



# MSAACS REGIONAL ELEMENTARY COMPETITION GUIDELINES 2025-2026

Visit our website: [www.msaacs.com](http://www.msaacs.com)  
Email us: [statecomp@mytocs.org](mailto:statecomp@mytocs.org)

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### **Who:**

3rd - 6th grade students

### **Where:**

Garland Christian Academy  
1516 Lavon Dr.  
Garland, TX 75040

### **When:**

April 24, 2026

### **How Much:**

The entry fee for individual events (art, solos, etc.) is \$7 per student, per entry. The entry fee for group events (large vocal ensemble, reader's theater, etc.) is \$14 for duets and \$35 for any group with three or more students. There is a cap of 3 entries per category per school except in academic testing. **Because of scheduling difficulties, please do not enter the same students in Bible Quiz, Bible Memory and Spelling Bee.**

**Registration:** We are excited that registration will all be online again this year.

**Payment:** Check made out to TOCS and

mailed to TOCS 1311 E. Bankhead Dr. Weatherford, TX 76086

### **What to Bring:**

2 copies of the judging sheets for each performance with the pieces (originals required for music) or copies (for speech, etc) included.

***Use only the judging sheets from this manual.***

### **Dress Code for Competition:**

Girls' and ladies' skirts will be to the middle of the knee or longer, and necklines will not be exceedingly low or open in the front or back.

Boys and men will wear neat shirts with a collar, tucked in, and nice slacks. Please no jeans.

### **6th Grade Clarification:**

Since academic testing and creative writing are grade specific, 6th graders can only enter as 6th graders in those categories. Awards for these competitions will be given at the elementary competition on April 24, 2026.

For all other categories, if your school chooses to enter 6th graders in any of the JH competitions offered March 5-6, 2026, then they cannot enter those competitions for the elementary competition.

## IMPORTANT ELEMENTARY DATES

DATES	DESCRIPTION
December 8, 2025	Creative Writing Entries Due
December 15, 2025	Sign up for Bible Quiz
January 5 - 12, 2026	Academic Testing Registration
January 13 - February 10, 2026	Academic Tests Taken
April 3, 2026	Elementary Competition Registration Due
April 24, 2026	Elementary Competition and Awards Ceremony

# REGISTRATION

Registration will be done completely online using Jotform. Links will be sent via email closer to the competitions.

There will be three separate registrations:

Creative Writing - end of October

Academic Testing - January through [testpoint.net](https://testpoint.net)

All other competitions - March or April

## **CREATIVE WRITING**

Creative writing has a separate registration and payment process.

Registration will be done online. Links to the registration forms will be sent out through email.

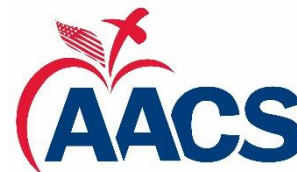
Payment and entries will be made out to TOCS and sent to:  
1311 E. Bankhead Dr., Weatherford, TX 76086

Creative writing rules, topics and judges sheets are included in this manual.

Please read them carefully.

**Registration, payment and entries are due December 8, 2025**

# AACS 43rd Annual AACS Creative Writing Contest 2025–2026 Topics



## Elementary

- Poetry—Write a poem on this topic: This makes me happy.
- Short Story—Write a story that involves something negative or bad that turns out to be positive or good.

## Junior High

- Poetry—Write a poem about a celebration (for example: holiday, birthday, family tradition, winning a sporting event); consider including sights, sounds, taste, smells, and emotions, and/or a specific participant's perspective.
- Short Story—Write a story in which the main character tries something new that is exciting, frightening, or enlightening. What does your character learn or how does he change from his experience?

## Rules

1. Entries shall meet the specific length requirements listed below:

<b>ELEMENTARY LEVEL (GRADES 4–6)</b>	<b>JUNIOR HIGH LEVEL (GRADES 7–8)</b>
Poetry: maximum 200 words	Poetry: maximum 300 words
Short Story: maximum 750 words	Short Story: maximum 1000 words
2. A student may enter only one category—either short story or poetry.
3. **Teachers**
  - a. Our goal with this contest is to award excellence. Writing may begin with free writing. But excellent writing on any level requires writing and re-writing. Use this as a teaching opportunity. Tell your students the topic at least one week in advance. Brainstorm with your class. Follow your curriculum's procedure for pre-writing, writing, peer editing, teacher review, and re-writing.
  - b. Review the judging forms for judging criteria.
  - c. Student entries are not required to be spiritual in nature or application. Content should be wholesome and within the boundaries of appropriate Christian thought and behavior (Phil. 4:8). Vulgarity, sexual innuendoes, crass humor, dark subject matter, distasteful, and biblically objectionable content are not appropriate.
  - d. Absolutely no plagiarism or AI-generated work is acceptable.
  - e. Within the guidelines above in 3.a., the entry must be the student's own work.
4. **Preparing the Entry**
  - a. Typed entries are preferred, but handwritten entries will be accepted. The student should type or write a clean copy to submit for judging. If the hand-written entry has been scanned for digital submission, ensure that the scanned copy is clear enough for judges to read easily.
  - b. **Entries to state and national competition must be free of written comments and corrections.**
  - c. The following information must be listed at the top of the first page of the student's entry: Student's name and grade; school name, city, and state; category entered; title; **word count**; and **statement of originality**. 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. (Type or sign name after statement.) **Failure to include statement of originality will result in disqualification.**
  - d. A "fancy" cover page or title page is not allowed.
  - e. Entries and judging forms must be submitted as digital files. Label files in the following format:
    - i. Entry: ST\_School\_LastName\_FirstInitial\_Category  
Sample: AL\_Calvary\_Smith\_J\_ElemPoetry    Sample: TN\_Grace\_Jones\_D\_JHStory
    - ii. Judging Form: ST\_School\_LastName\_FirstInitial\_Category\_Judge  
Sample: AL\_Calvary\_Smith\_J\_ElemPoetry\_Judge
5. Review the judging forms for judging criteria. The schools should have received copies of each judging form. If not, please contact your state office, or download the digital judging forms from the Competition tab on the AACS website. Before submitting the entry, on the judging form fill in the level, name, school, city, state, grade, **title**, and **number of words**. The student will be penalized if the judging form is incomplete.
6. **Submitting the Entry:** Original student entries and judging forms must be submitted as email attachments to the state association by **December 8, 2025**. (This date may vary by state. Please contact your state office for exact deadline for your state.) Each association will select one winner in each category on each level. These four winners will be emailed to AACS for the national judging; these entries should be received by the National Office by **January 22, 2026**. National winners will be announced in April 2026.

