

MAKE WAVES

The book of Acts

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses ... to the end of the earth." Acts 1:8

2027 Events Manual

Heart of America

Leadership Training for Christ

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HOALTC PRE-CONVENTION EVENTS

Pre-Convention Events are those which are completed several weeks prior to the convention and electronically submitted to Event Coordinators for judging before the convention. Church Coordinators (CC) and coaches should consult the rules, judging rubrics, and deadlines for each event as they help students prepare their entries.

Students should consider how their entries can be used in a real-life event or ministry in your congregation or community. Students must write and submit a paragraph describing these uses / potential uses. Our aim is for students and congregations to integrate these activities into the church's ministry year-round.

Nine Pre-Convention Events fall into three general categories:

- **Creative Writing**
 - Children's Book
 - Christian Essay
 - Christian Fiction
 - Christian Poetry
- **Digital Media**
 - Christian Podcast
 - Video Production
 - Web Design
 - Social Media Creations
- **Music**
 - Song Writing

With the exception of Children's Book, all Pre-Convention Event entries are submitted via online forms found at HOALTC.org/CC/precon. See each event's rules for complete submission instructions. See Dates and Deadlines at HOALTC.org for deadlines.

Each student may submit or participate in only one entry for each of these events. Adults may discuss the theme and its possible applications and make suggestions about content and style. Adults may also suggest editorial corrections on a student's written work. The actual work should be the work of the students, not work done by adults.

The Church Coordinator will submit entries via a Google Form, which returns a confirmation of receipt. If confirmation is not received, please contact the Event Coordinator listed at HOALTC.org/ec. Judged rubrics, with medals attached, are returned to the Church Coordinator at HOALTC Central at the convention.

CREATIVE WRITING

Children's Book

Purpose

Encourage youth to use their writing and artistic talents, in a style and story of the student's own, to create a children's book that conveys a Christian message.

Expectations

- Coaches and students will familiarize themselves with the event rules and rubrics prior to beginning the project. For students requiring special consideration, see instructions found at HOALTC.org/CC.
- Entries will be judged based on the grade level of the student.
- Entries may be the work of a two-student team or an individual.
- Any traditional book form (chapter book, comic book, story book, activity book, etc.) is acceptable.
- The story may be written in any form of fiction (e.g., mystery, action, humor, fable, etc.) and should include elements such as plot and character development.
- Handwritten work is admissible if legible and neatly presented. Digital tools may be used.
- The student should include a color photocopy of the book along with the original. No original books will be displayed. This should be retrieved by the Church Coordinator or student(s) on Saturday afternoon.

Rules

- The entry must reflect the current year's theme or Bible content covered this year.
- Correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation, appropriate to the student's grade level, should be used.
- The story must be durable in bound book form.
- The story and illustrations must both be original work of the students; illustrations may be drawings, cartoons, photographs, or digital art.
- The student will write a paragraph describing how this entry was or will be used to minister to others (examples: reading it to a class; adding it to a church library). This paragraph is scored as part of the Submission Requirements criterion on the rubric.
- The student must include a separate cover sheet that provides the following information: Event (Children's Book), Name(s), Grade(s), Congregation Name, Congregation City, State, Congregation Number, Title of Book, Target age for book, Paragraph explaining intended ministry use.
- Three copies of the rubric must be included with the entry. In the large empty box in the upper right corner of the rubric, write the congregation number and name on the first line. On the second line, write the team's grade range (3-6, 3-9, or 3-12), the team number, and the number of students on the team (for example: "3-9 Team 4 1 student").
- The entry must be submitted according to the Submission Instructions below.
- Artificial Intelligence: Generative AI tools may not be used to generate or write any part of the story, or to create any of the illustrations. The story and illustrations must be entirely the student's own original work.

Submission Instructions

Copies of the cover sheet must be placed inside the front cover of both the original and color copy of the book. The original book, the color photocopy, and all required paperwork must be placed together inside a manila envelope large enough to hold both books and the paperwork. The congregation number and name, and the student's name, must be written on the outside of the envelope. The envelope must be left in the box marked "Children's Book" at LTC Central by 5:00 PM on the Friday of the convention.

CHILDREN'S BOOK HOALTC 2027 - Make Waves			
Judge each entry relative to the grade range noted on the rubric, not by one fixed standard — a strong entry from a lower range should look different from a strong entry from a higher range.			
Connection to LTC Theme	☐ The theme or this year's Bible text comes through clearly and consistently — it shapes both the story and the illustrations.	☐ The theme or this year's Bible text is present and recognizable in the story and illustrations.	☐ A reader would have trouble identifying the theme or this year's Bible text from the story or illustrations.
Grammar & Proofreading	☐ Writing is clean and polished for the student's grade level — virtually free of grammar, spelling, or punctuation errors.	☐ A few minor errors appear for the student's grade level, but they don't distract from the story.	☐ Frequent errors, beyond what's expected for the student's grade level, make the writing difficult to follow.
Readability	☐ Readers stay hooked — the plot moves naturally from beginning to end.	☐ The story holds attention reasonably well, with a plot that's easy enough to follow.	☐ The plot is hard to follow, or the story struggles to hold a reader's attention.
Illustrations	☐ Original illustrations bring the story to life and add real meaning beyond the words.	☐ Original illustrations support the story.	☐ Illustrations are not original, or add little to the story.
Book Cover	☐ The cover grabs attention and makes someone want to open the book.	☐ The cover is reasonably attractive and gives some sense of the book.	☐ The cover would not catch a reader's interest.
Construction	☐ The book is sturdy enough to hold up through many readings.	☐ The book holds together but shows signs of wear after a few readings.	☐ The book is fragile and unlikely to survive repeated readings.
Submission Requirements	☐ The cover sheet includes all 9 items. ☐ Local ministry use was clearly described.		☐ Cover sheet not complete, or local ministry use was not included.
Strength of Story	☐ The story is original, well-matched to its target age group in both length and content, and genuinely fun to read. ☐ Readers will come away inspired and encouraged — the story gives them something to think about.	☐ The story fits its target age group reasonably well in length and content. ☐ The story is encouraging and holds a reader's interest.	☐ The story's length or content doesn't fit the target age group. ☐ The story doesn't leave much of an impression on the reader.
What you did really well: 1. 2.			
Ways to grow and improve next time: 1. 2.			
Please help us improve these rules and rubrics each year by sending feedback by email to lrc@hoaltc.org within 30 days of the end of the convention.			

Christian Essay

Purpose

Develop and improve written communication skills in conveying Biblical ideas; challenge students to use the written word to communicate God's Word; and create written content, with a style and message of the student's own, that reflects respect for the importance and value of God's Word.

Expectations

- Coaches and students will familiarize themselves with the event rules and rubrics prior to beginning the project. For students requiring special consideration, see instructions found at HOALTC.org/CC.
- The student will write an essay expressing their own opinion or thoughts about a topic related to the theme or this year's Bible text, in their own voice and style.
- Footnotes and/or bibliographical information are not expected or required.

Rules

- The essay must highlight the current year's theme or content from the Bible text covered in the current year.
- The essay must be one to five pages long.
- Formatting: The essay should be typed and double-spaced with 1" margins. Use a standard font and font size 10, 11, or 12. Page numbers must be included. Students in grade 6 and younger may submit neat handwritten work.
- The essay should be easily readable, provide a spiritual application, and include proper grammar, spelling, and punctuation appropriate to the student's grade level.
- The essay should include an introduction and conclusion.
- The student will provide a cover page that includes the following information: Event, Student Name, Student Grade, Congregation Name, Congregation City/State, Congregation Number, Title of Essay.
- The student will write a paragraph stating how this entry could be or was used in ministry. This paragraph is scored as part of the Format & Submission Requirements criterion on the rubric, not as a separate item.
- The student must create a single PDF document for submission, named using the student's first and last names and the event name (e.g. JaneDoe.ChristianEssay.PDF), including: Page 1 - cover sheet, Page 2 - ministry use paragraph, Page(s) 3+ - the essay.
- Artificial Intelligence: Generative AI tools may not be used to generate, write, or edit any part of the essay. The essay must be entirely the student's own original work.

Submission Instructions

The Church Coordinator or Coach will complete the Christian Essay Submission Form found at HOALTC.org/CC/precon by the pre-convention deadline. PDF files will be uploaded within this form.

