may not bear any composer identification. However, no protest songs, songs of any subversive cultural movement, or modern pop-related folk songs of any type are permissible.
 - d. Semi-classical music is that which is like classical music in form, style, and quality, but is generally less complex in nature and has a more immediate appeal. Discretion should be used in selecting semi-classical music for competition. It must meet high standards of quality in both words and music.
2. Medleys will be acceptable.
3. No rock style, gospel country, jazz, or music in like vein will be permitted. A “night club” sound, or “contemporary” sound is not acceptable. Participants are to avoid contemporary movie themes, though the music itself may be acceptable, and are not to use songs produced and/or popularized by current pop or rock stars even though the song itself may be acceptable.
4. Competition officials shall have full authority for making any determination in this regard. Music determined to be inappropriate for this competition will be penalized or disqualified.
5. No student or group will perform the same selection in two consecutive years. In addition, the same selection is not to be used by multiple groups from the same school in the same year.
6. Refer to specific rules for each category for questions about entrants’ qualifications.
7. No choreography, planned or unnecessary bodily movement (including hand clapping, foot stomping, deaf signing, finger snapping, etc.) may be used even if scored by the composer or arranger. For soloists, gestures that are a natural expression of the piece will not be penalized.

8. Memorization is required of piano solos, vocal solos, and vocal groups. Memorization is not required of instrumental solos (except piano) or instrumental groups. Failure to memorize when required will result in disqualification.
9. **Original Music Required:** Photocopied music will result in automatic significant penalties. No photocopied music may be used, whether for judges, contestants, or accompanists. (See limited exceptions below.)
10. **Digital Music:**
 - a. Scores on digital devices are allowed as long as students and accompanists abide by all copyright laws and have proof of purchase or **documented permission to use all music used by competitors or given to judges during the competitions.** When a score on a digital device is used, a device to turn pages is also permitted so long as the device is operated by the competitor.
 - b. If the contestant is using digital sheet music or something similar printed from an online download, he/she will need to provide proof of purchase or a “permission to use letter” with the music. **Permission from the publisher must be attached to each copy that is supplied to the judges.**
11. **Photocopy Use:** Photocopies are permitted only with the publisher’s permission. **Permission from the publisher must be attached to each copy that is supplied to the judges.** Use of photocopies without publisher permission will result in significant penalties. Photocopies of music may be used only under the following circumstances.
 - a. The music is in the public domain—either it is not copyrighted, or the copyright date is 1922 or earlier.
 - b. The copyrighted music has been ordered but not yet received, and the contestant presents a note from a music store stating that he has ordered and paid for the music.
 - c. The contestant presents a letter from the publisher or the copyright holder giving permission to copy the music. **Permission from the publisher must be attached to each copy that is supplied to the judges.** Publishers often grant permission for adjudication. Band directors should note that most publishers sell an additional score for a significantly reduced price.
 - d. When memorization is not required, accompanists or competitors may use a few photocopied pages along with the original score only to facilitate page turning. The original published score must also be present on the music stand and/or music rack so judges can easily see that there is a purchased original for every copy made to facilitate page turns.
 - e. An emergency copy may be made to replace previously purchased copies which for any reason are not available for an imminent performance. **Proof of purchase must be attached to the copies.**
 - f. Please note further the following copyright considerations.
 - (1) Copyrighted music may be edited or simplified provided that the fundamental character—melodically and harmonically—of the work is not distorted. Minor deviations from the printed music must be clearly marked on the music given to judges.
 - (2) Copyrighted lyrics may not be changed without permission of the copyright holder.
 - (3) Personal arrangements of copyrighted work must have the written permission of the copyright holder.

12. **Music for Judges:**

- a. Contestants will need **originals** of each selection of music performed for judges to reference. If the contestant(s) or accompanist will be using music for any performance, those must be **originals. Photocopies are not permitted.** Photocopied music will result in significant penalties. Refer to the Music Publishers Association Quick Guide to Copyright Law for any questions.

<u>Category</u>	<u>Number of Originals for Judges to Reference</u>
Individual Events & Piano Duets*	one
Group Events	
(small & large instrumental ensemble)	one
(all other group events)*	two

**For national competition these groups will need 3 copies for the judges except piano duets which will only need 2.*

- b. The contestant must number at least every fifth (5th) measure on the music given to judges. Numbers must be very clear and legible. Numbers may be written in pencil. Failure to clearly number at least every 5th measure will result in an automatic penalty of 3 points per selection. Judges are instructed **not** to mark on music.
- c. Personal arrangements and deviations from printed music should be clearly marked on the judges' music or disqualification will result after the performance is finished.
- d. The student or director will be responsible for securing furnished music from the judges following the performance.
13. **Accompanists and Page Turners:** No competitors are permitted to use page turners; accompanists may use a page turner. **See rules regarding originals, digital music, and photocopies.**
- a. See rules regarding use of photocopies to facilitate page turns in Photocopy Use (General Music Rule 11d).
- b. See rules regarding page turns in Digital Music (General Music Rule 10a).
14. Only live piano accompaniment will be permitted for all music categories which need accompaniment.
15. Each student or group may provide an accompanist who will not be considered as part of the group in size determination or grade-level requirements.
16. No electronically amplified musical instruments will be permissible.
17. A list of percussion instruments provided by the host school will be provided.
18. Warm-up rooms and times will be assigned.
19. Instrumentalists may tune their instruments with the piano before performing.
20. Either the soloist, one member of a duet or small ensemble, or the director of a large ensemble or group shall announce the name of the participant/group, the school, the title, and composer/arranger of the selection. Timing will then begin.
21. Students will be penalized for going over time or under time in any category of competition where time limits are established (see Points Deductions Page).
22. **Recording is absolutely prohibited** except for the recording of a **single entry** by representatives of the participant's school for personal use. The recording of all or portions of the performance of more than one entry in an event is prohibited. In any case, the head judge in a competition may prohibit recording. No recording made by anyone other than competition officials may be considered for adjudication purposes.

SPECIFIC RULES BY EVENT:

VOCAL SOLOS:

1. All vocal solos will be memorized. Failure to memorize will result in disqualification.
2. Vocal soloists will perform two selections or medleys within a 10-minute time limit. At least one selection must be sacred. At least one selection must be in English. The intent is that the piece be 100% in English. Incidental use of a foreign word or phrase would be accepted. An entire verse in a foreign language would result in a penalty.
3. Level III will perform one selection within a 5-minute time limit.

BRASS & WOODWIND SOLO:

1. Memory is not required of instrumental solos (except piano).
2. Students will perform one selection or medley within 8 minutes.

STRING SOLO:

1. This category is for bowed instruments. The only not-bowed instrument allowed is a harp. (Guitars, banjos, and other strummed or plucked instruments are not allowed.)
2. Memory is not required of instrumental solos (except piano).
3. Students will perform one selection or medley within 8 minutes.

CLASSICAL GUITAR SOLO:

1. This category is for classical guitar and selections must be played on an acoustic guitar with nylon or steel strings (no electric guitars).
2. Memory is not required of instrumental solos (except piano).
3. Students will perform one selection or medley within 8 minutes.
4. The music selection may be secular or sacred and must fit the musical categories described under Music General Rule #1. The selection does not have to be *classical* in the strict meaning of the word.

PERCUSSION SOLO:

1. A percussion solo must be a solo or concert etude. It must be from “standard concert literature” and must conform to the General Rules for music. Since much of this literature is unaccompanied, an accompanist is optional.
2. Memory is not required of instrumental solos (except piano).
3. The solo must fit one of the following categories:
 - a. Snare Drum Solo
 - b. Timpani Solo
 - c. Mallet Percussion: any instrument with notes arranged in piano keyboard fashion including, but not limited to orchestra bells (or glockenspiel), xylophone, marimba, or vibraphone.
 - d. Multiple Percussion: multiple percussion has no standard set of instruments, but often has a combination of snare drums, concert toms, and small instruments such as a triangle, wood blocks, or cymbals.
4. No electronic devices are permitted. No drum sets are permitted.
5. Handbells are not permitted in this category.
6. Students will perform one selection or medley within 8 minutes.

SACRED & CLASSICAL PIANO SOLO:

1. All piano solos will be memorized. Failure to memorize will result in disqualification.
2. Students will perform one selection or medley within 8 minutes.

VOCAL ENSEMBLES:

1. A small vocal ensemble consists of 2 to 6 voices (plus piano accompaniment if desired). It may **not** be directed.
2. A large vocal ensemble consists of 7 to 12 voices (plus piano accompaniment if desired). It may be directed.
3. Each ensemble will perform one selection or medley within 8 minutes.
4. Memory is required of vocal groups. Failure to memorize when required will result in disqualification.