## Awards

AACS provides the awards—medals for state winners and plaques for national winners.

# CREATIVE WRITING—SHORT STORY

(Check Category)

Elementary (4<sup>th</sup>–6<sup>th</sup> grade)

Junior High (7<sup>th</sup>–8<sup>th</sup> grade)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Title (required) \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Words (required) \_\_\_\_\_

FACTORS EVALUATED	POINTS	COMMENTS
<b>Creativity</b>		
1. Appeal: Author demonstrates originality. Story sustains reader interest for its intended audience.		
2. Details: Descriptions contribute to the reader's enjoyment.		
3. Style: Elements enhance the story. May include but not limited to: word choice, figurative language, tone, voice.		
4. Theme/Purpose: Author's message or intent is effectively obtained.		
<b>Content/Development</b> Elements support theme/purpose, contribute to a unified whole, and follow Phil. 4:8 guidelines. May include but not limited to:		
1. Setting/Mood		
2. Characterization and Dialogue (if any)		
3. Plot/Conflict – May include but not limited to: engaging beginning, Introduction of conflict, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution.		
4. Organization		
<b>Writing Mechanics</b>		
1. Meets or exceeds grade level. 2. Errors are minimal and do not confuse the reader.		

**Points**

- 1 = Poor
- 2 = Fair/Average
- 3 = Good/Above Average
- 4 = Excellent
- 5 = Superior

Total (45 possible points) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge's Signature

# CREATIVE WRITING—POETRY

(Check Category)

Elementary (4<sup>th</sup>–6<sup>th</sup> grade)

Junior High (7<sup>th</sup>–8<sup>th</sup> grade)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Title (required) \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Words (required) \_\_\_\_\_

FACTORS EVALUATED	POINTS	COMMENTS
Originality/Content/Communication		
1. Approach to topic is creative/original.		
2. Content is organized intentionally.		
3. Poem captures the reader’s interest.		
4. Theme or main idea is developed, well integrated, and adheres to Phil. 4:8 guidelines.		
5. Poem contains unique details.		
Poetic Devices		
1. Rhyme a. If the poem is in rhyme, the rhyme scheme is correct. b. If there is no rhyme, there are compensating sound devices (alliteration, consonance, onomatopoeia, etc.).		
2. Meter a. Meter is consistent throughout and appropriate. b. If there is no meter, phrasing possesses a rhythmic flow to distinguish it from prose.		
3. Poem is infused with imagery-specific sensory impressions, rather than broad generalities. Word choice is precise and free of cliches.		
4. Literary devices such as metaphor or symbol add depth or layers of meaning to the poem.		
5. Visual appearance: Structure is intentional and meaningfully connected to the content.		
Writing Mechanics		
Writer shows a clear understanding of the rules of capitalization, punctuation, spelling, and grammar/syntax <b>OR</b> consistency and intentionality in breaking the rules.		

## Points

1 = Poor

2 = Fair/Average

3 = Good/Above Average

4 = Excellent

5 = Superior

Total (55 possible points) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge's Signature



## **ACADEMIC TESTING**

### **Registration and Payment:**

Academic Testing has a separate registration and payment process.  
Registration, payment, and testing will be handled online at [testpoint.net](https://testpoint.net)  
Your staff proctors all tests at your school during the testing window.

Information for the registration process will be emailed at a later date.

Registration for Academic Testing will be available January 5 - 12, 2026

Window to take Academic Tests will be January 13 – February 10, 2026

Cost is \$7 per person per test

### **Tests Offered:**

3rd Grade: Math, English, History and Science

4th Grade: Math, English, History and Science

5th Grade: Math, English, History and Science

6th Grade: Math, English, History and Science

Remember 6th graders will take the 6th grade test, even if competing in different competitions at the JH/HS Competition.

## **POETRY**

The poetry competition will be conducted with the following guidelines:

1. Poem recitation must be between 1-5 minutes long.
  2. Poems must be memorized.
  3. Entries are not restricted to sacred themes. However, entries which reflect anti-biblical themes, content and/or word usage may be disqualified.
  4. No props should be used.
  5. Poem must be a published work.
  6. Two copies must be provided for the judges on the day of competition.
  7. Please be sure all speeches have been approved by your school.
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## **INTERPRETIVE SPEECHES**

The interpretive speech competition will be conducted with the following guidelines:

1. Speech recitation must be between 1-5 minutes long.
2. Speech must be memorized.
3. Entries are not restricted to sacred themes. However, entries which reflect anti-biblical themes, content and/or word usage may be disqualified.
4. No props should be used.
5. Speech must be a published work.
6. Two copies must be provided for the judges on the day of competition.
7. Please be sure all speeches have been approved by your school.

\*If there are questions about appropriateness of piece, please contact the regional office at [statecomp@mytocs.org](mailto:statecomp@mytocs.org).

## **GROUP SPEECH CATEGORIES**

### **SMALL GROUP ACTING**

*Time limit: 3 – 7 minutes*

*Number of characters: 2 - 6 individuals*

Small group acting is a stage performance in which two to six individuals each portray one character without the use of script, costumes, staging, lights, sound effects, or make-up. Cutting must be taken from published dramatic literature or from prose that has been scripted for stage. A copy of the script must be provided for the judges.

Characters may speak to silent or off-stage characters. Actors may make use of small hand props and costume accessories (such as an umbrella, shawl, gloves, hat, glasses, etc.). No makeup, lighting, full costumes, or furniture other than a table and chairs may be used.

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### **READERS THEATER**

*Time limit: 3 – 7 minutes*

*Number of characters: 2 - 6 individuals*

Reader's theater is a presentation in which two to six individuals portray characters without the use of script, costumes, staging, lights, sound effects, or make-up. Cutting must be taken from published dramatic literature or from prose that has been scripted for stage. A copy of the script must be provided for the judges.