CHRISTIAN ESSAY HOALTC 2027 - Make Waves			
Judge each entry relative to the grade range noted on the rubric, not by one fixed standard — a strong entry from a lower range should look different from a strong entry from a higher range.			
Connection to LTC Theme	☐ The theme or Bible text is communicated clearly throughout the essay.	☐ The theme or this year's Bible text is present and recognizable in the essay.	☐ A reader would have trouble identifying the theme or this year's Bible text from the essay.
Introduction & Conclusion	☐ The introduction strongly engages the reader, and the conclusion brings the essay together as a cohesive whole.	☐ The introduction gains the reader's attention, and the conclusion gives the essay a fitting close.	☐ A reader could skip the introduction or conclusion without losing anything important.
Readability	☐ The essay is consistently engaging and compelling; personal stories or humor (if used) enhance interest and strengthen the essay.	☐ The essay is enjoyable to read, with personal stories or humor (if used) fitting reasonably well.	☐ The essay is not engaging; personal stories or humor (if used) detract from the essay's overall effectiveness.
Creativity	☐ The essay presents a fresh, thoughtful perspective on the theme or this year's Bible text, demonstrating a distinctive and original approach.	☐ The essay shows some original thinking about the theme or this year's Bible text.	☐ The essay approaches the theme or this year's Bible text in a largely familiar or predictable way, with limited evidence of original thought.
Writing Quality	☐ Grammar and spelling are consistently strong, and ideas are clearly organized in a logical, easy-to-follow progression.	☐ A few minor grammar or spelling errors appear, but they do not interfere with readability; the essay's main ideas are clear and generally well organized.	☐ Grammar or spelling errors are noticeable, and/or the organization of ideas makes portions of the essay difficult to follow.
Format & Submission Requirements	☐ Length and page format follow the rules (considering age level), the cover sheet is complete, and the ministry-use paragraph clearly explains how this essay could be used.	☐ Length and page format are mostly within the rules, the cover sheet is mostly complete, and a ministry-use paragraph is included.	☐ Length or page format need attention, the cover sheet is incomplete or missing, or the ministry-use paragraph was not included.
Spirituality	☐ The essay communicates a meaningful spiritual insight that gives the reader something significant to consider, remember, or apply.	☐ The essay offers spiritual encouragement or insight that gives the reader something to consider.	☐ The essay offers limited spiritual insight or encouragement, leaving the reader without a clear spiritual takeaway.
What you did really well: 1. 2.			
Ways to grow and improve next time: 1. 2.			
Please help us improve these rules and rubrics each year by sending feedback by email to lrc@hoaltc.org within 30 days of the end of the convention.			

Christian Fiction

Purpose

To encourage the creation of quality fiction that reflects Christian faith and values, while developing students' creative writing skills and encouraging them to express those ideas through their own distinctive style and voice.

Expectations

- Coaches and students will familiarize themselves with the event rules and rubrics prior to beginning the project. For students requiring special consideration, see instructions found at HOALTC.org/CC.
- The student will develop and write an original, non-illustrated fictional short story reflecting the current year's theme, in their own voice and style.
- The story may be written in any form of fiction (e.g., mystery, action, humor, fable, etc.).

Rules

- The story must clearly reflect the current year's theme or content from the Bible text covered in the current year.
- The story should be three to six pages long.
- Formatting: The story should be typed and double-spaced with 1" margins. A standard font in size 10, 11, or 12 must be used. Page numbers must be included. For students sixth grade or younger, handwritten work is admissible if legible and neat.
- The story must include a spiritual application.
- Proper use of grammar, spelling, and punctuation, appropriate to the student's grade level, is expected.
- Illustrations should not be included.
- The student may submit no more than one Christian Fiction entry.
- The student will provide a cover page that includes the following information: Event, Student Name, Student Grade, Congregation Name, Congregation City, State, Congregation Number, Story Title.
- The student will write a paragraph explaining how this entry was or will be used for ministry. This paragraph is scored as part of the Format & Submission Requirements criterion on the rubric, not as a separate item.
- The student must combine all required pages into a single PDF document for submission. The pages should appear in the following order: Page 1 - cover sheet; Page 2 - paragraph describing local ministry use possibilities; Page(s) 3+ - fiction story. The PDF name must follow the following format: Student's first and last names, and name of the event (e.g. JaneDoe.ChristianFiction.PDF)
- Artificial Intelligence: Generative AI tools may not be used to generate, write, or edit any part of the story. The story must be entirely the student's own original work.

Submission Instructions

The Church Coordinator or Coach will complete the Christian Fiction Submission Form found at HOALTC.org/CC/precon by the pre-convention deadline. PDF files will be uploaded within this form.

CHRISTIAN FICTION HOALTC 2027 - Make Waves			
Judge each entry relative to the grade range noted on the rubric, not by one fixed standard — a strong entry from a lower range should look different from a strong entry from a higher range.			
Connection to LTC Theme	☐ The theme or Bible text is clear and consistent throughout the story.	☐ The theme or this year's Bible text is present and recognizable in the story.	☐ The theme or this year's Bible text is unclear or only minimally evident in the story.
Introduction & Title	☐ The introduction immediately engages the reader and draws them into the story, and the title is creative, compelling, and well suited to the story.	☐ The introduction gains the reader's attention, and the title is appealing and appropriate to the story.	☐ The introduction does little to engage the reader or draw them into the story, and/or the title is unengaging or does not clearly fit the story.
Readability	☐ The story is consistently engaging and compelling to read, with effective pacing, believable characters, and a well-developed plot in which each part contributes meaningfully to the whole.	☐ The story is enjoyable to read, with an evident plot, developed characters, and pacing and story elements that generally work well together.	☐ The story is difficult to stay engaged with throughout; the plot, characters, pacing, and/or connections among story elements need further development.
Creativity	☐ The plot takes a fresh angle, with an original story form and writing style.	☐ The plot and the story's form and style show some original thinking.	☐ The plot, form, or style relies on familiar or expected choices.
Writing Strength	☐ Grammar and spelling are clean for the student's grade level, and a reader could outline the story's main points in order without getting lost.	☐ A few minor grammar or spelling errors appear for the student's grade level, and the story's main points are evident.	☐ Grammar or spelling need attention for the student's grade level, or a reader would have trouble following the order of events.
Format & Submission Requirements	☐ Length and page format follow the rules (considering age level), the cover sheet is complete, and the ministry-use paragraph clearly explains how this story could be used.	☐ Length and page format are mostly within the rules, the cover sheet is mostly complete, and a ministry-use paragraph is included.	☐ Length or page format need attention, the cover sheet is incomplete or missing, or the ministry-use paragraph was not included.
Spirituality	☐ The story communicates meaningful spiritual truth in a way that leaves the reader with something significant to consider, remember, or apply.	☐ The story offers spiritual encouragement or insight that gives the reader something to consider.	☐ The story offers limited spiritual insight or encouragement, leaving the reader without a clear sense of spiritual significance.
What you did really well: 1. 2.			
Ways to grow and improve next time: 1. 2.			
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Christian Poetry

Purpose

To encourage students to develop their ability to express spiritual thoughts, feelings, and truths through poetry, using the distinctive qualities of poetic language, rhythm, imagery, and form to communicate in ways that can uniquely engage the heart and mind.

Expectations

- Coaches and students will familiarize themselves with the event rules and rubrics prior to beginning the project. For students requiring special consideration, see instructions found at HOALTC.org/CC.
- Entries will be judged based on the grade level of the student.
- Each student will write a poem reflecting this year's theme or Bible text. The poem may be written in any rhythm or meter and does not have to rhyme; if rhyme is used, any rhyming scheme is acceptable. The poem may be any form or type of poetry but must adhere to that poetic form's conventions.

Rules

- The poem must be written in an identifiable form (examples: iambic pentameter, haiku, limerick, cinquain, acrostic, shape poem, lyric, ode, free verse) and must follow that form's traditional expectations (meter, rhythm, length, rhyming scheme, etc., as applicable).
- The poem must be titled, typed, and must not exceed one 8.5" x 11" page. Students in grade 6 and below may submit neat, legible handwritten work.
- The poem should be easily readable, provide a spiritual message, and use grammar, spelling, and punctuation appropriate to the student's grade level.
- The student must write a paragraph describing how this entry was or will be used for ministry (examples: inclusion in a church bulletin; read and discussed in a classroom or small group setting). This paragraph is scored as part of the Format Requirements criterion on the rubric, not as a separate item.
- Each student is allowed only one entry in this event.
- The student must provide a cover sheet with the following information: Event Name, Student Name, Student Grade, Congregation Name, Congregation City/State, Congregation Number, Poem Type, Poem Title.
- The student must combine all required pages into a single PDF document for submission. The pages should appear in the following order: Page 1 - cover sheet; Page 2 - paragraph describing local ministry use possibilities; Page(s) 3+ - poem. The PDF name must follow the following format: Student's first and last names, and name of the event (e.g. JaneDoe.ChristianPoetry.PDF)
- Artificial Intelligence: Generative AI tools may not be used to generate, write, or edit any part of the poem. The poem must be entirely the student's own original work.

