



TALENT RULES AND CRITERIA 2010

Purpose:

1. To encourage youth to share their talent or abilities for ministry through Christ.
2. To provide an opportunity for youth to expand their talents and interests.

Requirements for Participation:

1. All participants must be attending a local Church of the Nazarene of their district and must be attending church faithfully for 30 days prior to BLAST.
2. All events are open to grades 7-12.
3. Students may participate in 3 events. Students must make judges aware of conflicts in scheduling prior to the arranged performance time to make allowances for out of order performances. (Please refrain from doing this as much as possible, the schedule is very tight.)

Talent Categories and Judging Criteria:

1. Vocal Solo (male or female)

- a. 5 minute maximum
- b. One original copy of music must be provided at the time of competition with measures numbered.
- c. No participant will be allowed to perform without an original copy of music to be presented to judges.
- d. The music must be memorized and should not be antagonistic toward the Christian faith.
- e. No original compositions will be accepted in this category.
- f. Participants may be assisted by live accompaniment, no accompaniment, or prerecorded accompaniment.
- g. Judging criteria include: Vocal Quality, Vocal Technique, Musicianship, and Expression.

2. Instrumental Solo (any musical instrument)

- a. 5 minute maximum
- b. One original copy of music must be provided at the time of the competition with measures numbered.
- c. No participant will be allowed to perform without an original copy of music to be presented to judges.
- d. The music must be memorized and should not be antagonistic toward the Christian faith.
- e. No original compositions will be accepted in this category.
- f. Participants may be assisted by live accompaniment, prerecorded accompaniment, or no accompaniment.
- g. Judging criteria include: Tone, Technique, and Expression or Artistry.

3. Keyboard Solo (piano or organ)

- a. 5 minute maximum
- b. One original copy of the music must be provided at the time of the competition with the measures numbered.
- c. No participant will be allowed to perform without an original copy of the music to be presented to the judges.
- d. The music must be memorized and should not be antagonistic toward the Christian faith.
- e. No original compositions will be accepted in this category.
- f. No accompanying will be permitted.
- g. Judging criteria include: Technique, Musicianship, Expression, and Memorization.

4. Praise and Worship Band

- a. Band may be comprised of both men and women.
- b. Each entry shall not exceed 20 minutes (including set up and tear down time).
- c. Going past the time limit shall result in a 4-point deduction.
- d. One copy of music must be provided at the time of the competition with the measures numbered.
- e. All participants performing without judge's music shall have a 5-point deduction from the total score.
- f. COPYRIGHT LAWS MUST BE OBSERVED.
- g. No participant shall be allowed to use a song or chorus of original composition in this category.
- h. Only praise and worship choruses are allowed for competition.
- i. Participants are not required to memorize music, but must have live accompaniment.

5. Small Vocal Ensemble

- a. 2-4 voices
- b. 5 minute maximum
- c. One original copy of music must be provided to the judges at the time of the competition with the measures numbered.
- d. No ensemble will be allowed to perform without an original copy of the music.
- e. The music must be memorized and should not be antagonistic toward the Christian faith.
- f. No original compositions will be accepted in this category.
- g. Ensembles may perform with live or prerecorded accompaniment, or may sing acapella.
- h. Judging criteria will include: Tone, Quality (blend and balance), Vocal Technique, Musicianship, Interpretation or Artistry.

6. Large Vocal Ensemble

- a. 5-10+ voices
- b. See small ensemble criteria

7. Small Instrumental Ensemble

- a. 2-4 instruments
- b. 5 minute maximum
- c. One original copy of the music must be provided to the judges at the time of the competition with the measures numbered.

- d. No ensemble will be allowed to perform without an original copy of the music.
- e. The music should not be antagonistic toward the Christian faith.
- f. The music does not have to be memorized.
- g. No original compositions will be accepted in this category
- h. No accompaniment will be allowed.
- i. Judging criteria will include: Tone, Intonation, Balance (blend), Musicianship, and Interpretation or Artistry.