Characters are not to interact with each other, but rather should be focused on the audience. Characters may make use of small hand props and costume accessories (such as an umbrella, shawl, gloves, hat, glasses, etc.). No makeup, lighting, full costumes, or furniture other than a table and chairs may be used.

## **BIBLE MEMORY**

Bible memory will be conducted in the traditional spelling bee fashion. The King James Version will be the only authorized translation used. The 2025-2026 Bible memory competition will cover the information found from points I - III on the "God's Promises" outline provided in this handbook. A student will be permitted one error before elimination. Upon commission of his second error, the student will be eliminated. Questions may be repeated, but each student will be given a question different from that given the preceding student. The student will not begin speaking until the Master's questioning is completed. Forty-five seconds will be allowed to complete recitation. If needed due to time, the competition will go to a written format.

On the elementary level, the Master will use the following style of question:

Master refers to the application of verse and gives the reference. The student will then quote the verse.

Because of scheduling difficulties please do not enter the same students in Bible Memory, Bible Quiz or Spelling Bee.

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## **BIBLE QUIZ**

Book of the Bible: Romans 5-9 and James

Possible Quote Verses are included in this manual

Number of students on a team: 5 with 1 alternate/substitute

Bible quiz will roughly follow the nationals handbook with adjustments made for the elementary level. If your school is interested in Bible Quiz or has additional questions regarding Bible Quiz, please email [statecomp@mytocs.org](mailto:statecomp@mytocs.org).

There will be a pre-sign up for Bible Quiz so that we can be prepared.  
Quizzing will start at 8:00 am on April 24th.

Because of scheduling difficulties please do not enter the same students in Bible Memory, Bible Quiz or Spelling Bee.

## BIBLE SWORD DRILL

This is a Bible-based competition where students race to find specific verses in the Bible as quickly and accurately as possible without the aid of tabs or any other place marking items. Depending on the number of students that sign up, there may be run-off rounds and then a final round on the day of competition.

The Drill will be run following the given procedures:

- **Starting Position**

- Students stand straight with closed Bibles held at arm's length, spine down, in one hand.
- The other hand is by their side—no fingers inside the Bible.

- **Command Sequence**

- The caller says clearly: **"Swords up!"** - All Bibles should be raised, spines down
- Then the caller will say: **"Attention!"**
- Then the caller will give the reference twice
- The caller will then say: **"Charge!"**
- Once the word charge is said, students can begin looking for the verse. Once a student has found the verse and put their finger on the verse the student will step forward

## 2025–2026: God’s Promises

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- I. God has expressed His promises in clear, simple language.
  - A. God’s promises are recorded in the Scriptures (Romans 1:2).  
(Which he had promised afore by his prophets in the holy scriptures,)
  - B. God’s promises are backed by His faithfulness (Deuteronomy 7:9).  
Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;
  - C. God has confirmed His faithfulness by an oath (Hebrews 6:17–18).  
Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed it by an oath: That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:
  - D. God’s promises are to motivate His children to duty and holiness (2 Corinthians 6:17–18; 7:1).  
Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.  
Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.
  - E. Although not all promises are made to the Christian, all are for our edification (Romans 15:4).  
For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.
  - F. God’s promises have been confirmed and fulfilled in Christ (2 Corinthians 1:19–20).  
For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by us, even by me and Silvanus and Timotheus, was not yea and nay, but in him was yea. For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.
  - G. Man does not know God’s timetable for the fulfillment of His promises (2 Peter 3:9).  
The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.
  - H. God’s promises are obtained or possessed through faith (Romans 4:16; Hebrews 6:12).  
Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all,  
That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.
- II. Scripture describes God’s promises in several terms.
  - A. God’s promise is called good (1 Kings 8:56).  
Blessed be the LORD, that hath given rest unto his people Israel, according to all that he promised: there hath not failed one word of all his good promise, which he promised by the hand of Moses his servant.
  - B. God’s promise is called holy (Psalm 105:42).  
For he remembered his holy promise, and Abraham his servant.
  - C. God’s promises are called great and precious (2 Peter 1:4).  
Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

## National Competition Manual – Appendix: Bible Memory

- III. God has given promises concerning the physical welfare of His children.
- A. God has promised longer life for obedience to Him (Proverbs 3:1–2).  
My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee.
  - B. God has promised longer life for honoring parents (Ephesians 6:2–3).  
Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.
  - C. God has promised peace and comfort in fear (John 14:27; Philippians 4:7).  
Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.  
And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.
  - D. God has promised help in illness (Psalm 41:3).  
The LORD will strengthen him upon the bed of languishing: thou wilt make all his bed in his sickness.
  - E. God has promised the rest of sweet sleep (Proverbs 3:24).  
When thou liest down, thou shalt not be afraid: yea, thou shalt lie down, and thy sleep shall be sweet.
  - F. God has promised both afflictions and delivery in those afflictions (1 Thessalonians 3:3; Psalm 50:15).  
That no man should be moved by these afflictions: for yourselves know that we are appointed thereunto.  
And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me.
  - G. God has promised to dry our tears (Revelation 7:17).  
For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.
  - H. God has promised renewal of strength (Isaiah 40:31).  
But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.
  - I. God has promised that nothing shall happen by chance (Proverbs 16:33).  
The lot is cast into the lap; but the whole disposing thereof is of the LORD.
  - J. God has promised children as His heritage (Psalm 127:3).  
Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.
  - K. God has promised a blessed home life (Proverbs 3:33).  
The curse of the LORD is in the house of the wicked: but he blesseth the habitation of the just.
  - L. God has promised preservation of orphans and widows (Jeremiah 49:11).  
Leave thy fatherless children, I will preserve them alive; and let thy widows trust in me.
  - M. God has promised blessings upon the children of godly parents (Psalm 112:1–2; Proverbs 20:7).  
Praise ye the LORD. Blessed is the man that feareth the LORD, that delighteth greatly in his commandments. His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed. The just man walketh in his integrity: his children are blessed after him.
  - N. God has promised our basic needs of food, drink, and clothing (Matthew 6:31–32).  
Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

## National Competition Manual – Appendix: Bible Memory

- O. God has promised to meet our every need (Philippians 4:19; Matthew 6:33).  
But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.  
But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