Submission Instructions

The Church Coordinator or Coach will complete the Christian Poetry Submission Form found at HOALTC.org/CC/precon. The student's PDF file must be uploaded within this form.

CHRISTIAN POETRY HOALTC 2027 - Make Waves			
Judge each entry relative to the grade range noted on the rubric, not by one fixed standard — a strong entry from a lower range should look different from a strong entry from a higher range.			
Theme	☐ The theme or this year's Bible text is woven through the poem and clearly reinforced by it.	☐ The theme or this year's Bible text is present and identifiable in the poem.	☐ The theme or this year's Bible text is unclear or only minimally evident in the poem.
Form	☐ The poem uses its chosen form creatively and fully meets that form's definition and requirements.	☐ The poem reasonably fits its chosen form, with only minor departures from the form's requirements.	☐ The poem does not clearly follow the definition or requirements of its chosen form.
Poetic Techniques	☐ Poetic techniques (imagery, sound devices, figurative language, etc.) are used deliberately and effectively to reinforce the message.	☐ Poetic techniques are used and support the message.	☐ The poem would benefit from stronger use of poetic techniques to reinforce its message.
Readability	☐ The poem is engaging to read and leaves a clear, complete picture in the reader's mind.	☐ The poem is enjoyable to read and leaves a picture in the reader's mind.	☐ The poem is hard to follow, or leaves little impression on the reader.
Writing Strength	☐ Grammar, spelling, and punctuation are clean for the student's grade level, and the poem's thoughts are clearly organized.	☐ A few grammar, spelling, or punctuation errors appear for the student's grade level, but the poem's organization is still evident.	☐ Grammar, spelling, punctuation, or organization need attention for the student's grade level.
Format Requirements	☐ The poem meets the length, page, and cover sheet requirements for its age level, and clearly describes local ministry use.	☐ The poem mostly meets the length and page requirements for its age level.	☐ The poem's length or page format needs attention, or the local ministry use was not included.
Spirituality	☐ The poem communicates meaningful spiritual truth or insight in a way that leaves the reader with something significant to consider, remember, or apply.	☐ The poem offers spiritual encouragement or insight that gives the reader something to consider.	☐ The poem offers limited spiritual insight or encouragement, leaving the reader without a clear sense of spiritual significance.
What you did really well: 1. 2.			
Ways to grow and improve next time: 1. 2.			
Please help us improve these rules and rubrics each year by sending feedback by email to lrc@hoaltc.org within 30 days of the end of the convention.			

DIGITAL MEDIA

Christian Podcast

Purpose

To challenge students to use podcasting as a relevant and engaging form of communication to creatively present spiritual or Biblical content that encourages, informs, or inspires an intended audience.

Expectations

- Coaches and students will familiarize themselves with the event rules and rubrics prior to beginning the project. For students requiring special consideration, see instructions found at HOALTC.org/CC.
- The podcast will explore a spiritual topic related to the current HOALTC theme and be thought-provoking, enjoyable, conversational, engaging, easy to follow, and naturally structured to maintain audience interest.

Rules

- The podcast must relate to the current HOALTC theme or this year's Bible text.
- This is a team event for one to five students. Team members may serve in any combination of podcast production roles, including hosting, speaking, recording, editing, or other production tasks.
- The content must be original and spiritually thought-provoking. The podcast must not be shorter than 30 seconds or longer than 5 minutes.
- The podcast should include a clear introduction and closing, which may feature music or other audio elements to establish a professional tone. The podcast should have a name (e.g., "The Christian Youth Podcast"), and the episode presented should have a title (e.g., "Loving Our Neighbors").
- Stock Media: Rights-free or properly licensed stock music and other audio elements may be used, provided the source and license/rights status are documented in the supporting PDF. This is distinct from AI-generated content, which remains prohibited (see Artificial Intelligence rule below).
- Team members must write a paragraph explaining how the entry was or could be used to minister to others. This paragraph is scored under the Format and Submission criterion.
- The podcast must be saved as an MP3 file, named using the podcast name, congregation number, and event name (example: TheChristianYouthPodcast.999.ChristianPodcast.mp3).
- A supporting PDF document containing the following must be created: Page 1 - Title Page containing: Event Name, Student Name(s) and Grade(s), Congregation Name, Congregation City/State, Congregation Number, Podcast Name and Episode Title; Page 2 - the local ministry-use paragraph. The PDF file name must be in the following format: podcast name, congregation number, and event name (example: TheChristianYouthPodcast.999.ChristianPodcast.PDF).
- The podcast MP3 and supporting PDF must be submitted by the Pre-Convention deadline.
- Artificial Intelligence: Generative AI tools may not be used to generate the podcast's script, narration, voices, or music. All content must be created by the team members themselves, with the exception of rights-cleared stock or licensed music/audio elements as permitted under the Stock Media rule above.

Submission Instructions

The Church Coordinator or Coach will submit the Christian Podcast entry via the Christian Podcast Submission Form found at HOALTC.org/CC/precon by the Pre-Convention deadline. Both the MP3 and PDF files must be uploaded within this form.

CHRISTIAN PODCAST HOALTC 2027 - Make Waves			
Judge each entry relative to the grade range noted on the rubric, not by one fixed standard — a strong entry from a lower range should look different from a strong entry from a higher range.			
Theme	☐ The podcast's main content is clearly and directly relevant to this year's theme or Bible text.	☐ The podcast's main content is relevant to this year's theme or Bible text.	☐ The podcast's main content has little or unclear relevance to this year's theme or Bible text.
Flow and Continuity	☐ The message flows naturally from start to finish and holds the listener's attention throughout.	☐ The message flows reasonably well and holds attention for most of the episode.	☐ The message is hard to follow, or loses the listener's attention for much of the episode.
Originality and Creativity	☐ The podcast demonstrates a fresh, creative concept and an engaging approach to presenting its content.	☐ The podcast shows some originality and creativity in its concept and presentation.	☐ The podcast relies largely on familiar or predictable ideas and/or shows limited creativity in its presentation.
Voice, Inflection, and Control	☐ Speakers' voices are well-controlled and easy to listen to, at an appropriate speed throughout.	☐ Speakers' voices are reasonably controlled, with occasional lapses in pacing or clarity.	☐ Speakers are hard to follow because of unclear delivery, inconsistent volume, or pacing that's too fast or too slow.
Introduction and Closing	☐ The introduction and closing clearly frame the podcast's content.	☐ The introduction and closing reasonably frame the podcast's content.	☐ The introduction or closing needs attention to better frame the content.
Format and Submission	☐ The podcast meets all format, time, and file-naming requirements, and the ministry-use paragraph was included.	☐ The podcast meets most format and submission requirements.	☐ The podcast is outside the time limit, misses file-naming requirements, or the ministry-use paragraph was not included.
What you did really well: 1. 2.			
Ways to grow and improve next time: 1. 2.			
Please help us improve these rules and rubrics each year by sending feedback by email to lrc@hoaltc.org within 30 days of the end of the convention.			

Video Production

Purpose

To develop students' video production skills while encouraging them to use visual media creatively and effectively to promote congregational activities, communicate Biblical teachings and messages, and share Christian values and beliefs.

Expectations

- Coaches and students will familiarize themselves with the event rules and rubrics prior to beginning the project. For students requiring special consideration, see instructions found at HOALTC.org/CC.
- Students may use any presentation technique (e.g., drama, stop motion, Claymation, etc.) to convey their message — for example: video drama or animation; video lessons or announcements; promotion or highlights of a church event; an impact video for church, internet, or social media use; or sermon clips edited for social media.
- Students may enter as an individual or as a team. Teams will be judged at the grade level of the highest-grade student.
- Use of the LTC theme is strongly encouraged when possible, but some video types (e.g., a mission trip recap) may not lend themselves to the theme, so adherence to the theme is not required for this event.
- Adult assistance for entries judged at the 3rd-9th grade levels is permitted for production/technical assistance, with the emphasis on teaching students the necessary skills; the creation of ideas, themes, and filming should be solely the student(s)' work. Adult assistance for entries judged at the 10th-12th grade levels is limited to advice and supervision only — all work, including editing and production, must be the student(s)' own.
- The director, writer, camera operator, editor, and narrator must be students (editing may be assisted by adults for entries judged at the 3rd-9th grade levels). Adults may appear on camera, but all crew and major parts should be students.