CHORAL GROUPS AND CHOIRS:

1. A choral group consists of 13 to 24 members. A choir consists of 25 or more voices. It may be directed.
2. Each choral group/choir will perform two numbers within 12 minutes. At least one selection must be sacred. At least one selection must be in English. The intent is that the piece be 100% in English. Incidental use of a foreign word or phrase would be accepted. An entire verse in a foreign language would result in penalty.
3. Memory is required of vocal groups. Failure to memorize when required will result in disqualification.
4. The director of the group will announce the group, school, titles and composers of the selections.
5. All School Choir and Choral Group may include 7th through 12th grade students.
6. The top A and top AA Choral Group will represent SC at national competition. Choirs do not continue on to the national competition.
7. Limitations:
 - a. Schools are limited to 2 choirs. For example, a school may enter Level III choir and Level IV choir. If the school enters an All School Choir they can enter only one of the other choirs.
 - b. Schools are limited to 2 choral groups. For example, a school may enter Level III choral group and Level IV choral group. If the school enters an All School Choral Group they can enter only one of the other choral groups.

INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLES (Including Handbell/Handchime):

1. A small instrumental ensemble consists of 2 to 6 instruments (plus piano accompaniment if desired). It may **not** be directed.
2. A large instrumental ensemble consists of 7 to 12 instruments (plus piano accompaniment if desired). It may be directed.
3. A handbell/handchime ensemble consists of 2 to 6 musicians (plus piano accompaniment if desired). It may **not** be directed.
4. Each ensemble will perform one selection or medley within 8 minutes.
5. Memory is not required of instrumental groups.
6. Percussion ensembles are allowed in the large instrumental ensemble category. No electronic

devices are permitted. No drum sets are permitted. The following instruments are allowed:

- a. Snare Drum
 - b. Timpani
 - c. Mallet Percussion: any instrument with notes arranged in piano keyboard fashion including, but not limited to orchestra bells (or glockenspiel), xylophone, marimba, or vibraphone.
 - d. Multiple Percussion: multiple percussion has no standard set of instruments, but often has a combination of snare drums, concert toms, and small instruments such as a triangle, wood blocks, or cymbals.
7. Percussion ensembles are excluded from the small instrumental ensemble category, and no percussion instruments will be permitted in small instrumental ensembles.
 8. For handbell competition, instruments are limited to handbells and handchimes (and piano accompaniment, if desired); additional instruments or devices are not allowed.

ORCHESTRA/BAND:

1. An orchestra or band consists of 13 or more musicians. It may be directed.
2. An orchestra or band will perform two numbers within 15 minutes.
3. Seventh and eighth graders may compete.
4. Memory is not required of instrumental groups.
5. Piano may be used only if the piano part is written in the score and if the piano is played by a student. It may not be used to fill in missing instruments. The student is included in the competitor count.
6. Orchestra/Bands can tune/warm up as soon as they take the stage just prior to performance.
7. The top A and top AA Orchestra/Band will represent SC at national competition.

HANDBELL/HANDCHIME CHOIR:

1. A handbell/handchime choir consists of 7 or more musicians (plus piano accompaniment if desired).
2. A handbell/handchime choir will perform two numbers within 15 minutes. It may be directed.
3. Seventh and eighth graders may compete.
4. Instruments are limited to handbells and handchimes (and piano accompaniment, if desired); additional instruments or devices are not allowed.
5. Memory is not required of instrumental groups.
6. The top A and top AA Handbell/Handchime Choir will represent SC at national competition.

PIANO DUET:

1. Sacred piano duet consists of two students and one piano. Only sacred music is acceptable.
2. Classical piano duet consists of two students and one piano. Only classical music is acceptable.
3. Students will perform one selection or medley within 8 minutes.
4. Memory is not required of instrumental groups.

SCACS Music Competition Music Category Requirements Levels III and IV

CATEGORY	Members	Time Limit	Memory	Directed	Selections	Copies needed	Other specifics
Vocal Solo	1	10 minutes	Yes	No	2 Level III-1	1	Level IV (one sacred & one in English) Level III (one selection – 5 minutes)
Small Vocal Ensemble	2-6	8 minutes	Yes	No	1	2*	
Large Vocal Ensemble	7-12	8 minutes	Yes	Yes	1	2*	
Choral Groups	13-24	12 minutes	Yes	Yes	2	2*	All School Choral Group may include grades 7-12 One selection must be sacred & one in English
Choirs	25 +	12 minutes	Yes	Yes	2	2	All School Choir may include grades 7-12 One selection must be sacred & one in English
Instrumental Solos	1	8 minutes	No	No	1	1	
Small Instr. Ensemble	2-6	8 minutes	No	No	1	1	
Large Instr. Ensemble	7-12	8 minutes	No	Yes	1	1	
Orchestra/Band	13 +	15 minutes	No	Yes	2	2*	May include grades 7-8
Piano Solos	1	8 minutes	Yes	No	1	1	
Piano Duets	2	8 minutes	No	No	1	1**	
Handbell Ensemble	2-6	8 minutes	No	No	1	2*	
Handbell Choir	7 +	15 minutes	No	Yes	2	2*	May include grades 7-8

*NOTE: For national competition these groups will need 3 copies for the judges. **Piano duets will need 2 copies for national competition.

SPEECH:

343	443	Debate	349	449	Original Persuasive Oratory
344	444	Declamation	351	451	Oral Interpretation of Poetry
345	445	Dramatic Interpretation	353	453	Religious Reading
346	446	Acting	354	454	Oral Interpretation of Scripture
347	447	Extemporaneous Speaking	355	455	Readers' Theatre (3-6)
348	448	Humorous Interpretation	356	456	Choric Speaking (7-15)

GENERAL SPEECH RULES:

1. All material should be in good taste and of high quality. Entries will not be restricted to sacred themes. However, entries which reflect anti-biblical themes, content, and/or word usage (including profanity or suggestive language)—or which contain sensualism, humanism, or worldliness (including offensive performance)—will be disqualified.
2. No student or group will perform the same selection in two consecutive years. In addition, the same selection is not to be used by multiple groups from the same school in the same year.
3. Singing of a song during a speech is to be limited to no more than one verse of the song or no more than 1.5 minutes of the speech. In addition, no instrument may be used to accompany the individual or group during the speech performance.
4. All selections are to be memorized (no scripts permitted), excluding the areas of Debate, Original Persuasive Oratory, and Extemporaneous Speaking.
5. Each student must submit one typewritten copy of his selection to the judges prior to his performance. (To focus on the performance judges will not be following the script but will reference it only as needed for prompting.)
6. A lectern may be used only in the categories of Debate and Extemporaneous Speaking.
7. The following rules apply to all individual categories except Original Persuasive Oratory and Extemporaneous Speaking.
 - a. Body movement should be primarily, but not limited to, movement above the waist.
 - b. No hand props or costume pieces will be permitted.
 - c. All selections will be taken from published works. Self-published works or original YouTube-produced works do not fulfill this expectation.
 - d. It is not recommended that the student introduce himself or his school. Timing will begin when the judge says, "You may begin." The contestant may state the selection title, author, and provide the audience with necessary background information in order to set the mood for the piece. He may also give transitional narrative for clarity within the piece. These additions combined are not to exceed one minute and are included in the time limit. Transitional material must be included in the script provided for the judges.
8. See the time limits page for specific event time limits.
9. Students will be penalized for going over time or under time in any category of competition where time limits are established (see Point Deductions Page).
10. The judge will confirm the speaker and say, "You may begin." Timing and adjudication will begin immediately.

11. Performances are protected by copyright law. In some cases, the source material is also protected by copyright law. Copying the performance of another individual or group without permission from the person who developed the performance is not ethical and may violate intellectual property rights. To discourage this possibility and to protect student privacy, recording is prohibited except under the following restrictive guidelines.

Recording is absolutely prohibited except for the recording of a **single entry** by representatives of the participant's school for personal use. The recording of all or portions of the performance of more than one entry in an event is prohibited. In any case, the head judge in a competition may prohibit recording. No recording made by anyone other than competition officials may be considered for adjudication purposes.

DEBATE:

Definition: Organized oral argument on a current event topic providing participant opportunity to display skills of logical reasoning, research and use of evidence, oral persuasion, conversational, and extemporaneous delivery before a critic.

1. A team will consist of two members, both of whom must be present to avoid forfeiture.
2. A team will be prepared to debate both the pro and con positions of the issue.
3. Rules and tournament procedures (including judging forms) will adhere to the rules published by the National Speech and Debate Association, www.speechanddebate.org. Guidelines to help students prepare for Debate are found at www.speechanddebate.org. Debate procedures are on the website.
4. A script or notes will be acceptable.
5. Computers will be allowed at the state and national level. Online access is **not** allowed. The guidelines for computer use as published by the National Speech and Debate Association will be followed.
6. The debate topic changes each year. The state and national topic will be announced by AACS and will be posted on the SCACS website.