**Elementary Bible Memory is only from points I - III**



## **Sections**

### **Elementary**

Romans 5-9 and James

### **Junior High/High School**

Romans and James

## **Possible Quote Verses**

### **Romans Chapter 1**

**16** For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

**17** For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

**18** For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

**20** For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

**21** Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

### **Romans Chapter 2**

**1** Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things.

**11** For there is no respect of persons with God.

**12** For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law: and as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law;

**28** For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh:

**29** But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.

### **Romans Chapter 3**

**10** As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:

**11** There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.

**12** They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

**20** Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

**23** For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

**24** Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

### **Romans Chapter 4**

**3** For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

**4** Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt.

**5** But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

**24** But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead;

**25** Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.

### **Romans Chapter 5**

**2** By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

**6** For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

**7** For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die.**8** But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

**19** For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

## **Romans Chapter 6**

**6** Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.

**11** Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**13** Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.

**16** Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

**23** For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **Romans Chapter 7**

**13** Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good; that sin by the commandment might become exceeding sinful.

**18** For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.

**19** For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.

**24** O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

**25** I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

## **Romans Chapter 8**

**1** There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

**6** For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

**7** Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

**15** For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

**22** For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.

**38** For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,

**39** Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

### **Romans Chapter 9**

**3** For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh:

**20** Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus?

**21** Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour?

**30** What shall we say then? That the Gentiles, which followed not after righteousness, have attained to righteousness, even the righteousness which is of faith.

**33** As it is written, Behold, I lay in Sion a stumblingstone and rock of offence: and whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

### **Romans Chapter 10**

**4** For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.

**9** That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

**10** For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

**13** For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

**17** So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

### **Romans Chapter 11**

**20** Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear:

**21** For if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee.

**33** O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!

**36** For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen.

### **Romans Chapter 12**

**1** I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

**2** And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

**3** For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

**20** Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.

**21** Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

### **Romans Chapter 13**

**1** Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

**2** Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation.

**3** For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same:

**8** Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.

**12** The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.

### **Romans Chapter 14**

**14** But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.

**7** For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself.

**8** For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.

**11** For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God.

**20** For meat destroy not the work of God. All things indeed are pure; but it is evil for that man who eateth with offence.

### **Romans Chapter 15**

**4** For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.

**13** Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

**20** Yea, so have I strived to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build upon another man's foundation:

**21** But as it is written, To whom he was not spoken of, they shall see: and they that have not heard shall understand.

### **Romans Chapter 16**

**17** Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.

**18** For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.

**25** Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began,

**26** But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith:

**27** To God only wise, be glory through Jesus Christ for ever. Amen.

## **James Chapter 1**

**2** My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;

**3** Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

**4** But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

**8** A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

**13** Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:

**22** But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

**26** If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridled not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain.

## **James Chapter 2**

**1** My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons.

**10** For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.

**18** Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.

**26** For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

## **James Chapter 3**

**2** For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body.

**6** And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.

**10** Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be.

**13** Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom.

#### **James Chapter 4**

**1** From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members?

**3** Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.

**7** Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

**8** Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

**14** Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

**17** Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

#### **James Chapter 5**

**8** Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

**11** Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.

**16** Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

**20** Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.



## SPELLING BEE

Spelling will be conducted in the traditional spelling bee fashion according to the rules listed below. Words will randomly be chosen from the lists provided in this handbook beginning with the 2025-2026 Elementary Spelling List. Once the 2025-2026 Elementary Spelling List has been exhausted, the words from the Contest A List will be used. If both provided lists are exhausted, additional words will be randomly chosen from the AACS Contest B, Champion A, or Champion B lists found on the AACS website. Because the words are coming from lists, definitions, parts of speech, and uses in a sentence will not be provided.

1. The Spelling Master will say the word. The student may request a word be re-pronounced.
2. The student should proceed in a say, spell, say manner.
3. Having begun to spell a word, a student may stop and begin again one time; however, they cannot change what they have already spelled.
4. 30 seconds will be given to complete the word. Timing begins when the student says the word.
5. When a word is misspelled, the spelling master will give the correct spelling. A new word will be given to the next speller.
6. Rounds will continue in this format until only 2 spellers remain.
7. When only 2 students remain, procedures change. When one student misspells a word, the other will be given the opportunity to spell it and must spell that word and an additional word correctly in order to win the round. In the event that both spellers misspell the same word the spelling master will give the correct spelling and provide a new word for the student who first misspelled.

### Special situations:

1. If all spellers misspell their words within a round, then the round starts over with all spellers.
2. If only one speller spells their word correctly within a round, then that speller has to spell the last mistaken word correctly and spell a new word correctly to win that round.
3. If within a round, too many spellers are eliminated to determine 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places then winners of the round (if any) will advance to earn a place and remaining spellers from the round will return to compete for next spots. For example, within round 5, all spellers are eliminated except one, so following all previous rules, that speller has earned 1st place. All the other spellers from round 5 return to begin a new round to compete for 2nd and 3rd place. Another example is if within a round all spellers are eliminated except for two spellers, then those two will compete for 1st and 2nd place using two speller rules while the students which were eliminated from the round wait for an additional round to compete for 3rd place.
4. Spellers do not need to leave after misspelling a word until an entire round is finished in case another round is needed.
5. If all 5 provided lists are exhausted, random words will be taken from the dictionary and students may ask for definitions and parts of speech for unfamiliar words.

Because of scheduling difficulties, please do not enter the same student in Bible Memory, Bible Quiz or Spelling Bee.