Rules

- The production should exhibit creativity and technical skill, and effectively convey a message.
- Videos must be no less than 30 seconds and no more than 5 minutes long. Students may submit one entry.
- Background music and/or sound effects are permissible and encouraged. If used, original creation, documentation of royalty-free status, or permission for royalty-subject music must be documented in the video credits or supporting documentation.
- Stock Media: In addition to music (see rule above), properly licensed or rights-free stock video footage and/or images may be used, provided the source and license/rights status are documented in the video credits or supporting documentation. This is distinct from AI-generated content, which remains prohibited (see Artificial Intelligence rule below).
- The video must be submitted in one of the following formats: .wmv, .avi, .mov, .mp4, with a file name including the video title, congregation number, and event name (example: JoshuasBattle.999.VideoProduction.mp4).
- Students must write a paragraph on how this entry was or could be used in the overall ministry of the church or in personal ministry (examples: church assembly, Bible class or small group, encouraging shut-ins, publication to the community). This paragraph is scored as part of the Format and Submission criterion on the rubric, not as a separate item.

- A supporting PDF document containing the following must be created: Page 1 - Title Page containing: Event Name, Student Name(s) and Grade(s), Congregation Name, Congregation City/State, Congregation Number, Video Title; Page 2 - the local ministry-use paragraph. The PDF file name must be in the following format: video title, congregation number, and event name (example: TheChristianYouthVideo.999.VideoProduction.PDF).
- Artificial Intelligence: Generative AI tools may not be used to generate the video's script, footage, voiceover, images, or music. All creative content must be the student(s)' own original work, with the exception of background music/sound effects and properly licensed stock footage/images as permitted under the rules above; this applies in addition to the adult-assistance limits above.

Submission Instructions

The Church Coordinator or Coach will complete the Video Production Submission Form found at HOALTC.org/CC/precon by the Pre-Convention deadline. The video file and supporting PDF must be uploaded within this form. Ownership of work submitted to HOALTC remains the property of the creator; if the HOALTC Board of Directors seeks to display the video outside the convention for which it was submitted, the creator's permission will be obtained.

VIDEO PRODUCTION HOALTC 2027 - Make Waves			
Judge each entry relative to the grade range noted on the rubric, not by one fixed standard — a strong entry from a lower range should look different from a strong entry from a higher range.			
Content	☐ The content is clearly relevant to the video's purpose, and the production flows in a way that's easy to follow and effective.	☐ The content is reasonably relevant to the purpose, with a discernible flow that accomplishes it.	☐ The content's relevance to the purpose, or the flow of the production, needs attention.
Creativity	☐ The video's creative choices add real depth of interest and enjoyment for the viewer.	☐ The video shows some creative choices that add interest for the viewer.	☐ The video would benefit from more creative choices to engage the viewer.
Camera (if applicable)	☐ Camera angles enhance the visual appeal, focus stays sharp throughout, and movements are smooth with no distracting background activity.	☐ Camera work is reasonably steady and in focus, with only occasional distractions or rough movements.	☐ Camera focus, angles, or movement need attention, or background distractions pull attention from the content.
Lighting (if applicable)	☐ Lighting techniques clearly enhance the production.	☐ Lighting is adequate and doesn't distract from the production.	☐ Lighting needs attention — scenes are too dark, too bright, or inconsistent.
Sound	☐ The audio is well-balanced with no distracting background noise. Sound effects and/or music (if used) enhance the production.	☐ Sound generally enhances the production, with occasional distortion or imbalance.	☐ Sound is distorted, unbalanced, or distracting for much of the production.
Editing	☐ Editing techniques and transitions are smooth and enhance the storytelling; titles/credits, if used, are effective.	☐ Editing and transitions are reasonably smooth; titles/credits, if used, are serviceable.	☐ Editing or transitions are rough or distracting, or titles/credits (if used) don't fit the production.
Visuals (if applicable)	☐ Setting, props, and any special effects are well-chosen and enhance the production.	☐ Setting, props, and any special effects reasonably support the production.	☐ Setting, props, or special effects need attention, or distract from the production.
Overall Effectiveness	☐ The production is highly effective for its intended use and audience.	☐ The production is reasonably effective for its intended use.	☐ The production needs attention to better fit its intended use.
Format and Submission	☐ The entry meets all format, time, and file-naming requirements, and the ministry-use paragraph was included.	☐ The entry meets most format and submission requirements.	☐ The entry is outside the time requirement, misses file-naming requirements, or the ministry-use paragraph was not included.
Copyright	☐ Copyright and royalty documentation standards were fully met.		☐ Copyright or royalty documentation standards were not met.
Nonobservance of these rules may affect the award level:			
☐ Yes ☐ No Video length is no less than 0:30 and no more than 5:00. Actual time: _____			
What you did really well: 1. 2.			
Ways to grow and improve next time: 1. 2.			
Please help us improve these rules and rubrics each year by sending feedback by email to lrc@hoaltc.org within 30 days of the end of the convention.			

Web Design

Purpose

Provide young people the opportunity to develop and demonstrate their creative and technical talents by the creation of a website on the internet.

Expectations

- Coaches and students will familiarize themselves with the event rules and rubrics prior to beginning the project. For students requiring special consideration, see instructions found at HOALTC.org/CC.
- Teams or individuals from a congregation will create a website.
- Grades 3-9: the creation and design of the presentation ideas will be the effort of the student(s); adult helpers are allowed to help with implementation and technical assistance. Grades 10-12: the site will be the work of the student(s) only, and adult assistance is limited to advice and supervision.

Rules

- The site must glorify God and represent the current year's HOALTC theme, and must be accessible on the church's existing website in a way that fits the purpose of that site.
- Sites may be linked, but the student(s) must specify exactly which URLs are to be judged.
- An unlimited number of teams and/or students from each congregation are allowed per grade level, with a maximum of 2 students per team. Students may only work on one entry.
- The student(s) must write a paragraph explaining how their website was or will be used for ministry (examples: use in a church assembly, a Bible class or small group setting, a ministry website, or a radio/TV broadcast). This paragraph is scored as part of the Submission criterion on the rubric, not as a separate item.
- Students must create a supporting document for submission, saved as a PDF, with the file name including the congregation number and the event name. It should include the following: Congregation Name, Congregation Number, list of team members and their grades (e.g., John Smith, Grade 9), primary URL for the website, list of URLs for pages within the site that are to be judged, contact person and contact information for questions about the site, and the local ministry-use paragraph.
- Artificial Intelligence: Generative AI tools may not be used to generate the website's design, layout, text, or images. The site's creative content must be the student(s)' own original work.

Submission Instructions

The Church Coordinator or coach should complete the Web Design Submission Form found at HOALTC.org/CC by the Pre-Convention Event deadline. Files are to be uploaded within the submission form.

WEB DESIGN HOALTC 2027 - Make Waves			
Judge each entry relative to the grade range noted on the rubric, not by one fixed standard — a strong entry from a lower range should look different from a strong entry from a higher range.			
Content	☐ The site's content is well-developed and clearly organized, giving the site a solid purpose.	☐ The site's content is functional and its purpose is generally clear.	☐ The site's content or purpose needs attention.
Message	☐ The site's message is clearly relevant to this year's theme or Bible text and supports the site's purpose.	☐ The site's message is reasonably relevant to this year's theme or Bible text.	☐ A visitor would have trouble connecting the site's message to this year's theme or Bible text.
Creativity	☐ The site makes excellent, purposeful use of creative tools (animation, interactivity, sound, images, color) — every element is polished, adds to the message, and the site is easy to navigate.	☐ The site makes good use of creative tools, with most elements polished and the site reasonably easy to navigate.	☐ The site's use of creative tools, polish, or navigability needs attention.
Functionality	☐ The site works reliably across all judged pages and is accessible to its intended audience.	☐ The site works on most judged pages, with only minor issues, and is reasonably accessible.	☐ The site has functional problems on judged pages, or isn't accessible to its intended audience.
Submission	☐ All submission requirements were fully met, and local ministry use was clearly described.	☐ Most submission requirements were met.	☐ Submission requirements need attention, or local ministry use was not included.
What you did really well: 1. 2.			
Ways to grow and improve next time: 1. 2.			
Please help us improve these rules and rubrics each year by sending feedback by email to lrc@hoaltc.org within 30 days of the end of the convention.			

Social Media Creations

Purpose

Provide young people the opportunity to develop and demonstrate their creative and technical talents by creating a social media post for the congregation.

Expectations

- Coaches and students will familiarize themselves with the event rules and rubrics prior to beginning the project. For students requiring special consideration, see instructions found at HOALTC.org/CC.
- Students will create a post for use in social media (e.g., Facebook, TikTok, X, Instagram, etc.) — not for the congregation's main website. The post may take the form of a photograph, meme, digital poster, short video, or any format appropriate to post to social media.
- Grades 3-9: the creation and design of the presentation ideas will be the effort of the student(s); adult helpers are allowed to help with implementation and technical assistance. Grades 10-12: the post will be the work of the student(s) only, and adult assistance is limited to advice and supervision.