Research is the key to effective debate. Delivery is secondary. All aspects of the topic from both the affirmative and the negative positions should be researched thoroughly, since debaters will be required to defend both sides of the question sometime during the competition.

DECLAMATION:

Definition: The memorized oral interpretation of persuasive or inspirational material of high literary value, originally prepared by and presented orally by another person or persons.

1. Selections must come from published speeches.
2. The delivery should not be acted out with characters. The delivery should be free from contrived accents. The delivery should be directed toward the audience and not toward an assumed off-stage audience.
3. Selections from the Bible are not appropriate and should be entered in Oral Interpretation of Scripture.

DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION:

Definition: The memorized oral interpretation by an individual of a serious selection of narrative or dramatic literature.

1. Cuttings may incorporate multiple characters, but monologues are acceptable.
2. Religious readings are not appropriate and should be entered in Religious Reading.

ACTING:

Definition: A stage performance in which two to six individuals each portray one character without the use of script, costumes, staging, lights, sound effects, or makeup.

1. Cuttings must be taken from published dramatic literature, published plays by a reputable author, or from published prose that has been scripted for stage.
2. Acting will develop understandable scenes with clear character action and reaction. The scene(s) should grow through increased insight, intensification of plot or mood, and thematic statement.
3. Actors may speak to silent or off-stage characters.
4. Each actor may portray only one character.
5. Narration: A brief introduction or scene description may be given, but is not required, for each scene change. The narration must be done by one or more of the actors. The narration may be done by any of the actors and does not violate the requirement that each actor may portray only one character.
6. Full costuming is not permitted. Actors may make use of small hand props and costume accessories (such as an umbrella, shawl, gloves, hat, glasses, etc.). In a quality performance, small props may be used appropriately to enhance the performance and props are not used excessively so that they distract from the performance.
7. Participants must be able to perform their scene(s) in an acting space of approximately 18' x 10'.
8. Prohibited elements in this category include Readers Theatre performances, full costuming, makeup, lighting, and furniture other than a table and chairs, stools, or boxes.

EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING:

Definition: A persuasive speech on a current issue. The student will be given 30 minutes of preparation time. Topics, drawn randomly, will be from the January, February, and March issues of various news magazines. Refer to the AACS website for the current list.

1. Topics will be stated as questions requiring the student to take a position on the issue.
2. At ten-minute intervals each student will draw three topic cards. The student will select one topic and advise the room coordinator of his choice. All three topic cards will then be returned to the room coordinator for subsequent drawings.
3. Students will prepare speeches without consultation and without references to prepared notes.
 - a. Students may access research brought with them to the competition during the preparation period.
 - b. Students should review news articles and opinion pieces from reputable sources.
 - c. Student research and speech references are not limited to the magazines from which topics will be drawn. Research documents may be paper or electronic.

- d. Students may **not** access the Internet during the 30-minute prep period.
 - e. All articles referenced must be printed or stored on a laptop or tablet.
 - f. Referenced documents may be originals or copies of whole pages.
 - g. No written material is permitted on any referenced document other than citation information.
 - h. Underlining or highlighting on referenced documents is permitted *if done in only one color on each article*.
 - i. Students may access no other material during the preparation period—no speeches, handbooks, outlines, or briefs are permitted.
4. Artificial intelligence tools or software may not be used at any stage of the process. AI tools or software may not be used to generate ideas, to suggest edits or revisions, or for any other purpose. The speech must be entirely the work of the student.
 5. Students will not receive any assistance during preparation time.
 6. A student is permitted to use one 4 x 6 card for notes.
 7. The timekeeper will show numbered cards nine through one at one-minute intervals during the speech to alert the speaker of remaining time.
 7. A competing student is not permitted to listen to other students until after he has completed his speech.

HUMOROUS INTERPRETATION:

Definition: The memorized oral interpretation of a humorous selection by an individual.

1. Cuttings are to be taken from published plays or prose.
2. Selections with multiple characters are preferred.

ORIGINAL PERSUASIVE ORATORY:

Definition: The largely memorized oral presentation of an original persuasive speech by an individual of which no more than 10% is direct quotation. It is designed to move an audience toward personal action or to sway audience opinion.

1. Artificial intelligence tools or software may not be used to generate content. AI tools may appropriately be used to suggest edits or revisions to student-created content as long as the software does nothing more than suggest changes. All revisions must be made by the student.
2. Only one 4 x 6 card of notes may be used.
3. Small hand props or costume pieces may not be used. Posters, charts, etc., will not be allowed.
3. One typewritten scripts must be submitted to the judges at performance time.

ORAL INTERPRETATION OF POETRY:

Definition: The memorized oral interpretation of poetry by an individual.

1. Selections from the Bible are not appropriate and should be entered in Oral Interpretation of Scripture.
2. Selection must be a single work or a cutting of a longer work.

RELIGIOUS READING:

Definition: The memorized oral interpretation of prose by an individual.

1. The selection should inspire or convict spiritually.
2. The presentation should include dialogue and be dramatic in nature.
3. Selections from the Bible are not appropriate and should be entered in Oral Interpretation of Scripture.

ORAL INTERPRETATION OF SCRIPTURE:

Definition: A memorized oral interpretation by an individual of one long or two short passages from the Bible (King James Version only, see General Information: Bible Usage), with appropriate introduction and transition. Performers are encouraged to select narrative (story) passages. A passage with dialogue in which characters speak is recommended. Students will be evaluated based on the effective use of distinct and separate characters.

READERS' THEATRE:

Definition: The oral presentation of dramatic, poetic, or prose material by a group focused on the audience, utilizing some or all of the following techniques: effective use of distinct and separate characters, out of scene, characterization, group speaking, and group movement. The presentation may include these types: cameo (face only movement), upper body, or whole body movement. Characters are not to interact with each other as they do in Acting. (Refer to Distinctions between Readers Theatre and Choric Speaking.)

1. Group size consists of three to six individuals.
2. Readers may make use of small hand props and costume accessories (such as an umbrella, shawl, gloves, hat, glasses, etc.). In a quality performance, small props may be used appropriately to enhance the performance and props are not used excessively to that they distract from the performance. No makeup, lighting, full costumes, or furniture other than a table, chairs, and stools. Platforms or prop boxes are permitted.
3. All members dressed in black (or any color) or in the same style shall not be considered to be wearing costumes.
4. The presentation will be judged on originality of arrangement and the skillful use of the techniques to move the audience with the chosen material. Memorization is required. It may not be directed.
5. Any form of literature, poetry or prose, adapted to the Readers Theatre form will be appropriate for this contest. All literature must meet acceptable guidelines.
6. All speaking and visual expression is to be directed toward the audience or off-stage rather than toward other performers. Normally, narrative material is directed toward the audience and characterization should have an off-stage focus. Performers are not to interact with each other. There should be no physical contact or eye contact between performers.

CHORIC SPEAKING:

Definition: An oral group presentation utilizing some or all of the following techniques: unison speaking, solo speaking, vocal effects, word color, dramatic climax, and group movement. Characters are not to interact with each other as they do in Acting. (Refer to Distinctions between Readers Theatre and Choric Speaking.)

1. Group size consists of seven to fifteen individuals.
2. The presentation must be memorized. It may not be directed.
3. All members dressed in the same color or style shall not be considered to be wearing costumes.
4. The presentation will be judged on originality of arrangement and the skillful use of the techniques to move the audience with the chosen material.
5. Scripts: Any form of literature, poetry, or prose adapted to Choric Speaking form will be appropriate for this contest. All literature and music used in the choric reading must be published material. More than one script may be combined along with music to design the Choric Reading; otherwise the scripts must meet guidelines listed in Speech General Rules 1.
6. Movement/Interaction:
 - a. Group movement may be used to enhance the presentation, but should be limited to simple choices such as changing positions between “scenes” or divisions in the presentation.
 - b. Movement, individual and group, should be more limited than movement in Readers Theatre.
 - c. All speaking and visual expression is to be directed toward the audience or off-stage rather than toward other performers. Normally, narrative material is directed toward the audience and characterization should have an off-stage focus. Performers are not to interact with each other. There should be no physical contact or eye contact between performers.
7. Hand Props/Instruments: No hand props or costume pieces will be permitted. An instrument may not be played during the presentation and auditory props may not be used.
8. Risers may be used. Please inform the SCACS Festival Director if you will need risers.
9. Music: Any form of singing or music used in the presentation should be used to complement the speech effects, and may not exceed 1.5 minutes of the entire presentation.
10. Use of Voice and Group vs. Individual Voices: Performers are to express different pitch levels, pace, pause effect, rate, intensity, and volume. Their speech should be expressed mainly in groups of voices, with **infrequent** solo lines. Large and small group voices must dominate. Excessive use of dialogue between characters without engagement of the chorus must not dominate the performance. Diction must be clearly understood, spoken with ease, and expressed with energy.