Elementary spelling bees are governed by the various AACs state affiliates. Check with your state office for elementary competition rules. In an effort to assist states, AACs has provided this study list. Students should study the words on the study list. They should be familiar with words used in their history, science, and spelling textbooks. Words used in the competition have been selected from the study list, from student textbooks, and from the dictionary.

irrevocable	evacuee	entangle	impetuous	postmortem
noticeable	guarantee	embarrass	omnivorous	benevolent
astronaut	conceit	buoyancy	retrospective	credentials
conifer	monogram	durable	tarragon	macramé
affluent	Mediterranean	repossess	albatross	bureaucracy
circulation	circumvent	absolve	croquette	egalitarian
extraneous	revoked	infantile	flamboyant	macadamia
physicist	contradictory	hypochondriac	leukemia	missionary
asterisk	whispered	diaphragm	Samaritan	vulcanize
renovate	predatory	hydrophobia	wanderlust	eiderdown
proficiency	circumnavigate	salvage	glasnost	Bolshevik
evacuate	extinguish	peerless	babushka	Cossack
endow	prejudice	habitually	lieutenant	beleaguer
biennial	allegiance	bisect	fathom	farthing
autonomous	incinerate	imminent	goatee	roughhewn
edict	subpoena	diagnose	yieldable	persimmon
changeable	disappear	accommodate	teriyaki	tsunami
seismograph	neutrality	absurdity	sayonara	homogeneous
monotony	triceps	binoculars	melancholy	protagonist
maneuver	fluctuate	bountiful	philanthropy	ergonomic
mediocre	befuddled	analogy	androcentric	monotonous
metropolis	abscond	aptitude	crescendo	harpsichord
sensory	nonchalant	acrobatic	maestro	contrapuntal
intervene	revenue	hypodermic	chimichanga	quesadilla
temperament	systematize	antediluvian	ophthalmology	vigilante
tragedy	valuable	ridiculous	repetition	empanada
antebellum	surveyor	demagnetize	neutralize	dyslexia
eulogy	antibodies	uncanny	counterfeiter	intermittent
theocracy	obsession	cannery	strengthen	atheist
epidermis	episode	victorious	perilous	haughty
procrastinate	business	tourist	amusement	circular
telescopic	shrubbery	mischievous	marvelous	circular
posthumous	egotism	criticism	heroism	Communism
infuriate	medicinal	cataract	national	incorporate
assistant	postgraduate	reign	aisle	information
Lucifer	monopoly	digestible	capable	portable
photography	severity	disturbance	acceptance	depreciate
congratulate	reassure	grateful	ingrate	rebuild

**Elementary****Spelling Bee Study List - D****2025–2026**

excellence	cosmopolitan	emergency	interrupt	metallic
avert	vertebra	excessive	reverse	flavorless
alien	survivor	surrender	fertilize	consistent
archaeology	tambourine	thermonuclear	periphery	hydraulic
chauffeur	antemeridian	grammar	synagogue	epitome
belligerent	algorithm	feldsher	protégé	rendezvous
bromeliad	pasteurize	perestroika	hollandaise	shrieval
karaoke	hippopotamus	euphemism	archipelago	maraschino

## AACS Spelling Study List

### Contest A

lilac	boutique	nachtmusik	mathematics	contrapuntal
macrame	liverwurst	cachet	autopsy	monotonous
alcove	conscientious	sincerely	echt	already
orange	bandit	eulogy	spitz	cadenza
albatross	escargot	eureka	visible	automaton
azure	hygiene	symbiosis	pacifism	misspell
Islamic	aristocracy	roughhewn	exceed	quiche
borax	secretary	pastime	homonym	orchard
average	gorgeous	yieldable	Parmesan	stethoscope
alfalfa	virtuosa	sitzmark	concede	regatta
algebra	scenario	patriarch	suave	womanly
nabob	xylophone	cosmetic	balcony	ambulance
apricot	does	schedule	contraband	boudoir
henna	kuchen	inselberg	homburg	college
zero	debt	linseed	mattock	learned
alcohol	schloss	farthing	salami	athlete
admiral	whirlpool	vibrato	fiery	league
saffron	graffiti	mascot	protocol	semolina
hazard	misanthropy	again	piccolo	neologism
artichoke	malaria	clementine	gospel	Wagnerian
tarragon	tutu	Olympian	macaroni	souvenir
impasse	villain	apathy	langlauf	embarrass
mosque	balloon	pinafore	hydrology	periphery
yield	prairie	foyer	ravioli	verboten
crimson	epiphany	barrage	piazza	believable
hue	nether	gondola	aria	folksiness
mummy	egalitarian	cauliflower	its	angst
talc	trauma	amnesia	stucco	forlorn
endocentric	orthodox	finale	manhandle	kitsch
zenith	business	waltz	collage	Backstein
imam	spinet	chagrin	protein	dearth
guitar	wanderlust	feldspar	laboratory	strudel
elixir	sonata	vendetta	diatribe	lithe
khan	occurrence	polymer	cavalry	bureaucracy
tariff	hustings	didactic	bower	megalopolis
arsenal	phenomenon	endemic	einkorn	herpetology
carmine	keen	morgue	recommend	cobalt
mohair	workmanship	gestalt	kipper	portfolio
apostrophe	allegro	denture	synergy	deluxe
adobe	satellite	alderman	fatigue	character
sultan	behoove	prattle	hundredth	spritz
mahal	hyphen	notochord	swinger	different
ghoul	baton	lethargy	adamant	antipasto

## AACS Spelling Study List

### Contest A

giraffe	anvil	regime	dressage	definite
magazine	macron	nightingale	dogged	windily
massage	errand	lederhosen	inferno	altruism
sequin	provolone	possess	thesaurus	pragmatic
lemon	earthenware	probably	mystique	denim
mattress	answer	truly	foreign	stollen
tuna	semantics	croquette	finesse	palmetto
sugar	timely	address	fickle	eponym
taj	belay	panic	falsetto	rouge
monsoon	Meistersinger	gristle	eclectic	sauerbraten
gazelle	parallel	panzer	laugh	cousin
safari	strategy	rucksack	physique	pyre
cotton	aspen	watery	agreeable	appearance
alchemy	trouble	bookkeeping	illuminati	democracy
furlong	umlaut	ergonomic	ephemeral	analysis
graupe	mirage	ballerina	spareribs	chronic
said	manicure	fennel	across	minute
polygon	Wednesday	concerto	beige	vogue
cynical	creepy	matinee	cantata	matriarch
knowledge	hurdle	allot	streusel	geode
androcentric	nostril	garage	tachometer	threshold
topical	peloton	noticeable	calypso	acronym
nosiest	hedonism	blithe	incognito	spaghetti
quiver	layette	periscope	cryptic	privilege
melancholy	hinterland	diagnosis	synopsis	autobahn
knavery	agnostic	amenable	diorama	spherical
bureau	quell	topography	broadleaf	asterisk
schнауzer	ditto	etymology	mootable	vorlage
antibiotic	enthusiasm	earwig	eiderdown	isobar
geothermal	pentathlon	dross	croquet	pesto
independence	Spartan	expertise	realschule	rotunda
poltergeist	knapsack	diplomat	parapet	dachshund
fife	academy	odyssey	motif	grammar
vacuum	tritium	bambino	extravaganza	syntax
paddock	parfait	acme	bravura	bratwurst
philanthropy	tragic	palette	asthmogenic	reckless
dyslexia	pumpernickel	synchronous	February	synonym
dealership	idiom	confetti	wanton	mongrel
protagonist	cameo	sarcasm	icicle	nemesis
thermal	hamster	allegory	weird	hierarchy
myriad	eligible	barrow	fiasco	glitz
sure	maestro	interesting	forty	virtuoso
separate	familiar	cosmos	mascara	libretto