8. Dramatic Reading (Solo)

- a. 4-6 minutes in length
- b. One original copy of the reading must be provided at the time of the competition.
- c. The material must be religious in nature or dealing with a specific biblical principle that has a clear message.
- d. It may be either serious or humorous.
- e. No costuming or props will be allowed.
- f. A script may be used and contestants may stand.
- g. Judging criteria will include: Presentation, Expression, Vocal Characteristics, and Content.

9. Mime, Dramas, Puppets (Solo or Ensembles)

- a. 4-6 minutes in length
- b. One original copy of the script must be provided at the time of the competition.
- c. The material must be religious in nature or dealing with a specific biblical principle that has a clear message.
- d. It may be either serious or humorous.
- e. Minimal props may be used with no costuming of participants.
- f. Speaking voices used in the dramas cannot be taped voices, but must be the voices of the performers. Mimes and puppets may use prerecorded music for their presentation
- g. Judging criteria will include: Characterization, Movement, Expression, and Content.

10. Original Speech (Solo)

- a. 4-6 minutes in length
- b. A presentation of an original score written by the performer.
- c. An outline of the speech must be provided at the time of the competition and may be used by the participant.
- d. The topic should be biblical in nature with a clear message or concern.
- e. Judging criteria will include: Content, Vocal Production, Expression, and Communication Skills.

11. Creative Arts (Interpretive Dance, Tambourines, Etc.)

- a. There will be no set criteria for this event.
- b. The judge will write comments and suggestions on a blank page.

12. Oil and Acrylic Painting, Water Color, Drawing, and Photography

- a. All artwork must be of original composition.
- b. All works must be appropriate and should not be antagonistic toward the Christian faith.
- c. All work must be matted or framed and should be identified with the

artist's name, church, district, age, and grade on a 3x5 card at the time of entry.

d. Items must be entered by 7:00 p.m. on March 12th, 2010.

e. Judging criteria will include: Originality, Technique, Theme/Composition, and Layout.

13. Sculpture and Ceramics

a. All artwork must be of original composition.

b. All works must be appropriate and should not be antagonistic to the Christian faith.

c. Items must be entered by 7:00 p.m. on March 12th, 2010.

d. All work should be identified with the artist's name, church, district, age, and grade on a 3x5 card at the time of entry.

e. Judging criteria will include: Originality, Technique or Skill, Theme/Composition, and Overall Beauty.

14. WebDesign

a. Create a 3 to 7 page web site.

b. These pages should be built based on Christian ministry content.

c. Submit your web design on a CD or floppy disk with all necessary files included (html, images, graphics, background, etc.) OR as an active URL if the web site is published on the worldwide web.

d. Submit a print out of all computer code used for the pages. (This will help in judging the technical aspects).

e. Judging will be based on the following criteria:

Layout, Design, Graphics, Images, Text, Navigation, Credibility, Technical elements, Staying within the number of pages range

Video Production:

Interview:

Create a 1½ to 2 minute video profiling your pastor or youth pastor.

CRITERIA

You may have up to two additional people on your crew to help you. Dub your final video to a VHS or DVD, cued to the beginning. Label your tape with your name and district. Your tape will be returned with the judging form at BLAST. The entry must be submitted before 7:00 pm on March 12, 2010.

Choose a creative theme or angle that communicates why this person is interesting or newsworthy. You can ask questions like: What does he/she do? How does he/she impact the church members and students? What unique characteristic does he/she have? Your video should include the following video production elements:

1. Reporter stand-up lead (introduction)

2. Voice-over narration (VO) of reporter throughout story

3. Interviewees:

1 main interview (pastor)

1 supplemental interview, minimum (spouse, student, church member)

Use a well-lit set, proper framing, camera set-up and audio levels.

4. B-roll footage - 3 different types or locations, minimum.

Examples of "types" are still photos, home video footage, graphics, animation, etc. Showing the person doing something in different locations are considered "types."