Distinctions between Readers Theatre and Choric Speaking

1. Readers Theatre emphasizes the individual performers, whereas Choric Speaking emphasizes the group speaking with one collective “voice.”
2. Readers Theatre relies on each individual speaker’s unique characterizations and use of other individual acting techniques, while Choric Speaking relies on the group speaking as one body using varying combinations of unison and solo voices.
3. Readers Theatre is more closely related to characterization and acting, while Choric Speaking is basically a speaking choir with many voices.
4. The emphasis of Readers Theatre is the dramatized development of a text via visual elements and the spoken interaction of individual performers. The emphasis of Choric Speaking is the creative use of the voice (vocal variety, word color, etc.) in a choral manner to reinforce the meaning of the text. Choric Speaking is primarily an auditory presentation.

SCACS Speech & Bible Competition

Time Limits

Levels III and IV

CATEGORY	LEVEL III	LEVEL IV	COPIES NEEDED
Debate	n/a	n/a	n/a
Declamation	4-9 minutes	5-10 minutes	1
Dramatic Interpretation	4-9 minutes	5-10 minutes	1
Acting (2-6)	4-12 minutes	5-13 minutes	1
Extemporaneous Speaking	4-9 minutes	5-10 minutes	n/a
Humorous Interpretation	4-9 minutes	5-10 minutes	1
Original Persuasive Oratory	4-9 minutes	5-10 minutes	1*
Oral Interpretation of Poetry	4-9 minutes	5-10 minutes	1
Religious Reading	4-9 minutes	5-10 minutes	1
Oral Interpretation of Scripture	4-9 minutes	5-10 minutes	1
Readers' Theatre (3-6)	4-12 minutes	5-13 minutes	1
Choric Speaking (7-15)	4-12 minutes	5-13 minutes	1
Bible Teaching	8-13 minutes	10-15 minutes	1*
Bible Preaching	8-13 minutes	10-15 minutes	1*

*NOTE: For national competition these events will need 3 copies for the judges.

Timing starts with the judge's instructions to begin and continues until completion.

ART

n/a	459	Live Action Videography	369	469	Printmaking
n/a	460	Animation Videography	370	470	Sculpture
361	461	Calligraphy	371	471	Textiles
362	462	Crafts	372	472	Watercolor
363	463	Monochromatic Drawing	373	473	Mixed Media
364	464	Polychromatic Drawing	374	474	Wood Furniture & Cabinetmaking
365	465	Oil Painting	375	475	People & Animals Photography
366	466	Acrylic Painting	n/a	476	Digital Media
367	467	Still Life & Macro Photography	n/a	477	Garment Construction
368	468	Landscape & Architecture Photography			

GENERAL RULES:

1. Entries are not restricted to sacred themes, but entries which reflect sensualism, humanism, occultism, or worldliness will be disqualified; basically, any subject detrimental to spiritual edification will not be allowed. Competition officials shall have full authority for making any determination in this regard. Projects determined to be inappropriate for this competition will be penalized or disqualified.
2. Each entry will be the original creation of the participant alone, but the participant may have had advice or instruction.
3. Artificial intelligence tools or software may appropriately be used for concept development at preliminary stages in the design process, but no part of the final submission may be AI generated.
4. Each entry must have been created since the last National Competition.
5. Students should do original drawings or paintings from imagination or actual life. Working from a personal photograph is allowed.
 - a. If a photograph taken by another person is used, written permission from that person is required. The student must strive to be creative in his interpretation of the photograph, rather than trying to copy it exactly. There must be a significant change, at least 40%, in the artwork when using another person's photograph. Any photograph used must be included with the artwork. Copying of any existing artwork (painting, drawing, illustration, etc.) is prohibited.
 - b. Entries may not include likenesses or representations of any copyrighted or licensed artwork or characters (such as characters or recognizable environments from animated films or any form of sequential art) in part or in whole; this includes commercial symbols, images, trademarks, and logos. Use of such artwork is a violation of international copyright law.
6. Two-dimensional work must be matted or framed or gallery-wrapped canvas or cradled. Framing is an important aspect of the presentation of a work of art. A simple frame and mat are effective. Elaborate mats and heavy ornamental frames are not necessary and sometimes detract from the artwork. (See photography rule 5 for specific photography requirements.)
7. Level IV art continuing to nationals – please see the AACS manual for making art ready for display.

8. Entries should be durable enough to withstand transport and the competition environment. Overly fragile or sensitive items could be broken in transit, during judging, or during exhibition.
9. A SCACS art label should be attached to the front of the piece (use rubber cement or painter's tape for clean removal).
10. Each student must sign the Statement of Originality on the Artist's Idea Statement.
11. Each entry must have a completed Artist's Idea Statement which gives the source of his idea and explains how he developed his artwork from the idea. Photographs showing the development of the artwork may be included, if desired. Photographs are not a replacement for a required pattern.
12. The art student is not required to attend competition. Please make arrangements for picking up art pieces by 4 pm on Friday.
12. Special external lighting will not be permitted (i.e., spotlight, overhead, or underlighting). The lighting in the exhibit area is the only external lighting that will be allowed. Lighting that is part of the piece (integrated into the piece and self-contained) to illuminate areas may be allowed only for the following categories: Wood Furniture and Cabinetmaking, Sculpture, and Crafts. Power sources for lighting must not require electrical plug in for display.

CALLIGRAPHY:

1. Lettering will be done with a calligraphy pen, either metal or fiber tip. Ruling pens, quills, automatic pens, paint pens, and archival ink monoline pens are also acceptable. Ordinary felt tip markers are not acceptable.
2. No traced letters or dry-transfer lettering will be acceptable.
3. Any style of calligraphy or hand-lettering may be used, and should be based on established lettering styles.
4. The entry may contain other elements (color, illustration) but the lettering should be the dominant element.
5. Lettering should be original (i.e., done by the student himself). Alphabet styles may be based on a sample supplied by the teacher or taken from a book.
6. Attention should be paid to the overall composition or arrangement of words and lines to ensure balance, focus, and communication.
7. If the entry is not in English, the contestant must include a translation attached to the Artist's Idea Statement.

MONOCHROMATIC DRAWING:

1. Monochromatic drawing is done in only one color.
2. The student may use ink, pencil, charcoal, or another drawing medium; a combination of these media is acceptable.
3. Work done in a medium subject to smearing must be sealed with a protective spray, or be covered with clear glass or acetate.

POLYCHROMATIC DRAWING:

1. Polychromatic drawing is done in more than one color.
2. The student may use pastels, crayons, colored pencils, or another drawing medium; a combination of these media is acceptable.
3. Work done in a medium subject to smearing must be sealed with a protective spray, or be covered with clear glass or acetate.

OIL PAINTING:

1. Oil painting involves the use of oil-based paints on a suitable ground.
2. Oil paint and appropriate solvents must be used. Paint should be applied to a ground suitable to the medium. These include, but are not limited to, canvas, wood, and assorted art boards.
3. The work must be completely dry before it is submitted.

ACRYLIC PAINTING:

1. Acrylic painting involves the use of acrylic paints on a suitable ground.
2. Paints must be acrylic polymers and should be applied to a ground suitable to the medium. These include, but are not limited to, canvas, wood, and assorted art boards. Additional substances may be used for textural effects, as long as the surface of the work remains paint.
3. The work must be completely dry before it is submitted.

WATERCOLOR:

1. Translucent techniques will be acceptable; use of proper watercolor paper is required. Aqua board is also acceptable.
2. Opaque techniques will be acceptable if the paints used qualify as watercolors.
3. Any water-based medium, such as watercolor, gouache, or tempera, may be used.

PRINTMAKING:

1. Printmaking is a design or picture carved or etched into one surface, then inked and transferred to another surface. More than one carved or etched surface may be employed to produce a single print. Prints such as planographic printmaking (lithography, screen printing, and monoprinting) are allowed.
2. The following printing materials (matrices) will be acceptable: linoleum block, woodcut, etching, dry point, collagraph, silk screen, speedy-carve material, glass, Plexiglass, and glass-like material. Do not submit plate or block with the entry.