Rules

- The post must glorify God and represent the current year's LTC theme, and must be appropriate for public posting and reflect well on the congregation.
- The student(s) must specify the direct link (URL) to the post as published, so it can be located for judging.
- An unlimited number of teams and/or students from each congregation are allowed per grade level, with a maximum of 2 students per team. Students may only work on one entry.
- A written paragraph must be included describing how the entry was used in the ministry of the church or in personal ministry (examples: use in a church assembly, a Bible class or small group setting, a ministry website, or a radio/TV broadcast). This paragraph is scored as part of the Submission criterion on the rubric, not as a separate item.
- Stock Media: Rights-free or properly licensed stock images and/or background music may be used in the post, provided the source and license/rights status are documented and available upon request. This is distinct from AI-generated content, which remains prohibited (see Artificial Intelligence rule below).
- Artificial Intelligence: Generative AI tools may not be used to generate the post's text, images, or video. The post's creative content must be the student(s)' own original work, with the exception of rights-cleared stock images or licensed background music as permitted under the Stock Media rule above.

Submission Instructions

The Church Coordinator will submit the following on or before the Pre-Convention Event deadline, via the Event Coordinator page at HOALTC.org/CC: Congregation Name, Congregation Number, age group, list of team members and their grades, the direct link (URL) to the published post, contact person and contact information for questions about the entry, and the local ministry-use paragraph.

SOCIAL MEDIA CREATIONS HOALTC 2027 - Make Waves			
Judge each entry relative to the grade range noted on the rubric, not by one fixed standard — a strong entry from a lower range should look different from a strong entry from a higher range.			
Content	☐ The post's content is well-developed and clearly serves its purpose.	☐ The post's content is functional and its purpose is generally clear.	☐ The post's content or purpose needs attention.
Message	☐ The post's message is clearly relevant to this year's theme or Bible text.	☐ The post's message is reasonably relevant to this year's theme or Bible text.	☐ A viewer would have trouble connecting the post's message to this year's theme or Bible text.
Creative Execution	☐ The post makes excellent, purposeful use of its chosen format (image, video, meme, etc.) — every element is polished and adds to the message.	☐ The post makes good use of its chosen format, with most elements polished and adding to the message.	☐ The post's use of its chosen format, or its overall polish, needs attention.
Platform Fit	☐ The post is well-suited to its platform and format — clear and effective even in a quick scroll.	☐ The post reasonably fits its platform and format.	☐ The post's format or length needs attention to fit how it would actually be viewed on its platform.
Submission	☐ All submission requirements were fully met, and local ministry use was clearly described.	☐ Most submission requirements were met.	☐ Submission requirements need attention, or local ministry use was not included.
What you did really well: 1. 2.			
Ways to grow and improve next time: 1. 2.			
Please help us improve these rules and rubrics each year by sending feedback by email to lrc@hoaltc.org within 30 days of the end of the convention.			

MUSIC

Song Writing

Purpose

To encourage students to develop and use their musical interests and talents by creating an original a cappella song with a Christian message that is suitable for use in worship, ministry, or fellowship.

Expectations

- Coaches and students will familiarize themselves with the event rules and rubrics prior to beginning the project. For students requiring special consideration, see instructions found at HOALTC.org/CC.
- Students must prepare and submit a musical score of their composition that includes standard musical notation on a staff, with notes, rhythms, and other markings to represent the composition, with the lyrics aligned with the corresponding music.
- Harmony is not required or evaluated; however, students should consider incorporating harmonic chords to enhance their composition, particularly if they hope to publish their work in the future.
- Individuals or teams of up to two students may create a composition. Students must be the sole creators of the lyrics and music. Handwritten work is allowed if legible and neat; software and online tools may also be used.
- Students wishing to display their entry at the HOALTC convention should have their Church Coordinator submit sheet music to the Display Event Coordinator. It must be retrieved on Saturday afternoon.

Rules

- The student's composition must include **both** an original melody **and** original lyrics or a scripture text set to music.
- Entries must highlight the current year's theme or content from this year's Bible text.
- This entry may be completed by an individual or a team of no more than two students.
- The student(s) must write a paragraph describing how the song was or could be used in ministry. This paragraph is evaluated as part of the Format and Submission criterion on the rubric.
- The audio file must be saved in one of these formats: .mp3, .wav, .m4a, .ogg, and named with the student's name(s) and the event (example: JimSmith.SongWriting.mp3).
- A supporting PDF document containing the following must be created: Page 1 - Cover sheet containing: Event Name, Student Name(s) and Grade(s), Congregation Name, Congregation City/State, Congregation Number, and Song Name; Page 2 - the local ministry-use paragraph; Pages 3+ - sheet music for the song. The PDF file name must be in the following format: song title, congregation number, and event name (example: ASongforJesus.999.SongWriting.PDF).
- Artificial Intelligence: Generative AI tools may not be used to generate the melody or lyrics.

Submission Instructions

The Church Coordinator or Coach will complete the Song Writing Submission Form found at HOALTC.org/CC/precon by the Pre-Convention deadline. The audio file and supporting PDF must be uploaded within this form.

SONG WRITING HOALTC 2027 - Make Waves			
Judge each entry relative to the grade range noted on the rubric, not by one fixed standard — a strong entry from a lower range should look different from a strong entry from a higher range.			
Theme	☐ The theme or this year's Bible text stands out and is strongly supported by the song.	☐ The theme or this year's Bible text is evident and supported by the song.	☐ The theme or this year's Bible text needs more attention to be evident in the song.
Melody	☐ The melody is original, pleasing to hear, memorable, and easy to follow.	☐ The melody is reasonably original, pleasant, and easy enough to follow.	☐ The melody's originality, memorability, or ease of following needs attention.
Lyrics	☐ The lyrics are original (or clearly a noted scripture text) and fit the melody well.	☐ The lyrics are largely original (or a noted scripture text) and reasonably fit the melody.	☐ The lyrics need attention on originality, scripture notation, or fit with the melody.
Organization	☐ The copy is neat and readable, the information is well organized, and the song is easy to follow.	☐ The copy and information are reasonably organized and readable.	☐ The copy's neatness, organization, or readability needs attention.
Format and Submission	☐ Submission requirements were fully met, and the ministry-use paragraph was clearly included.	☐ Submission requirements were mostly met.	☐ Submission requirements need attention, or the ministry-use paragraph was not included.
Strength of Song	☐ The song clearly fits its target setting(s) and is inspiring, encouraging, and thought-provoking.	☐ The song reasonably fits its target setting(s) and offers some encouragement or food for thought.	☐ The song's fit with its target setting, or its overall impact, needs attention.
What you did really well: 1. 2.			
Ways to grow and improve next time: 1. 2.			
Please help us improve these rules and rubrics each year by sending feedback by email to lrc@hoaltc.org within 30 days of the end of the convention.			

HOALTC PRE-CONVENTION CHALLENGE EVENTS

HOALTC Pre-Convention Challenge Events are those in which students are challenged to meet quantified participation goals for various activities. Church Coordinators and coaches should consult the specific rules and requirements for each event as they help students complete these events.

Nine Challenge Events are divided into three general categories:

- **Outreach**
 - Outreach Challenge
 - Service Challenge
- **Personal Growth**
 - Leadership Challenge
 - Prayer Journal Challenge
 - Scripture Memory Challenge
- **Public Participation**
 - Bible Reading Challenge
 - Christian Conversations Challenge
 - Teaching Challenge
 - Worship Leadership Challenge

Each event has specific age-related requirements and/or award standards. Church Coordinators, Coaches, and students should consult the specific event requirements for age-related differences. Please note that Outreach Challenge and Leadership Challenge are only open for older students.

Church Coordinators or designated coaches are asked to maintain accurate records of each student's activities so that appropriate medals can be awarded. As students turn in their completed Challenge Forms, the Church Coordinator records each award level on the Challenge Event Medal Worksheet. After all students have turned in their forms by the Challenge Event deadline, the Church Coordinator uses the totals from the Worksheet to complete the electronic medal order Google Form (see the Worksheet instructions for the link).

Because some events require a significant amount of time to complete, students may begin working toward Challenge Event goals for the following year immediately after the preceding year's Pre-Convention Challenge deadline. Church Coordinators may want to encourage year-round participation even if the congregation's official LTC year does not start until September.

Note to Church Coordinators: Forms are provided within this manual and at HOALTC.org to help track each student's progress and determine award levels. Even though they ask for a signature, they are solely for local record-keeping and will not be submitted to HOALTC. Additionally, a Challenge Event Medal Worksheet is provided, here and online, for your convenience as a means to compile information prior to electronic submission. Please be sure to retain records of individual student awards until after medals have been distributed at the convention so that you will know who should receive each medal.