## AACS Spelling Study List

### Contest A

bagel	barley	newfangled	rhinoceros	receipt
nougat	mermaid	flamboyant	commitment	abide
oratorio	chronology	angelic	menu	usually
fuselage	android	hydraulic	irony	slaughter
dogma	vegetable	Bildungsroman	hassock	nosh
kith	rehearse	gestapo	apparent	geranium
sallow	entourage	exhilarate	hawthorn	goatee
paradox	geoponics	harpsichord	kohlrabi	scampi
sortie	pitchblende	staccato	amphibious	biblical
nestle	often	noodle	ready	biopsy
homogeneous	loam	maintenance	demotic	half
behest	ballot	hearth	stringy	pistachio
whose	pretzel	tithe	coloratura	plateau
influenza	crochet	galleria	cringle	elite
gnat	linden	fiend	hypothesis	metaphor
cleanser	worrisome	sheriff	maladroit	credenza
apostrophe	fathom	bevel	seltzer	daily
bequeath	musicale	grotto	leotard	haversack
dynamic	harmonica	succeed	fresco	dreary
stoic	dairy	rhetoric	belladonna	

\*see Nationals spelling rule 1.e. regarding capitalization

# ART

Art Categories:

**Monochromatic Drawing**

**Polychromatic Drawing**

**Sculpture**

**Painting**

**Crafts**

General Rules:

1. Entries are not limited to religious themes, but must be appropriate
2. All work must be done by the student but advice may be given by an advisor
3. Students may not enter a piece from a previous year's competition.
4. There can be no copying or tracing
5. All drawing entries need to be framed by a matte – no frames
6. Each participant needs to fill out an artist idea statement for each entry. This statement is included in this manual.

**Monochromatic Drawing** - done with ink or pencil or in any one hue of the chosen color

**Polychromatic Drawing** – done with more than one color

**Sculpture** - entries made carving, modeling or shaping to produce a three-dimensional piece that can be displayed (wood, plaster, clay, wire, etc.)

**Painting** – done with paint on appropriate art paper or canvas

**Crafts**

**\*\*Includes two-dimensional or three-dimensional artwork that combines two or more mediums including the use of paint, ink, pencil, chalk, oil paints, tempera paints, sand, collage, and printmaking. Can include jewelry making and mosaics.**

**\*\*A collage must be made of two-dimensional materials that were created by the student. 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.**

**\*\*No kits or commercially produced parts are acceptable, such as plastic leaves and any other prefabricated media; all parts are to be handmade, painted, inked, etc.**

# Elementary Artist's Idea Statement

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Category \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

All mediums used:

---

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What were the steps in making your project?

---

---

Did you have any help in making your project?

---

---

What inspired you to do this piece?

---

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Originality Statement: This art piece is completely my own work.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_



## MUSIC

### Music categories:

Vocal Solo	Woodwind Solo
Vocal Ensemble (2 - 8 people)	Guitar Solo
Choir (9 or more people)	Brass Solo
Piano Solo	String Solo
Instrumental Ensemble (2 - 8 people)	

### General Rules:

1. Only live piano accompaniment may be used
2. All vocal selections must be memorized. Instrumental selections do not have to be memorized. Competitors are not permitted to use page-turners. Instrumentalists may tune their instruments with the piano before performing. No electronically amplified instruments will be permitted.
3. Contestants must furnish one original (with the measures numbered) of the musical selection performed for a judge's copy. The judges will return the original to the music coach.
4. Music selections should be sacred, classical, or from basic piano, vocal, or other method books. Rock, jazz, pop, or similar music is prohibited. Students may be disqualified if selection is deemed inappropriate\* by the competition director.
5. Guitar performances should be played with an acoustic guitar in a classical style.
6. A suggested music list is available at [msaacs.com](http://msaacs.com)

\*If there are questions about appropriateness of a piece, please contact the regional office at [statecomp@mytocs.org](mailto:statecomp@mytocs.org).

# Elementary Judge's Sheets

**MUSIC**  
**Vocal Solo**

**MSAACS**  
**ELEMENTARY**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Composition \_\_\_\_\_ Composer \_\_\_\_\_

FACTORS EVALUATED	COMMENTS	POINTS 8-20
<b>Presentation</b> 1. Poise 2. Communication 3. Facial Expression 4. Posture 5. Memorization		
<b>Technique</b> 1. Breath 2. Diction 3. Tone 4. Vitality		
<b>Musicianship</b> 1. Phrasing 2. Contrast Mood 3. Contrast Dynamics		
<b>Accuracy</b> 1. Text 2. Rhythm 3. Pitch 4. Style (if period piece)		
<b>Selection</b> 1. Words/music complementary 2. Difficulty 3. Appropriate for the voice 4. Appropriate for the occasion		

**Point Scale**

9–10.....Excellent, Superior  
 7–8.....Good, Above Average  
 5–6.....Fair, Average  
 4.....Poor

Total (100 possible points) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Judge's Signature

# MSAACS ELEMENTARY

## MUSIC (Check Category)

☐ **Woodwind Solo**
☐ **Brass Solo**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Composition \_\_\_\_\_ Composer \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_ {Judges – Circle time if outside limits for category}

