

April 13–15, 2027

## Competition Manual and Rules

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The AACS Competition Manual (2025 edition) governs National Competition 2026–2030. See the AACS website and the competition manual for information regarding purchasing competition Bibles, instruments available at the host site, Extemporaneous Speaking references, Spelling study lists, online academic testing, AI use restrictions, Videography and Composition submission instructions, and other important information.

**Important Note:** For all categories requiring a judging form, at the time of competition, each contestant/group competing must submit to the judges **three** properly completed judging forms from the current AACS National Competition Manual.

## Bible 2027

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Old Testament Testing—Genesis

New Testament Testing—Mark, Acts

Bible Quizzing— Mark, 1, 2, & 3 John, Jude

If staying on campus, Bible quiz **teams must arrive by 9:00 p.m. on Monday, April 12, 2027**. Registration for on-campus guests will be on Monday evening, April 12. Contact BJU directly to arrange for early arrival housing.

Bible quiz team coaches will have a meeting at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 13.

Bible Memory—The Wisdom of God (See AACS National Competition Manual, 2025 Edition, Appendix.)

## Music

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### *Public Domain Date*

General Music Rule 11.a. will be adjusted to the current date. On January 1, 2027, works published in 1931 will enter the public domain in the United States.

### *Classical Guitar Solo Clarifications*

1. Are performers allowed to use picks? The use of picks/plectrums is not allowed. All classical guitar repertoire is played without a pick. This was not stated in the rules because it is the assumed norm for classical guitar. Because it was not stated, judges will not penalize a competitor for a violation, but he/she would not score well.
2. Are guitars that have a plug-in option but are still decidedly acoustic guitars allowed as long as they do not require an amp? The plug-in feature is not a problem as long as the instrument is acoustic. The instrument cannot be plugged in for performance.
3. Are there any requirements for the type of music? Lead sheets? Tablature? General music rules 9–12 apply. Music must have traditional notation. It could have tablature in addition to notation, but tablature is not sufficient on its own. Lead sheets are not adequate. Digital devices are addressed in rule 10.
4. Because they are not forbidden in the rules, 12-string guitars will be allowed as long as the stylistic and technique requirements are met; however, they are almost always played with a pick.

*continued*

## Debate 2027

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Resolved: The United States federal government should establish national health insurance in the United States.

### Art

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1. *General Art Rule #7*—Velcro is no longer required for matted but not framed works.
2. *Artist Idea Statement #2* add the word *pattern*: “Did you use a photograph **or pattern** as a reference or source?”
3. *Felt* should be entered in craft (not textiles).
4. *Mixed Media description*
  - a. Mixed media in 20th-century art revolutionized creative expression by combining diverse materials—such as newspaper, fabric, and found objects—into single, often textured low-relief works.
  - b. The shift to mixed media was a reaction against traditional, singular mediums like oil on canvas.
  - c. Mixed media is more two-dimensional with textured or three-dimensional elements as opposed to relief sculpture or sculpture in the round (viewable from all sides).
  - d. Mixed media may include the textures of the materials in low-relief and often united by paint (though not always).
  - e. Common techniques and materials include:
    - i. Collage: pasting paper, fabric, photographs, or magazine clippings on a substrate.
    - ii. Construction or Assemblage: 3D mixed media that gathers found [objects] and materials into a unified composition.
    - iii. Textured Surfaces: Combining thick paint (impasto) with materials such as sand, textiles, paperboard, or wood for tactile interest. Many art supply manufacturers make pastes and grounds for use in creating textures.