Special Note about Deadlines: Most Pre-Convention Challenge Events should be completed by the Challenge Event deadline. The exception to this is Leadership Challenge, which involves helping coach an HOALTC event and therefore might not be finished until the time of the convention itself. Please see the Leadership Challenge rules for further details.

PERSONAL GROWTH

Outreach Challenge

Purpose

Encourage young people to reach out and teach others the Gospel through study and involvement.

Expectations

- Students will document the projects in which they are involved, identifying dates, materials used (if applicable), and the audience targeted through these outreach projects.
- Materials used for this Challenge must be Bible-based and evangelistic; the object is to teach and convert the lost to Christ.
- Suggested projects include: conducting a Bible study with someone who is not a baptized believer, or with a new convert; participating in a mission trip; conducting a weekly Bible study for peers (including at least one non-Christian) for at least a month; being part of an outreach team that works for one day to invite people to worship, a gospel meeting, VBS, or a Bible study; organizing or working on a youth rally designed to reach area youth; contacting visitors to a Bible class to invite them to return and study (e.g., a visit, phone call, or card); being part of a teaching team that works with a VBS reaching out to area youth; or working with the local outreach minister/leader to assist in teaching the Gospel to the lost.

Rules

- Students must be in grades 7-12.
- Two or more outreach projects must include working with individuals who are not New Testament Christians.
- Students must write a one-page report of the lessons they have learned from reaching out to others with the Gospel.

Submission Instructions

Students turn in their completed Challenge Form to their Church Coordinator by the Pre-Convention Challenge deadline. The Church Coordinator records the award level on the Challenge Event Medal Worksheet.

Awards

- Gold – 8 projects.
- Silver – 6 projects.
- Bronze – 4 projects.

Outreach Challenge Form

Note: This form is provided for your convenience and record-keeping purposes only and will NOT be submitted to HOALTC.

Student Name: _____

Project	Date	Materials used, if any	Audience targeted
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			

_____ One-page report submitted to coach or church coordinator

Awards

- Gold – 8 projects.
- Silver – 6 projects.
- Bronze – 4 projects.

AWARD EARNED (circle one): GOLD SILVER BRONZE

Certified by: _____ **Date:** _____

Service Challenge

Purpose

Encourage students to make Christian service an integral part of their lifestyle.

Expectations

- Students will make Christian service an integral part of their lives through participation in work that benefits others without compensation.

Rules

- Service projects must be completed between the prior year's Pre-Convention Challenge submission date and the upcoming Pre-Convention Challenge deadline.
- Students should work with their Church Coordinator or designated Coach to identify acceptable service projects. Examples include set-up or clean-up for a fellowship meal, raking leaves for a shut-in, volunteering for a local non-profit organization, or teaching VBS.
- Students must submit a short report to their Church Coordinator or event coach answering: Which service project did you find most meaningful and beneficial? Explain why.

Submission Instructions

Students turn in their completed Challenge Form to their Church Coordinator by the Pre-Convention Challenge deadline. The Church Coordinator records the award level on the Challenge Event Medal Worksheet.

Awards

Grades 3-6

- Gold – 10 projects.
- Silver – 8 projects.
- Bronze – 6 projects.

Grades 7-12

- Gold – 12 projects.
- Silver – 10 projects.
- Bronze – 8 projects.

Service Challenge Form

Note: This form is for local record-keeping purposes only and will NOT be submitted to HOALTC.

Student Name: _____

Grade Level (circle one): 3rd - 6th 7th - 12th

Project	Date
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	
11.	
12.	

_____ Attached report explaining the blessings of the student's service (check for yes)

Awards

Grades 3-6

- Gold – 10 projects.
- Silver – 8 projects.
- Bronze – 6 projects.

Grades 7-12

- Gold – 12 projects.
- Silver – 10 projects.
- Bronze – 8 projects.

AWARD EARNED (circle one): GOLD SILVER BRONZE

Certified by: _____ **Date:** _____

Leadership Challenge

Purpose

Promote the leadership of older students in the training of younger students and participation of leaders in the LTC program.

Expectations

- The student will work under the guidance of the Church Coordinator, who will certify completion of this event. The Church Coordinator may further define the requirements of this event for the local church.
- The teen must work with an adult but must take a major leadership role in the training. No more than two teens may work together with one team.

Rules

- The student must be in grade 9, 10, 11, or 12.
- The student shall lead a group of students in grades 3-9 in their training for the LTC convention, either by coaching or co-coaching a team event, or by coaching three individuals preparing for an individual event.
- The student must meet with these students for a minimum of six sessions.
- The student will write a typed or neatly written report explaining how helping and mentoring younger LTC students impacted them. This report should be submitted to the student's Church Coordinator.

Submission Instructions

The Church Coordinator will complete the Leadership Challenge Form and submit it, along with the student's report, when checking in at the HOALTC convention. Note: Gold is the only award level for completion of this Challenge.

Leadership Challenge Form

Note: Church Coordinators should complete this form and verify it with their signature below. Attach the student's one-page report and turn the form and report in at the HOALTC Central desk upon check-in at the HOALTC convention.

Student Name: _____

Grade: _____

Church Number: _____

Student worked with (check one): a group preparing a team event, or three or more individuals preparing individual events:

Event with which the student assisted: _____

Dates the student provided leadership in the above area (must list six):

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

4. _____ 5. _____ 6. _____

AWARD EARNED (circle one): GOLD

Certified by: _____ **Date:** _____

Prayer Journal Challenge

Purpose

Promote the habit of constant prayer through regular journaling and to impart understanding of various purposes of prayer.

Expectations

- Because students may be more authentic and transparent in private journals, the Church Coordinator or Coach may consider allowing students to self-verify the contents of their journals and/or devise a method of verification that will not violate the student's privacy. Verification methods are left to the discretion of the Church Coordinator or Coach.
- Journaling will have occurred during some or all of the 12 months preceding the Pre-Convention Challenge deadline.
- Journaling should include reflections about the things the student prayed about each day; it should avoid simply listing people or topics.
- Prayers and reflections should be multi-faceted, including praise (expressions of admiration for the Lord), petition (requests for self or others), thanksgiving (words of appreciation), and confession (acknowledgment of shortcomings or sins).
- The Church Coordinator will specify one or more individuals, ideally not related to the student, to verify prayer journaling.

Rules

- The student must maintain a prayer journal documenting things for which they prayed on each documented day.
- Each counted week must include a minimum of five days of journaling.
- Students are to maintain a list of prayers for which an answer was evident.

Submission Instructions

Students turn in their completed Challenge Form to their Church Coordinator by the Pre-Convention Challenge deadline. The Church Coordinator records the award level on the Challenge Event Medal Worksheet.

Awards

Grades 3-6

- Gold – 8 weeks + list of answered prayers.
- Silver – 6 weeks + list of answered prayers.
- Bronze – 4 weeks + list of answered prayers.

Grades 7-12

- Gold – 10 weeks + list of answered prayers.
- Silver – 8 weeks + list of answered prayers.
- Bronze – 6 weeks + list of answered prayers.

Prayer Journal Challenge Form

Note: This form is for local record-keeping purposes only and will NOT be submitted to HOALTC.

Student Name: _____

Age Division (circle one): 3rd - 6th 7th - 12th

Week Beginning (date)	Week Ending (date)	Number of Days Journalled*
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		

* "Weeks" must have at least five journal entries during a 7-day period.

Total weeks journalled: _____

List of answered prayers (check for yes): _____

Awards

Grades 3-6

- Gold – 8 weeks + list of answered prayers.
- Silver – 6 weeks + list of answered prayers.
- Bronze – 4 weeks + list of answered prayers.

Grades 7-12

- Gold – 10 weeks + list of answered prayers.
- Silver – 8 weeks + list of answered prayers.
- Bronze – 6 weeks + list of answered prayers.

AWARD EARNED (circle one): GOLD SILVER BRONZE

Certified by: _____ **Date:** _____

Scripture Memory Challenge

Purpose

Help students develop the habit of committing multi-verse passages of scripture to memory, and encourage the inclusion of memory work in Bible school programs.

Expectations

- Memorization of single verses is not prohibited; however, students are especially encouraged to learn longer Biblical texts (e.g., Psalm 23, the Beatitudes, etc.) as part of this event.
- Scriptures may be self-selected or assigned by an adult.
- The student may use any translation except those identified as paraphrased or condensed.
- The Church Coordinator or Event Coach should appoint at least one adult, ideally not related to the student, to verify memorization by listening to the student orally recite memorized verses.