FACTORS EVALUATED	COMMENTS	POINTS (4–10)
Tone quality Tone control		
Intonation Vibrato		
Attacks and Releases Slurring		
Note Accuracy Rhythmic Accuracy		
Tempo Phrasing		
Dynamics Fluency		
Musicianship: Correctness		
Musicianship: Artistry Mood/Emotion		
<b>Selection</b> 1. Appropriateness 2. Difficulty		
<b>Presentation</b> 1. Appearance 2. Poise 3. Stage Presence		

### Point Scale

9–10.....Excellent, Superior  
7–8.....Good, Above Average  
5–6.....Fair, Average  
4.....Poor

Total (100 possible points) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge's Signature

**MUSIC**  
**String Solo**

**MSAACS**  
**ELEMENTARY**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Composition \_\_\_\_\_ Composer \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_ {Judges – Circle time if outside limits for category}

FACTORS EVALUATED	COMMENTS	POINTS (4–10)
<b>Intonation</b>		
<b>Tone</b> 1. Vibrato 2. Quality		
Notes Accuracy		
Rhythm Accuracy		
Technique: 1. Bowing 2. Left Hand		
Posture Articulation		
Tempo		
Phrasing Dynamics		
<b>Selection</b> 1. Appropriateness 2. Difficulty		
<b>Presentation</b> 1. Appearance 2. Poise 3. Stage Presence		

**Point Scale**

9–10.....Excellent, Superior  
7–8.....Good, Above Average  
5–6.....Fair, Average  
4.....Poor

Total (100 possible points) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge's Signature

**MUSIC**  
**Piano Solo**

**MSAACS**  
**ELEMENTARY**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Composition \_\_\_\_\_ Composer \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_ {Judges – Circle time if outside limits for category} ☐ Classical ☐ Sacred (Check One)

FACTORS EVALUATED	COMMENTS	POINTS (6–20)
<b>Performance</b> 1. Musical Effect 2. Poise 3. Difficulty and/or Choice of Selection 4. Memorization		
<b>Interpretation</b> 1. Dynamics 2. Phrasing 3. Styling/Mood 4. Balance/Voicing		
<b>Musicianship</b> 1. Feeling for Meter 2. Steadiness 3. Tempo 4. Expression/Feeling 5. Range of Dynamics		
<b>Accuracy</b> 1. Note Accuracy 2. Rhythmic Accuracy 3. Continuity 4. Fluency 5. Dynamics/Tempo Indications		
<b>Technique</b> 1. Coordination 2. Fingering 3. Tone Quality 4. Facility 5. Appropriate Touch/Pedaling		

**Point Scale**

17–20.....Excellent, Superior  
 13–16.....Good, Above Average  
 9–12.....Fair, Average  
 6–8.....Poor

Total (100 possible points) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Judge's Signature

**MUSIC**  
**Guitar Solo**

**MSAACS**  
**ELEMENTARY**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Composition \_\_\_\_\_ Composer \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_ {Judges – Circle time if outside limits for category} ☐ Classical ☐ Sacred (Check One)

FACTORS EVALUATED	COMMENTS	POINTS (6–20)
<b>Performance</b> 1. Musical Effect 2. Poise 3. Difficulty and/or Choice of Selection 4. Memorization		
<b>Interpretation</b> 1. Dynamics 2. Phrasing 3. Styling/Mood 4. Balance/Voicing		
<b>Musicianship</b> 1. Feeling for Meter 2. Steadiness 3. Tempo 4. Expression/Feeling 5. Range of Dynamics		
<b>Accuracy</b> 1. Note Accuracy 2. Rhythmic Accuracy 3. Continuity 4. Fluency 5. Dynamics/Tempo Indications		
<b>Technique</b> 1. Coordination 2. Fingering 3. Tone Quality 4. Facility 5. Appropriate Touch/Pedaling		

**Point Scale**

17–20.....Excellent, Superior  
 13–16.....Good, Above Average  
 9–12.....Fair, Average  
 6–8.....Poor

Total (100 possible points) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Judge's Signature

**MUSIC**  
**Vocal Ensemble**

**MSAACS**  
**ELEMENTARY**

School \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Director (Large Ensemble Only) \_\_\_\_\_

Composition \_\_\_\_\_ Composer \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_ {Judges – Circle time if outside limits for category}

FACTORS EVALUATED	COMMENTS	POINTS (4–10)
<b>Tone and Intonation</b>		
<b>Technique</b> 1. Blend 2. Balance 3. Ensemble		
<b>Rhythm</b>		
<b>Diction</b>		
<b>Interpretation</b> 1. Performance 2. Styling		
Part Accuracy		
1. Tempo 2. Phrasing 3. Dynamics		
<b>Overall</b>		
<b>Stage Presence</b>		
<b>Selection</b> 1. Difficulty 2. Appropriateness		

**Point Scale**

9–10.....Excellent, Superior  
 7–8.....Good, Above Average  
 5–6.....Fair, Average  
 4.....Poor

Total (100 possible points) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Judge's Signature



# MSAACS ELEMENTARY

## MUSIC Choir

School \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Composition \_\_\_\_\_ Composer \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_ {Judges – Circle time if outside limits for category} Director \_\_\_\_\_

FACTORS EVALUATED	COMMENTS	POINTS 4 - 10
<b>Tone and Intonation</b>		
<b>Technique</b> 1. Blend 2. Balance 3. Ensemble		
<b>Rhythm</b>		
<b>Diction</b>		
1. Tempo 2. Phrasing 3. Dynamics		
<b>Interpretation</b> 1. Performance 2. Styling		
<b>Part Accuracy</b>		
<b>Stage Presence</b>		
<b>Overall</b>		
<b>Selection</b> 1. Difficulty 2. Appropriateness		

### Point Scale

9–10.....Excellent, Superior  
7–8.....Good, Above Average  
5–6.....Fair, Average  
4.....Poor

Total (100 possible points) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge's Signature

**MUSIC**  
**Instrumental Ensemble**

**MSAACS**  
**ELEMENTARY**

School \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Director (Large Ensemble Only) \_\_\_\_\_

Composition \_\_\_\_\_ Composer \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_ {Judges – Circle time if outside limits for category} Instruments \_\_\_\_\_