SCULPTURE:

1. Sculpture is the art of carving (subtracting), modeling (shaping), or welding (combining) to produce a three-dimensional work.
2. Works from molds are acceptable if the student created the mold and poured the object himself. Molds must be presented with the finished artwork. No 3D printing is permitted in this category.
3. Acceptable materials include, but are not limited to the following: wood, plaster, stone, metal, wax, ceramic slip, ceramic glaze, clay (both fired and unfired), balsa foam, model magic, and friendly plastic. Paper **alone** is an unacceptable material for sculpture. Paper as a binding agent and molding medium is acceptable, i.e. papier-mâché.
4. No objects should be displayed other than the sculpture itself (i.e., flowers, plants, toys).
5. If possible, the sculpture should have an attached base. If a base is not attached, then the project should be placed on an appropriate surface, such as a ceramic tile, for display purposes.
6. Entries should not include models or dioramas.
7. Knives and swords (bladed weapons generally) should be entered in crafts.

CRAFTS:

1. A craft can be anything three dimensional that is not strictly a sculpture or a textile and that conforms to craft rule 2.
2. Types of projects are limited to the following: jewelry making, stained glass, candle making, flower arranging (only if the student has made the flowers), decorative castings (from plaster, etc., as long as the student pours and decorates it himself), basketry, tole painting (on wood or metal), wood burning, sand art, ribbon crafts, string/thread art, decoupage, diorama, beadwork, leather work, metal repousse, punched designs into metal, papier-mâché, origami (paper folding), knives and swords (bladed weapons generally), and mosaic. Other types of craft projects may be entered with permission of the SCACS office. For national competition, the approval form must be included with the other paperwork submitted with the project.
3. Purchased beads, pin backs or earring backs for jewelry are acceptable. Containers and garments used for these projects may be purchased.
4. No kits or commercially produced plans, or parts of such, are acceptable. Entries are to be original and handmade, not copied from a commercial pattern. A commercially produced pattern is allowed only for origami.

TEXTILES:

1. Entries will be limited to selections from this listing:
 - a. Macramé, weaving (must show extensive, comprehensive work), quilting, needlework (such as candlewicking, embroidery, ribbon embroidery, crochet, cross-stitch, knitting, needlepoint, or crewel, etc.). No purchased garments, towels or similar items are permitted for these entries.
 - b. Wearable art using appliqué, paints, silk-dye, batik, or tie-dye items. Purchased garments, towels or similar items are permitted for these entries.
2. Kits are not acceptable; however, commercially produced plans or patterns are acceptable. When a commercially produced plan or pattern is used, a copy of the plan or pattern must accompany the project. Photographs showing development of the artwork are not a replacement for the required plan or pattern.
3. No objects should be displayed other than the textile itself (no furniture, plants, or other items).

WOOD FURNITURE AND CABINETMAKING:

1. Entries such as tables, chairs, chests, cabinets, bookcases, and other furniture/casework items are appropriate for this category. Pieces shaped or created using artisanal techniques such as pens or bowls should be entered in other appropriate categories such as sculpture (carving) or crafts. An entry does not fit this category simply because it is made of wood. It must fit this description and include the required elements (see “Required Elements” on the judging form and Required Elements Documentation (included with the judging forms).
2. The design must be original. The student must submit a simple mechanical drawing *and* must provide photos or explanatory text as necessary to document the production process, including details such as joinery techniques.
3. In the construction of the project, the competitor must use at least ten of the required elements from the list on the Required Elements Documentation (included with the judging forms in this manual). Submit the completed Required Elements Documentation (with documentation) with other paperwork for the project.

4. All production procedures (sawing, mitering, routing, assembling, and finishing) must be done by the student himself; the work may be done under adult supervision.-The use of CNC machines is not allowed.
5. The maximum size is 40 cubic feet.
6. No kits are permitted.

MIXED MEDIA:

1. Mixed Media includes predominantly two-dimensional artwork, including relief elements, which combines two or more mediums including the use of paint, ink, pencil, chalk, oil paints, tempera paints, sand, collage, and printmaking.
2. Adhesives and glazes such as glues, fixatives, etc., are allowed in the assembling and finishing processes. Photographs not taken by the student may be used as long as the portion used cannot be recognized as part of the original picture.
3. Materials must be created by the student, with the exception that parts not made by the student should total no more than 20% of the overall work. These should not be the dominant feature of the piece.

DIGITAL MEDIA:

1. Digital Media is a category which includes digitally created art that goes beyond a single artistic medium such as photography or painting. No 3D printing is permitted in this category. Digital Media means the composition or design is created, developed, assembled, or finished with the use of computer hardware and software. Many graphic design projects are considered Digital Media.
2. Digital Media may be pixel-based, vector-based, or a combination of the two. The work may include illustration elements, typography, photography, scanned elements, and other digital elements. All elements must be the student's original creation. Photos and illustrations (if used) must be student's original work.
3. The digital file may be printed on a variety of media including, but not limited to, paper or canvas. The final print should be of high enough resolution to produce a smooth image with no unintended pixilation. The final print should be suitably matted, mounted, or framed as with any piece of fine art.
4. Digital Media will be judged on the basis of composition, aesthetic appeal, originality, and technical achievement.
5. A storage device with the digital image in a universal file format, such as JPEG, TIF, or PDF, is to be submitted with the entry. This should be protected in an envelope taped to the back of the entry; the name of the student and his/her school should be written on the envelope.
6. In addition, a process document must be included illustrating the resources used (such as photos, scans, illustrations, or other elements) in creating the entry. The process document should be a piece of paper (or papers); this is for a quick reference for the judges to view all of the elements used in the project. Include the process document with other paperwork (judging forms, artist idea statement). Do not create a book or booklet; this document will not be returned.

GARMENT CONSTRUCTION:

1. Garment construction from fabric or non-traditional materials, such as paper, plastic, recycled materials, etc., is allowed.
2. Accessories are not considered garments for this category.

3. Kits are not acceptable; however, commercially produced plans or patterns are acceptable. A photo of the plan or pattern rather than the actual pattern must accompany the project. Photographs showing the development of the project are not a replacement for the required plan or pattern.
4. Garments continuing to nationals – please see the AACS manual for making the garment ready for display.
5. All designed garments must meet general standards of decency and modesty. Competition officials shall have full authority for making any determination in this regard. Projects determined to be inappropriate will be penalized.
6. Garment construction will be judged on the basis of originality, artistic design, and professional construction. Professional construction includes smooth well-pressed seams and hems, seam finishes on fabric raw edges, precise detail work, and overall neatness.
7. Machine sewing is allowed.

GENERAL RULES FOR PHOTOGRAPHY:

1. The print may not have obvious touch-up work. Good retouching, whether digital or analog, cannot be detected.
 - a. Retouching work should be limited to enhancements and modification that improve the presentation of the image, but do not change the truth of the original story. The photographer may not add or replace elements in an image. Red-eye removal and spot editing are permitted.
 - b. Retouching may only include the use of corrective functions to improve the natural appearance (for example: levels, contrast, brightness, curves, intensity, tone, hue, saturation, color balance, etc.).
 - c. Artistic filters may **not** be used. Using a filter to blur a background is image manipulation (rather than retouching) and is not allowed. The photographer should use the proper aperture to get depth of field effect.
 - d. Retouching is part of the creative process. Good retouching cannot be seen and poor retouching will be graded against; therefore, graphics and text must not be included.
2. The print will be judged on the basis of composition, aesthetic appeal, and originality.
3. A SCACS art label should be attached to the piece (use rubber cement or painter's tape for clean removal).
4. The minimum print size is 7 x 10 inches.
5. Photos must be matted and **may not** be framed. White or off-white mats are required for this category. Photos may be double matted, but decorative elements (such as scrolling) on the mat are not permitted.
6. Photography must be accompanied by **Photography** Artist's Idea Statement.
7. **Note:** Not every photograph will fit one of these categories. To be entered in this competition, a photograph must fit one of the listed categories.

STILL LIFE AND MACRO PHOTOGRAPHY:

1. The photograph must be a single black-and-white or color image of a still life, macro photograph, or design.
2. Still Life photography is a grouping of small objects placed in arrangement by human design in a pleasing composition.
3. Macro photography is an extreme close-up of a subject at a magnification of life-size or larger.

LANDSCAPES AND ARCHITECTURE PHOTOGRAPHY:

1. The photograph must be a single black-and-white or color image of a landscape or architecture.
2. Landscape photography is an expanse of scenery that is extensive and can be seen from a single viewpoint, such as a picture representing natural inland or coastal scenery.
3. Architecture photography is of manmade buildings and structures that capture the entire construction or only a portion.

PEOPLE AND ANIMAL PHOTOGRAPHY:

1. The photograph must be a single black-and-white or color image of people or animals.
2. People photography is of an individual or group that is the main subject in the composition. It may be posed or candid.
3. Animal photography is of animals in their captive or natural setting. This category includes any living thing that is not human or a plant.