Rules

- Students must recite all verses in no more than three sittings (e.g., a 4th grader might earn a gold medal by reciting 12 verses in Sitting 1, 13 in Sitting 2, and 5 in Sitting 3, for a total of 30 verses).
- Memory work will be quoted verbatim (within reason) to the chosen text.
- A student may use a list of scriptures during the sittings but may have no other notes.

Submission Instructions

Students turn in their completed Challenge Form to their Church Coordinator by the Pre-Convention Challenge deadline. The Church Coordinator records the award level on the Challenge Event Medal Worksheet.

Awards

Grades 3-6

- Gold – 30 scriptures.
- Silver – 20 scriptures.
- Bronze – 10 scriptures.

Grades 7-9

- Gold – 50 scriptures.
- Silver – 30 scriptures.
- Bronze – 20 scriptures.

Grades 10-12

- Gold – 70 scriptures.
- Silver – 50 scriptures.
- Bronze – 30 scriptures.

Scripture Memory Challenge Form

Note: This form is for local record-keeping purposes only and will NOT be submitted to HOALTC.

Student Name: _____

Grade Level (circle one): 3rd - 6th 7th - 9th 10th - 12th

Date	Scriptures recited	Number of scriptures recited in sitting	Verified by
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			

The totality of verses may be recited in 1 – 3 sittings.

Awards

Grades 3-6

- Gold – 30 scriptures.
- Silver – 20 scriptures.
- Bronze – 10 scriptures.

Grades 7-9

- Gold – 50 scriptures.
- Silver – 30 scriptures.
- Bronze – 20 scriptures.

Grades 10-12

- Gold – 70 scriptures.
- Silver – 50 scriptures.
- Bronze – 30 scriptures.

AWARD EARNED (circle one): GOLD SILVER BRONZE

Certified by: _____ **Date:** _____

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Bible Reading Challenge

Purpose

Give students experience in publicly reading aloud from the Bible in various group settings.

Expectations

- The student need not interpret or explain the reading.
- The student need not memorize the passage.
- Readings counted toward the Bible Reading Challenge cannot be duplicated in the Worship Leadership Challenge or any other event.
- A coach or mentor will record and verify each reading.

Rules

- Students must read in at least two different venues during the course of this challenge. Suggested opportunities include a classroom, Bible study, devotional, VBS, or worship service.
- The student should prepare an introduction of 30 seconds or less for a selected reading from the Bible, containing contextual information such as who, what, when, where, why, other pertinent context, and the translation used.
- All readings must occur in a group setting.

Submission Instructions

Students turn in their completed Challenge Form to their Church Coordinator by the Pre-Convention Challenge deadline. The Church Coordinator records the award level on the Challenge Event Medal Worksheet.

Awards

Grades 3-4

- Gold – 4 readings.
- Silver – 3 readings.
- Bronze – 2 readings.

Grades 5-6

- Gold – 5 readings.
- Silver – 4 readings.
- Bronze – 3 readings.

Grades 7-9

- Gold – 7 readings.
- Silver – 6 readings.
- Bronze – 5 readings.

Grades 10-12

- Gold – 9 readings.
- Silver – 8 readings.
- Bronze – 7 readings.

Bible Reading Challenge Form

Note: This form is provided for your convenience and record-keeping purposes only and will NOT be submitted to HOALTC.

Student Name: _____

Grade Level (circle one): 3-4 5-6 7-9 10-12

Date	Verses	Setting	Verified by
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			

Awards

Grades 3-4

- Gold – 4 readings.
- Silver – 3 readings.
- Bronze – 2 readings.

Grades 5-6

- Gold – 5 readings.
- Silver – 4 readings.
- Bronze – 3 readings.

Grades 7-9

- Gold – 7 readings.
- Silver – 6 readings.
- Bronze – 5 readings.

Grades 10-12

- Gold – 9 readings.
- Silver – 8 readings.
- Bronze – 7 readings.

AWARD EARNED (circle one): GOLD SILVER BRONZE

Certified by: _____ **Date:** _____

Christian Conversations Challenge

Purpose

Encourage young people to develop conversational skills necessary for welcoming, getting to know others, and furthering friendships among people of all ages and stations of life, reflecting real concern for others as part of God's family.

Expectations

- The student will work with the Church Coordinator or a designated Coach, who should be an adult, preferably unrelated to the student.
- The student will participate in conversations as described below and accumulate points on the Conversation Challenge Form. The coach should use the guidelines below to determine whether a conversation qualifies and to determine its point value.
- Qualifying conversations should be outside of activities counted for other LTC events (for example, talking about an activity for Service Challenge or for a Puppets or Chorus performance does not qualify), though other activities may qualify at the discretion of the student's Church Coordinator and coach.

Rules

- Qualifying conversations should be with people outside the student's family and normal circle of friends. Where this isn't possible, the coach should encourage longer conversations (especially with older members), stretching the topics of conversation, and interactions with visitors.
- Points are based on the amount of interaction involved, including length and complexity. A basic greeting or welcome initiated by the student earns 5 points per person greeted; responding to a greeting earns 3 points, with 1 additional point for each further interaction or comment/question added; longer direct conversations (e.g., working on a project together, or a Bible question outside of class time) can earn 20-25 points, capped at 25 points maximum. Conversations involving more than two people are scored only for the direct interactions of the student earning the points.
- Verification can come from the people involved or a separate witness, and need not cover every conversation individually — general confirmation that conversations occurred and that the points claimed seem reasonable is sufficient, unless the coach chooses more detailed verification.

Submission Instructions

Students turn in their completed Challenge Form to their Church Coordinator by the Pre-Convention Challenge deadline. The Church Coordinator records the award level on the Challenge Event Medal Worksheet.

Awards

Grades 3-6

- Gold – 200 points.
- Silver – 150 points.
- Bronze – 100 points.

Grades 7-12

- Gold – 300 points.
- Silver – 250 points.
- Bronze – 200 points.

Christian Conversations Challenge Form

Note: This form is provided for your convenience and record-keeping purposes only and will NOT be submitted to HOALTC. Make additional copies if needed.

Student Name: _____

Grade Level (circle one): 3-6 7-12

Date	Person	Points
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		

Total points: _____

Awards

Grades 3-6

- Gold – 200 points.
- Silver – 150 points.
- Bronze – 100 points.

Grades 7-12

- Gold – 300 points.
- Silver – 250 points.
- Bronze – 200 points.

AWARD EARNED (circle one): GOLD SILVER BRONZE

Certified by: _____ **Date:** _____

Teaching Challenge

Purpose

Encourage young people to develop skills necessary for effective Bible class teaching.

Expectations

- The student will be assigned a teaching mentor by their Church Coordinator or Coach.
- Students are encouraged to complete these tasks within consecutive weeks.

Rules

- Depending on the student's grade level and award goal, the student will work as a helper, a helper and teacher, and/or a teacher with a single class of students (e.g., their congregation's 4th graders) for the duration of the challenge. As a helper, the student assists the teacher in preparing for class (cutting out handwork, coloring or preparing visual aids or artwork, etc.). As a helper and teacher, the student assists in preparing for class and teaches a portion of it (such as the Bible lesson or application story). As a teacher, the student is responsible for preparing for and teaching the entire class period.
- Students must be at least three years older than the students with whom they are working.
- Students must complete a report outlining: dates taught, number of students in the class, ages of the students, the topic of study, and the student's role in the activity.
- Awards, grades 3-6: Gold – two class periods as a helper plus two as a helper and teacher (four weeks); Silver – two classes as a helper plus one as a helper and teacher (three weeks); Bronze – one class as a helper plus one as a helper and teacher (two weeks). Awards, grades 7-12: Gold – one class as a helper plus two as a helper and teacher plus one as a teacher (four weeks); Silver – one class as a helper plus two as a helper and teacher (three weeks); Bronze – one class as a helper plus one as a helper and teacher (two weeks).

Submission Instructions

Students turn in their completed Challenge Form to their Church Coordinator by the Pre-Convention Challenge deadline. The Church Coordinator records the award level on the Challenge Event Medal Worksheet.

Awards

Grades 3-6

- Gold – two class periods as a helper + two class periods as a helper and teacher (four weeks).
- Silver – two classes as a helper + one class period as a helper and teacher (three weeks).
- Bronze – one class as a helper + one class period as a helper and teacher (two weeks).

Grades 7-12

- Gold – one class as a helper + two class periods as a helper and teacher + one class period as a teacher (four weeks).
- Silver – one class as a helper + two class periods as a helper and teacher (three weeks).
- Bronze – one class as a helper + one class period as a helper and teacher (two weeks).