FACTORS EVALUATED	COMMENTS	POINTS (4–10)
<b>Tone</b> 1. Quality 2. Control 3. Registration 4. Intonation		
1. Attacks and releases 2. Note accuracy		
1. Rhythmic Accuracy 2. Slurring		
1. Tempo 2. Phrasing 3. Dynamics		
1. Fluency 2. Style		
<b>Ensemble</b> 1. Blend 2. Balance 3. Togetherness		
<b>Musicianship</b> 1. Correctness 2. Mood and Emotion 3. Artistry		
1. Appropriateness 2. Difficulty		
<b>Overall</b>		
<b>Presentation</b> 1. Appearance 2. Poise 3. Stage Presence		

**Point Scale**

9–10.....Excellent, Superior  
 7–8.....Good, Above Average  
 5–6.....Fair, Average  
 4.....Poor

Total (100 possible points) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Judge's Signature

# MSAACS ELEMENTARY

## SPEECH (Check Category)

☐

Poetry

☐

Interpretive

Name \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_ {Judges – Circle time if outside limits for category} Title \_\_\_\_\_

FACTORS EVALUATED	COMMENTS	POINTS (4–10)
<b>Memorization</b> 1. Knowledge of Material 2. Hesitation or Confusion 3. Necessity for Prompting		
<b>Selection</b> 1. Tasteful 2. Proper Identification of Author 3. Meets Category Requirements 4. Literary Value		
<b>Diction</b> 1. Fluency/Articulation 2. Pronunciation 3. Enunciation		
<b>Vocal</b> 1. Voice Projection 2. General Pitch Level 3. Quality of Voice		
<b>Communication</b> 1. Mental Rapport with Audience 2. Eye Contact 3. Ability to Hold Attention		
<b>Use of Body</b> 1. Posture 2. Bodily Movement 3. Gestures		
<b>Prescence</b> 1. Facial Expressions 2. Stage Presence 3. Distracting Mannerisms		
<b>Interpretation</b> 1. Style 2. Comprehension and Proper Emphasis 3. Creation of Mood		
<b>Expression</b> 1. Phrasing 2. Contrast 3. Expression 4. Spiritual or Emotional Effect		
<b>Overall Effectiveness</b> 1. Proficiency of Delivery 2. Personal Appearance 3. Poise 4. Organization of Thought		

### Point Scale

9–10.....Excellent, Superior  
 7–8.....Good, Above Average  
 5–6.....Fair, Average  
 4.....Poor

Total (100 possible points) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Judge's Signature

**SPEECH**  
**Small Group Acting**

**MSAACS**  
**ELEMENTARY**

School \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_ {Judges – Circle time if outside limits for category} Title \_\_\_\_\_

FACTORS EVALUATED	COMMENTS	POINTS (4–10)
<b>Interpretation</b> 1. Grasp of the Line Meaning 2. Comprehension		
<b>Characterization</b> 1. Action–Reaction 2. Interplay 3. Believability		
<b>Poise</b> Bodily Control Action		
<b>Blocking</b> 1. Motivated, Balanced Movement 2. Energy		
<b>Diction</b> Clarity		
<b>Timing</b> Tempo/Build to Climax		
<b>Overall Dramatic Effect</b> 1. Control 2. Precision 3. Creativity		
<b>Memorization</b>		
<b>Selection</b> 1. Literary Value 2. Tasteful 3. Appropriate 4. Judicious Editing 5. Difficulty		
<b>Piece and performance adhere to rules as stated in manual</b> (specifically one character per person limit with narration)		

**Point Scale**

9–10.....Excellent, Superior  
7–8.....Good, Above Average  
5–6.....Fair, Average  
4.....Poor

Total (100 possible points) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge's Signature

**SPEECH**  
**Readers Theatre**

**MSAACS**  
**ELEMENTARY**

School \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_ {Judges – Circle time if outside limits for category} Title \_\_\_\_\_

FACTORS EVALUATED	COMMENTS	POINTS (4–10)
<b>Staging</b> 1. Interesting Composition 2. Composition Clarifies the Literature		
<b>Movement</b> 1. Posture 2. Purpose 3. Gestures		
<b>Presence</b> 1. Facial Expressions 2. Stage Presence 3. Distracting Mannerisms		
<b>Originality of Arrangement</b> 1. Creative Visualization of Setting using allowed objects and actors 2. Effective use of group speaking and group movement (if utilized)		
<b>Characterization</b> 1. Voices 2. Movement 3. Facial Expression 4. Intensity		
<b>Quality of Selection</b> 1. Literary Value 2. Tasteful 3. Appropriate for the Occasion 4. Judicious Editing 5. Difficulty		
<b>Performance</b> 1. Diction 2. Eye Contact 3. Distracting Elements 4. Word Color 5. Attacks and Releases		
<b>Memorization</b> 1. Recall 2. Hesitation or Confusion 3. Need for Prompting		
<b>Overall Effectiveness</b> 1. Delivery 2. Poise 3. Organization of Thought 4. Group Appearance		
<b>Piece and performance adhere to rules            as stated in manual.</b>		

**Point Scale**

9–10.....Excellent, Superior  
 7–8.....Good, Above Average  
 5–6.....Fair, Average  
 4.....Poor

Total (100 possible points) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Judge's Signature

# MSAACS ELEMENTARY

## ART (Check Category)

- ☐ Monochromatic Drawing  
☐ Polychromatic Drawing  
☐ Sculpture

- Painting ☐  
 Crafts ☐

Name \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Medium \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

FACTORS EVALUATED	COMMENTS	POINTS (6–20)
<b>Technique</b> 1. Is the medium used appropriate? 2. Is skillfulness displayed? 3. Is there consistency?		
<b>Originality</b> 1. Does this work possess creativity? 2. Does this work possess individuality? 3. Does this work show imagination?		
<b>Composition</b> 1. Is there harmony of composition? 2. Is there visual balance? 3. Is there form and color coordination?		
<b>Communication</b> 1. Does this work portray or convey a message? 2. Does it repeatedly stimulate or satisfy?		
<b>Overall</b> Does it display knowledge and experience?		

### Point Scale

17–20.....Excellent, Superior  
 13–16.....Good, Above Average  
 9–12.....Fair, Average  
 6–8.....Poor

Total (100 possible points) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Judge's Signature