GENERAL RULES FOR VIDEOGRAPHY:

1. A videography entry may be prepared by an individual student or by a group of students. When an entry is prepared by a group of students, all students in the group must be in grades 9–12. Both videography categories will be considered group events. There is no limit to the number of contestants that may comprise a group.
2. Tasks that must be performed by contestants include, but are not necessarily limited to, the following: video or still image capture, directing, acting, voice over, lighting, script writing, set design and construction, costume design and construction, computer graphics and animation, sound effects, special effects, and video editing. When a group of students prepares an entry, the group must supply a list that includes the name of each participant, the grade in school of each participant, and the task or tasks performed by each participant in the production of the entry.
3. Acceptable subject matter includes, but is not necessarily limited to, the following: fiction, historical fiction, documentary, biography, commentary, humor, and persuasion. Sacred themes are encouraged but not required. In all cases, entries must comply with the theme selection guidelines listed in the General Rules for all Art categories.
4. The use of music is encouraged but not required. When music is used, the contestant or group must provide documentation demonstrating that the music used is in the public domain, that the contestant or group has permission from the copyright owner, or that the music is the original composition of the contestant or group. All music must comply with the selection criteria listed in the General Rules for Music competition. The legal right to use other media such as photography, newsreel footage, animation clips, etc., must also be documented.
5. Each entry must have a running time of no less than 1 minute and no more than 5 minutes. Entries that are outside the time constraints will be penalized using the same procedure that is used for Music and Speech entries. Credits may be included in the video, but time used for credits will be counted in the overall running time.
6. The student or group must obtain a release form from each participant and/or subject of the video whose image and/or voice is used in the video. A sample release form is included with the judging forms in this manual.
7. Each entry must be submitted online prior to the main competition date. Submission guidelines will be communicated by SCACS.

8. Required paperwork must be submitted at the same time as the submission of the videography entry. Required paperwork includes Artist's Idea Statement with signed Statement of Originality, music/media documentation, list of contestants and tasks performed, release forms, and Videography judging forms.
9. Winners in these categories will continue on to Nationals. See AACS Fine Arts Manual for submission information.

LIVE ACTION VIDEOGRAPHY:

1. Live Action is the production of a video using video images of real-world settings and/or of real people.
2. Computer graphics, animation, and/or still shots may be incorporated into a Live Action entry, but these may comprise no more than 20% of the total running time.

ANIMATION VIDEOGRAPHY:

1. Animation is the production of a video using animation techniques such as hand-drawn animation, stop motion, or computer-generated imagery.
2. The use of real-world images may be incorporated into an Animation entry, but these may comprise no more than 20% of the total running time.

ACADEMIC AND BIBLE TESTING:

GENERAL RULES:

1. The number of tests a student may take is not limited.
2. One examination will be given in each category. The time limit for an academic category cannot exceed 75 minutes.
3. Examinations must be taken during the testing period. Testing dates are from January 20 – February 20.
 - a. All registration, testing, school login, administration, and billing will be done online.
 - b. All tiebreakers will be broken online. The first tiebreaker will be administered during each initial test. Each test has been assigned tiebreaker questions from other series. The tiebreaker questions will be graded only if the student ties for 1st through 3rd place. If additional tiebreakers are needed, the testing coordinator will be sent an email that details the instructions and names of the students who need to be tested.
4. Selected-response questions will be posed in a variety of forms.
5. Non-programmable scientific calculators (without graphing capabilities) are permitted for the following categories that may require math computation: Chemistry, Physics, Accounting. Scientific or graphing calculators are permitted for Algebra, Geometry, and Advanced Math. Phone or other electronic device-based calculators are not permitted.
7. No Bibles, reference materials, notes, or study guides will be allowed during testing.

OLD TESTAMENT BIBLE KNOWLEDGE:

Competition in this category will be by written examination, testing knowledge of factual or objective material (rather than interpretive), from pre-assigned Old Testament books.

The six-year cycle by school year is stated below:

2025–2026	Nehemiah, Daniel, Jonah
2026–2027	Genesis
2027–2028	Joshua, Judges
2028–2029	1 & 2 Samuel
2029–2030	Proverbs
2030–2031	Isaiah

NEW TESTAMENT BIBLE KNOWLEDGE:

Competition in this category will be by written examination, testing knowledge of factual or objective material (rather than interpretive), from pre-assigned New Testament books.

The six-year cycle by school year is stated below:

2025–2026	1 & 2 Peter, 1, 2, & 3 John, Jude, Revelation
2026–2027	Mark, Acts
2027–2028	Romans, 1 Corinthians
2028–2029	2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians
2029–2030	Philippians, Colossians, 1 & 2 Thessalonians, 1 Timothy
2030–2031	2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon, Hebrews, James

ENGLISH:

1. The examination will consist of questions covering:
 - a. Grammar and usage: eight parts of speech, phrases, clauses, agreement, etc.
 - b. Vocabulary in context and spelling recognition
 - c. Mechanics: capitalization and punctuation
 - d. Library: research techniques, bibliography, footnote forms
 - e. Diagramming
2. No composition will be required.
3. No questions pertaining to literature will be asked.

ALGEBRA I:

1. This test is for 9th grade only.
2. This test is not a national competition category.

ALGEBRA:

The examination will consist of questions covering:

- a. Algebra 1
- b. Algebra 2

GEOMETRY:

The examination will consist of questions covering:

- a. Geometry

ADVANCED MATHEMATICS:

The examination will consist of questions covering:

- a. Trigonometry
- b. Analytical Geometry
- c. Permutations, Combinations, and Probability
- d. Pre-Calculus
- e. Theory of Equations
- f. Sequences and Series
- g. Statistics
- h. Limits
- i. Advanced Algebra
- j. Function Analysis
- k. Matrix Algebra
- l. Vectors
- m. Complex Numbers

BIOLOGY:

The examination will consist of questions covering:

- a. Cells
- b. Protozoa
- c. Algae and Fungi
- d. Plants
- e. Genetics

- f. Vertebrate and Invertebrate Physiology
- g. Human Anatomy
- h. Fossils

CHEMISTRY:

The examination will consist of questions covering:

- a. Matter and Energy
- b. Atoms
- c. Formulas and Equations
- d. Gases, Liquids, and Solids
- e. Periodic Table Families
- f. Equilibrium
- g. Chemistry Laws
- h. Acids and Bases
- i. Metric Units
- j. Scientific Methods
- k. Chemical Bonding

PHYSICS:

The examination will consist of questions covering:

- a. Motion and Energy
- b. Metric Units
- c. Light
- d. Electricity
- e. Heat
- f. Magnetism
- g. Physics Laws
- h. Sound

WORLD HISTORY/GEOGRAPHY:

The examination will consist of questions covering:

- a. World History
- b. World Geography

U.S. HISTORY/GEOGRAPHY:

The examination will consist of questions covering:

- a. United States History
- b. United States Geography

ACCOUNTING:

1. The examination will center upon terminology, theory, and short problems.
2. A calculator is needed. See Bible and academic testing general rules regarding allowable calculators.
3. The examination will consist of questions which may be drawn from any of these topics.

- a. Accounting systems: journal entries including basic entries, adjusting entries (accruals and deferrals), and closing entries; subsidiary ledgers; generally accepted accounting principles.
- b. Financial statements: classification of accounts, preparation of statements, financial/ratio analysis, basic auditing concepts.
- c. Assets: cash and bank reconciliations, receivables and bad debts, inventory and cost of goods sold, fixed assets and depreciation, cost principle.
- d. Liabilities and owners' equity (proprietorships, corporations): purchases on credit, issuance of stock, retained earnings.
- e. Revenues/gains and expenses/losses: realization principle, matching principle.

HOME ECONOMICS:

The examination will consist of questions covering:

- a. Food and Nutrition
- b. Clothing
- c. Housing and Home Furnishings

POLITICAL SCIENCE/ECONOMICS:

The examination will consist of questions covering:

- a. General principles of political science, including the nature and historical development of the various types or forms of governments in the world
- b. The nature and historical development of the United States government
- c. General principles of free enterprise economic theory

MUSIC THEORY:

1. The examination will consist of questions covering:

- a. Major and Minor Key Signatures
- b. Major and Minor Scales
- c. Harmony
- d. Part-writing
- e. Figured Bass
- f. Cadences
- g. Rhythm and Time Signatures

2. The test does not include melodic dictation or aural recognition.

SPANISH:

The examination will consist of questions covering:

- a. Grammar and Usage
- b. Vocabulary
- c. Conjugation and Agreement
- d. Spanish to English translation and English to Spanish translation

SPELLING:

Spelling will be conducted in the traditional spelling bee fashion according to the rules listed below. A preliminary test will be given in the fall to determine the 10 that will compete in the Fine Arts Spelling Bee. Schools are not limited in the number of participants that can take the preliminary test. Testing instructions will be sent out in October. The Spelling Bee is held separate from the Festival and does not count against the student's limitations of involvement.