5. Music behind footage (not necessarily ALL footage)

6. Reporter stand-up conclusion

Your video will be judged based on the following:

- Required elements (locations/b-roll)
- Concise Writing
- Variety of shots
- Shot composition and length (pace)
- Proper use of Audio
- Proper use of titles
- Proper use of transitions
- Editing skills
- Creativity
- Effective story-telling & theme
- Final script
- Total Length

TIPS

To create an effective video here are a few tips to success:

1. Start with a pre-interview, with no camera. Talk casually with your pastor about what you're doing, asking him/her if they're willing to do the project (that's important!). Then talk to them about some aspects of their life that they would like to share. Take a few notes.
2. Set up a time and location to videotape them for the main interview. Have a list of questions based on what you know about them to keep the conversation focused.
3. As they talk, think of b-roll possibilities that might be inserted into the profile. For example, if they talk about their family, you could insert a still frame of a family portrait, or b-roll of the family interacting together. Or, if they talk about working in their office, a great b-roll location would be shots of them in their office! Be creative! Set up a time to shoot this type of footage.
4. Create a script that includes both video and audio elements. A worksheet has been provided for you to use. You will need to submit your final script with your entry and video. First, include the reporter's lead (introduction) that "hooks" a viewer to watch the video. Then start the story with b-roll and a voice-over (VO) that gives more information about the pastor and the angle you are taking. Flavor the video with his/her interview comments and another supplemental interview (his/her spouse, students) to give the story more variety and credibility. Finally, end with a reporter's conclusion that ties the story together.

Commercial

Create a 40-60 second commercial promoting your church (could be about your youth group, children's dept, special event your church is hosting, etc.). You may have up to two additional people on your crew to help you. Dub your final video to a VHS or DVD, cued to the beginning. Label your tape with your name and district. Your tape will be returned with the

judging form at BLAST. The entry must be submitted before 7:00 pm on March 12, 2010.

Create a script that includes both video and audio elements. A worksheet has been provided for you to use. You will need to submit your final script with your entry and video.

Choose a creative theme or angle that communicates the idea of your commercial. Your video should include the following video production elements:

1. Script must be planned out and submitted (though actors are allowed the freedom to deviate and improvise).
2. B-roll footage - 2 different types or locations, minimum. Examples of "types" are still photos, home video footage, graphics, animation, etc. Showing the actors doing something in different locations is considered "types."
3. Music behind footage (not necessarily ALL footage).
4. Variety of camera angles.
5. Compose around a single center of interest.

Your video will be judged based on the following:

- Required elements (locations/b-roll)
- Concise Writing
- Variety of shots
- Shot composition and length (pace)
- Proper use of Audio
- Proper use of titles
- Proper use of transitions
- Editing skills
- Creativity
- Effective story-telling & theme
- Final script
- Total Length

Youth Ministry Highlights

Create a 4-5 minute video highlighting an event with your youth group. (i.e. camping trip, Work and Witness trip, holiday party, etc.). You may have up to two additional people on your crew to help you. Dub your final video to a VHS or DVD, cued to the beginning. Label your tape with your name and district. Your tape will be returned with the judging form at BLAST. The entry must be submitted before 7:00 pm on March 12, 2010.

Your video should include the following video production elements:

1. Script must be planned out and submitted (though actors are allowed the freedom to deviate and improvise).
2. B-roll footage - 2 different types or locations, minimum. Examples of "types" are still photos, home video footage, graphics, animation, etc. Showing the actors doing something in different locations is considered "types."
3. Music behind footage (not necessarily ALL footage).
4. Variety of camera angles.
5. Compose around a single center of interest.

Your video will be judged based on the following:

- Required elements (locations/b-roll)
- Concise Writing
- Variety of shots
- Shot composition and length (pace)
- Proper use of Audio
- Proper use of titles
- Proper use of transitions
- Editing skills
- Creativity
- Effective story-telling & theme
- Final script
- Total Length

SUBMISSION FORM for VIDEO PRODUCTION
(Include this form with your video in order to be judged)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Junior High _____ Senior High _____

Church: _____

Video Option: Interview Commercial Youth Ministry Highlights

Additional crew members:

Type of video camera used: (i.e. Canon ZR80):

Type of editing system used: (i.e. Final Cut Pro, Casa Blanca, Adobe Premiere)