1. Spelling will be conducted in the traditional spelling bee format in a single elimination fashion.
 - a. Information regarding the spelling lists is available on the SCACS website.
 - b. The dictionary specified in the current spelling bee information will be the final authority in determining correctness of spelling and pronunciation.
 - c. **Note:** Rules of other national spelling competitions are not necessarily the same as the AACS National Competition spelling rules.
 - d. The competition will be recorded for judges' use only.
 - e. Capitalization of a word (whether omitted or added) shall not constitute an error.
 - f. Students are not required to provide judging forms for Spelling.
2. Spelling Bee procedures:
 - a. All students will form a single line facing the spelling master.
 - b. Words will be given to students from left to right.
 - c. A student will be disqualified upon one spelling error.
 - d. Words will be chosen from the current spelling bee list. If the spelling master decides that additional words are necessary, the words will be chosen from the dictionary specified in the official spelling bee rules. This will be done at the beginning of a new round.
 - e. Pronunciation will be according to the diacritical markings in the specified dictionary.
 - f. With the approval of the judges, the spelling master may give a fuller explanation of the meaning of the word to supplement the dictionary definition(s) quoted.
 - g. During competition, after the spelling master gives the student a word, the student may also choose to pronounce the word before spelling it.
 - h. The student may request the spelling master to re-pronounce the word, define it, give its part of speech, use it in a sentence, or give its language origin. The master will grant the requests until the judges agree that the word has been made clear to the student. Judges may call an error against any student who ignores a request to begin spelling.
 - i. After receiving the requested help in 2.h., the student will have fifteen seconds to spell the word. Timing will begin at the student's repeating the word or at the commencement of the spelling of the word.
 - j. Having begun to spell a word, a student may stop and begin again, retracing the spelling from the beginning; but in the retracing, there can be no change of letters or their sequence from those first spelled. If letters or their sequences are changed in the respelling, the speller will be declared in error.
 - k. The correct spelling of any incorrectly spelled word will always be given except when only two students remain. The next word on the master's official competition list will then be given to the next student, whether or not elimination occurs.
 - l. When the students are reduced to two, the elimination procedure changes, but not before the completion of the current round. At that point, when one student misspells a word, the other student will be given an opportunity to spell that same word. If the second student

spells that word correctly, plus the next word on the pronouncer's list, then the second student shall be declared champion.

- The intent of the rule is to ensure that the remaining competitors have correctly spelled the same number of words as eliminated competitors before changing the procedure, so the current round must be completed before the procedure changes. If, at the completion of a round, only one competitor remains who has not misspelled a word, that competitor is the first-place winner and the two-person elimination procedure outlined in this rule does not occur. All others eliminated within that round will start a new round to determine second- and third-place winners. If, at the completion of a round, only two competitors remain, the elimination procedure outlined in this rule is employed to finish the contest and third place is awarded to the last competitor eliminated in the previous round. If, at the conclusion of a round, all competitors have been eliminated, the contest must resume as things were at the beginning of that round—all competitors who were still in the contest at the beginning of that round are restored and a new round begins with those competitors spelling in the original order.
- m. If one of the last two spellers misses and the other, after correcting the error, misspells the new word submitted to him, then the misspelled new word will be referred to the first speller. If the first speller then succeeds in correcting the error and correctly spells the next word on the pronouncer's list, then he will be declared champion.
- n. If both spellers misspell the same word, both will continue in the contest; and the one who first misspelled the word will be given a new word to spell. The contest will then continue under rules 2.1. and 2.m.
- o. Any question relating to the spelling of a word will be referred to the judges immediately. Only a student speller may lodge a protest. The deadline for lodging a protest will be before the affected student would have received his next word had he not been eliminated. No protest will be entertained after a contested word has been given to another speller. When only two spellers remain, a protest must be made immediately, i.e., before the second speller has begun to spell the word, or, if both have missed the same word, before the correct spelling is given.
- p. The judges have complete authority and control. Their decision will be final in any dispute.

COMPOSITION GENERAL RULES:

1. The topic will be emailed to the school coordinator along with the due date.
2. Supply the appropriate judging form with the top portion completed.
3. Entries may be typed or handwritten.
4. Statement of Originality on the judging form must be signed.
5. Artificial intelligence tools or software may not be used at any stage of the process except for pre-writing research. In pre-writing research, the writing prompt may not be entered into AI software for any purpose. AI tools or software may not be used to generate ideas in writing to suggest edits or revisions, or for any other purpose. From beginning to end, except for pre-writing research, the submission must be entirely the original work of the student. In the writing categories, the competitor and the school proctor will both be required to sign this statement as part of the statement of originality: "I certify that this submission is entirely my original work and that I received no help in completing this project other than general

instruction and supervision. Except for pre-writing research, I did not use any AI tools or software to create my writing submission. I did not enter the writing prompt in AI software to assist me. When writing, I followed conscientiously the instructions regarding ‘Prohibition of AI writing tools’ in the general rules.”

CREATIVE WRITING: POETRY:

1. The student may write without a proctor present, but he must affirm the statement of originality. The student may create and refine his entry within the limits of the allotted contest period (from the time the topic is announced until the entry is due in the SCACS office), but the work must be strictly his own. The student may reference a dictionary and a thesaurus.
2. Previously written poems will not be acceptable.
3. The entry will be judged according to the criteria on the Creative Writing: Poetry judging form.

EXPOSITORY WRITING: ESSAY:

1. The student may write without a proctor present, but he must affirm the statement of originality. The student may create and refine his entry within the limits of the allotted contest period (from the time the prompt is announced until the entry is due in the SCACS office), but the work must be strictly his own. The student may reference a dictionary and a thesaurus.
2. Previously written essays will not be acceptable.
3. An essay will be defined as a written expression of the author’s opinion:
 - a. Stated in a thesis in the first paragraph.
 - b. Supported and proven in three to four paragraphs in the body, each introduced by topic sentences that relate directly to the topic but each providing a different argument or fact.
 - c. Concluded with a summarizing paragraph which restates the thesis.
 - d. The essay must be the student’s original work. This is an essay, not a research paper. Students may review the topic, but no statistics or other quotations requiring source citations are allowed.
4. The essay is not to exceed 1,000 words.
5. Essays may not make use of either first person or second person. Essays written in either first person or second person will be disqualified. However, essays that contain occasional or infrequent first or second person pronouns will receive a point deduction. Points or a fraction of a point will be deducted which will prevent an otherwise first-place winner from placing first, a second-place winner from placing second, or a third-place winner from placing third.
6. The entry will be judged according to the criteria on the Expository Writing: Essay judging form.

SCIENCE FAIR GENERAL RULES:

1. Science Fair projects will be displayed during the entire competition in the specific location announced by the competition director.
2. Each student must sign the Statement of Originality found on the Science Fair judging form **and be present to answer questions in defense of his project.** Statement of Originality: I certify that this project is my own original and authentic work and that I received no help in completing this project other than general instruction and supervision.
3. Since they are interviewed by the judges, **science fair contestants must attend the competition.**
4. **Students are required to follow the procedures and format described in the AACCS Science Fair Manual.** Science Fair projects are to be individual projects, not group projects.
5. STEM projects may be entered, but they **must** meet all science fair regulations and requirements.
6. Competition will be held in two distinct areas with the student responsible to choose one specific topic area or sub-category to enter.

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Behavioral and Social Science | 4. Medicine and Health |
| 2. Biochemistry | 5. Microbiology |
| 3. Botany | 6. Zoology |

PHYSICAL SCIENCES:

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Chemistry | 5. Environmental Science |
| 2. Computer Science | 6. Mathematics |
| 3. Earth Science | 7. Physics |
| 4. Engineering | 8. Technology |

SPECIFIC LEVEL III (JUNIOR HIGH) RULES

Level III will follow rules unless specifically stated below.

BIBLE AND SPEECH:

Time limits: see the Time Limits page for Bible & Speech Competition.

Level III Bible Memory can be found on the website.

MUSIC:

VOCAL SOLOS: Vocal soloists in Level III are required to sing only *one* selection in 5 minutes. Does not have to be sacred or in English.

ACADEMICS:

1. General Math is for 7th grade only.
2. Pre-Algebra is for 8th grade only.
3. See Fine Arts Festival Events List for a list of tests available for Level III.

SCIENCE FAIR PROJECTS:

Amendments to the AACCS Science Fair Manual

- I. Modification of research paper to a report (3 pages, double spaced, 12 point font)
 - A. Specifications
 1. No footnotes; bibliography necessary
 - B. Content (pertinent to the experiment only)
 1. Purpose and explanation of project
 2. Research on what was actually done (no history or related research)
 3. Procedures of how experimentation was done
 4. Why those procedures were used
 5. Conclusions
- II. Log book = diary (may be done neatly in pencil) Day by day entries of each thing done for the project (including research as well as experimentation)
 - A. Logged by date
 - B. Actual amount of time spent
- III. Presentation
 - A. Each student should do an oral presentation in his own school to prepare for a defense of his project.
 - B. SCACS recommends that the school choose the best projects before the students prepare a display board or other presentation unless the school has its own science fair.
- IV. Optional calendar - Students should have a calendar with deadlines of what should be done and when (to organize skills and time and meet goals)

RECOMMENDATIONS:

SCACS does not recommend that a junior high student do a project on live animals of any kind. If he does, he must follow the AACS and International Science and Engineering Fairs rules carefully.

SCACS recommends that each school form a board or committee consisting of the science teachers, one person from the administration, and a medical doctor if possible, to provide the students with a resource for advice and support.

**The high school science fair projects follow all of the guidelines which are stated in the AACS Science Fair Manual, which is included in the AACS Nationals Competition Manual.

FINE ARTS FESTIVAL EVENTS LIST

EVENT NAME:	LEVEL III Gr. 7-8	LEVEL IV Gr. 9-12
BIBLE:		
Bible Quizzing	301	401
Bible Memory	304	404
Bible Teaching	305	405
Expository Preaching	306	406
Evangelistic Preaching	307	407
Topical Preaching	308	408
MUSIC:		
All School Choral Group	313	n/a
All School Choir	314	n/a
Female Vocal Solo	315	415
Male Vocal Solo	316	416
Small Vocal Ensemble (2-6)	317	417
Large Vocal Ensemble (7-12)	318	418
Choral Group	319	419
Choir	321	421*
Classical Guitar Solo	322	422
Brass Solo	323	423
String Solo	324	424
Woodwind Solo	325	425
Percussion Solo	326	426
Small Instrumental Ensemble (2-6)	327	427
Large Instrumental Ensemble (7-12)	328	428
Orchestra/Band	329	429
Sacred Piano	332	432
Classical Piano	333	433
Sacred Piano Duet	334	434
Classical Piano Duet	335	435
Handbell/Handchime Ensemble (2-12)	340	440
Handbell/Handchime Choir (13 or more)	341	441

SPEECH:

Debate	343	443
Declamation	344	444
Dramatic Interpretation	345	445
Acting (2-6)	346	446
Extemporaneous Speaking	347	447
Humorous Interpretation	348	448
Original Persuasive Oratory	349	449
Oral Interpretation of Poetry	351	451
Religious Reading	353	453
Oral Interpretation of Scripture	354	454
Readers' Theatre (3-6)	355	455
Choric Speaking (7-15)	356	456

ART:

Live Action Videography	n/a	459
Animation Videography	n/a	460
Calligraphy	361	461
Crafts	362	462
Monochromatic Drawing	363	463
Polychromatic Drawing	364	464
Oil Painting	365	465
Acrylic Painting	366	466
Still Life Photography	367	467
Landscape & Architectural Photography	368	468
Printmaking	369	469
Sculpture	370	470
Textiles	371	471
Watercolor	372	472
Mixed Media	373	473
Woodworking	374	474
People & Animal Photography	375	475
Digital Media	n/a	476
Garment Construction	n/a	477

ACADEMICS:

Level III (7th-8th)

Old Testament Bible Knowledge (general knowledge)	
New Testament Bible Knowledge (general knowledge)	
Creative Writing: Poetry	378
English	
Expository Writing: Essay	380
History/Geography	
General Math (7 th grade only)	
Pre-Algebra (8 th grade only)	
Science	
Spelling Bee	395
Biological Science Project	397
Physical Science Project	398

Level IV (9th-12th)

Old Testament Bible Knowledge (book specific)	
New Testament Bible Knowledge (book specific)	
Accounting	
Creative Writing: Poetry	478
English	
Expository Writing: Essay	480
World History/Geography	
US History/Geography	
Home Economics	
Algebra I* (9 th grade only)	
Algebra	
Geometry	
Advanced Mathematics	
Political Science/Economics	
Biology	
Chemistry	
Physics	
Spanish	
Music Theory	
Spelling Bee	495
Biological Science Project	497
Physical Science Project	498

Academic tests (no number listed) are taken online.

* Event is not offered at AACS National competition

SAMPLE LETTER TO PARENTS

September _____, 20____

Dear Parents,

Our school will be participating in the SCACS Fine Arts Festival this next March. We want you to be aware of the events available to your student and give plenty of time for planning ahead and for practice.

We will have a school Festival in (*January*) to choose those students who will represent our school at SCACS. If more than two students express an interest in a particular event, we will have a run-off in (*January*) to choose our representatives to SCACS.

At SCACS our students will be evaluated by qualified judges and given creative comments and awarded certificates for attaining Superior or Excellent scores. If your student is already in our school choir (or band), our group is planning to perform and your student will be expected to participate. For each individual event at SCACS there will be a fee of \$12.00. (*Include any details if you charge your students for choir, etc.*)

Please place a checkmark beside any event in the following list for which you would like further information and return it to the school office. Our Fine Arts Festival Director will supply you with rules and information.

Sincerely,

School Festival Director

TESTING IS AVAILABLE IN THESE AREAS:

Grades 7-8:

- Bible Knowledge Testing
- Creative Writing: Poetry
- English
- Expository Writing: Essay
- History/Geography
- General Mathematics
- Pre-Algebra
- Science

Grades 9-12:

- Bible Testing (on specific books)
- Accounting
- Creative Writing: Poetry
- English
- Expository Writing: Essay
- History/Geography
- Home Economics
- Advanced Mathematics
- Algebra I
- Algebra
- Geometry
- Political Science/Economics
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Spanish
- Music Theory

OTHER EVENTS AVAILABLE AT SCACS:

Grades 7-8:

- Bible: _____ Bible Quiz Team
 _____ Bible Memory
 _____ Bible Teaching
 _____ Bible Preaching
- Music: _____ Vocal Solos
 _____ Vocal Ensembles
 _____ Instrumental Solos
 _____ Instrumental Ensembles
 _____ Piano Solo
 _____ Piano Duet
- Speech: _____ Debate
 _____ Declamation
 _____ Dramatic Interpretation
 _____ Acting
 _____ Extemporaneous Speaking
 _____ Humorous Interpretation
 _____ Original Persuasive Oratory
 _____ Poetry
 _____ Religious Reading
 _____ Scripture Passage
 _____ Readers' Theater
 _____ Choric Speaking
- Art: _____ Calligraphy
 _____ Crafts
 _____ Monochromatic Drawing
 _____ Polychromatic Drawing
 _____ Acrylic Painting
 _____ Oil Painting
 _____ Still Life & Macro Photog.
 _____ Landscape & Arch. Photog.
 _____ People & Animals Photog.
 _____ Printmaking
 _____ Sculpture
 _____ Textiles
 _____ Watercolors
 _____ Mixed Media
 _____ Wood Furniture &
 _____ Cabinetmaking
- Academics: _____ Spelling Bee
 _____ Science Projects

Grades 9-12:

- _____ Bible Quiz Team
 _____ Bible Memory
 _____ Bible Teaching
 _____ Bible Preaching
- _____ Vocal Solos
 _____ Vocal Ensembles
 _____ Instrumental Solos
 _____ Instrumental Ensembles
 _____ Piano Solo
 _____ Piano Duet
- _____ Debate
 _____ Declamation
 _____ Dramatic Interpretation
 _____ Acting
 _____ Extemporaneous Speaking
 _____ Humorous Interpretation
 _____ Original Persuasive Oratory
 _____ Poetry
 _____ Religious Reading
 _____ Scripture Passage
 _____ Readers' Theater
 _____ Choric Speaking
- _____ Calligraphy
 _____ Crafts
 _____ Monochromatic Drawing
 _____ Polychromatic Drawing
 _____ Acrylic Painting
 _____ Oil Painting
 _____ Still Life & Macro Photography
 _____ Landscape & Arch. Photography
 _____ People & Animals Photography
 _____ Printmaking
 _____ Sculpture
 _____ Textiles
 _____ Watercolors
 _____ Mixed Media
 _____ Wood Furniture & Cabinetmaking
 _____ Digital Media
 _____ Garment Construction
 _____ Live Action Videography
 _____ Animation Videography
- _____ Spelling Bee
 _____ Science Projects

(Please note that some of our event names are simplified in this letter.)