Teaching Challenge Form

Note: This form is for local record-keeping purposes only and will NOT be submitted to HOALTC.

Student Name: _____

Grade Level (circle one): 3rd - 6th 7th - 12th

Date	Role(s)	Ages Taught	# of Students	Class Topic	Activity
1.	__Teacher __Helper				
2.	__Teacher __Helper				
3.	__Teacher __Helper				
4.	__Teacher __Helper				

Awards

Grades 3-6

- Gold – two class periods as a helper + two class periods as a helper and teacher (four weeks).
- Silver – two classes as a helper + one class period as a helper and teacher (three weeks).
- Bronze – one class as a helper + one class period as a helper and teacher (two weeks).

Grades 7-12

- Gold – one class as a helper + two class periods as a helper and teacher + one class period as a teacher (four weeks).
- Silver – one class as a helper + two class periods as a helper and teacher (three weeks).
- Bronze – one class as a helper + one class period as a helper and teacher (two weeks).

AWARD EARNED (circle one): GOLD SILVER BRONZE

Certified by: _____ **Date:** _____

Worship Leadership Challenge

Purpose

Promote participation by young men and women in worship leadership activities.

Expectations

- The student will work with the Church Coordinator and/or a designated coach, who will facilitate the student's participation in worship, coach the student on properly participating in phases of worship, and verify the places, times, and participation on the challenge form.
- Activities can be conducted during regular worship times, women's programs, gospel meetings, worship at nursing homes, Vacation Bible School, camps, or youth group devotionals.
- Activities counted for this event cannot include home devotionals or settings where only the student's immediate family members are present.
- Students cannot count activities used for Bible Reading Challenge or Service Challenge toward Worship Leadership Challenge as well; these are separate events, and a student may pursue all of them but must meet the requirements for each separately.

Rules

- Students must complete their service in Activity Categories in public assemblies: Category 1, Prayer (lead public prayer two times); Category 2, Song Leading (serve as the primary song leader in one worship event); Category 3, Scripture Reading (read scripture in one worship event); Category 4, Preaching (deliver one lesson); Category 5, Communion (wait on the Lord's table two times); Category 6, Announcements (make announcements two times); Category 7, Signing (interpret a portion of one worship service); Category 8, Worship Design (design one worship assembly, including all phases of worship); Category 9, Media Operation (operate media equipment for two worship services).
- Awards, grades 3-6: Gold – completion of a complete set of activities from three separate categories; Silver – two separate categories; Bronze – one category. Awards, grades 7-12: Gold – five separate categories; Silver – four separate categories; Bronze – three separate categories.

Submission Instructions

Students turn in their completed Challenge Form to their Church Coordinator by the Pre-Convention Challenge deadline. The Church Coordinator records the award level on the Challenge Event Medal Worksheet.

Awards

Grades 3-6

- Gold – completion of a complete set of activities from three separate categories.
- Silver – completion of a complete set of activities from two separate categories.
- Bronze – completion of a complete set of activities from one category.

Grades 7-12

- Gold – completion of a complete set of activities from five separate categories.
- Silver – completion of a complete set of activities from four separate categories.
- Bronze – completion of a complete set of activities from three separate categories.

Worship Leadership Challenge Form

Note: This form is for local record-keeping purposes only and need NOT be submitted to HOALTC.

Student Name: _____

Grade Level (circle one): 3rd - 6th 7th - 12th

Category	Dates
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	

Activity Categories:

- Category 1 – Prayer – lead public prayer two times.
- Category 2 – Song Leading – serve as the primary song leader in one worship event.
- Category 3 – Scripture Reading – read scripture in one worship event.
- Category 4 – Preaching – deliver one lesson.
- Category 5 – Communion – wait on the Lord's table two times.
- Category 6 – Announcements – make announcements two times.
- Category 7 – Signing – interpret a portion of one worship service.
- Category 8 – Worship Design – design one worship assembly, including all phases of worship.
- Category 9 – Media Operation – operate media equipment for two worship services.

Awards

Grades 3-6

- Gold – completion of a complete set of activities from three separate categories.
- Silver – completion of a complete set of activities from two separate categories.
- Bronze – completion of a complete set of activities from one category.

Grades 7-12

- Gold – completion of a complete set of activities from five separate categories.
- Silver – completion of a complete set of activities from four separate categories.
- Bronze – completion of a complete set of activities from three separate categories.

AWARD EARNED (circle one): GOLD SILVER BRONZE

Certified by: _____ **Date:** _____

Challenge Event Medal Worksheet

This worksheet is provided for the convenience of Church Coordinators as a means to compile a complete list of awards earned prior to completion and submission of the electronic medal order Google Form at HOALTC.org/cc. This worksheet will NOT be submitted to HOALTC. Church Coordinators are encouraged to keep records identifying recipients of the medals requested below. The events are listed in alphabetical order.

Bible Reading	Christian Conversations	Leadership
Gold: _____	Gold: _____	Gold: _____
Silver: _____	Silver: _____	Silver: _____
Bronze: _____	Bronze: _____	Bronze: _____
Outreach	Prayer Journal	Scripture Memory
Gold: _____	Gold: _____	Gold: _____
Silver: _____	Silver: _____	Silver: _____
Bronze: _____	Bronze: _____	Bronze: _____
Service	Teaching	Worship Leadership
Gold: _____	Gold: _____	Gold: _____
Silver: _____	Silver: _____	Silver: _____
Bronze: _____	Bronze: _____	Bronze: _____

HOALTC CONVENTION DISPLAY EVENTS

Display Event entries are entries which encourage artistic expression. They are brought to convention to be judged and displayed. Church Coordinators and coaches should consult the rules and judging rubrics for each event as they help students prepare entries.

Students must be registered. Please follow registration and submission guidelines carefully.

Six display events consist of:

- **Bulletin Board**
- **Christian Art**
 - Drawing
 - Painting
 - Mixed Media
 - Sculpture

May submit two entries, each a different medium. If specific media requirements are not met, the entry may be removed from judging, or the award level may be adjusted by the Event Coordinators.

- **Christian Banner**
- **Christian Photography**
- **Digital Poster**
- **Scrapbook**

There are 3 grade levels for these events: grades 3-6, grades 7-9, and grades 10-12.

Submission Instructions: Each Church Coordinator will check in with the Display Event Coordinator in the Display Event area, where they will receive rubrics for their students' entries and submit the entries for judging.

Display events must be picked up on Saturday afternoon. Coordinators should consult the HOALTC Convention Schedule for submission and pick-up times.

Bulletin Board

Purpose

Encourage young people to develop the ability to use creative ideas and techniques to communicate a thought or theme through an attention-grabbing bulletin board.

Expectations

- The student will familiarize themselves with the event rules and rubrics prior to beginning the project. For students requiring special consideration, see instructions found at HOALTC.org/CC.
- Entries will be judged on message and design, visual composition, creativity, and craftsmanship. Noncompliance with size or presentation could result in lowering of the award level or removal of the piece from judging. See the rubric and specific requirements below.
- Adult assistance will be limited to that of advice and supervision. The bulletin boards will be the work of the students only, including last-minute work at the convention.
- A bulletin board is an information-giving tool and should make a clear point that is readily understood.
- Each congregation is expected to self-monitor so that no student works on multiple bulletin boards. Teams are subject to grade-level divisions of grades 3-6, grades 7-9, grades 10-12. If a team consists of mixed age groups, the bulletin board will be judged at the grade level of the oldest team member.

Rules

- Entries must highlight the current year's theme and/or content from the Bible text covered in the current year.
- Materials: Bulletin boards may not contain any materials that require the use of electricity or battery power. Other materials are not restricted, but the board should be rigid enough to stand on its own. (Poster board alone is too flimsy.) All displays must be in good taste.
- Size: The display will be no larger than three feet by four feet. Nothing may extend beyond this area. Smaller sizes are permissible.
- Display: Each entry must furnish its own easel, or any other item needed for the display. The display must be self-supporting, i.e., supported or braced in some way so it can be viewed at eye level. It must stand alone on the floor — it will not be propped up on a table. Displays must be portable.
- Identification: A small card (about 3x5") with the church name and number and age level will be attached to the front of the board. Bulletin boards are entered under the name of a church rather than individuals.
- Numbers: Each team will have a maximum of six (6) students, with an unlimited number of teams per congregation. Each student may work on only one bulletin board (see Expectations above).
- Artificial Intelligence: Generative AI-generated images, text, or other content may not be used anywhere on the board. All content must be the students' own original work.

BULLETIN BOARD HOALTC 2027 - Make Waves			
Judge each entry relative to the grade range noted on the rubric, not by one fixed standard — a strong entry from a lower range should look different from a strong entry from a higher range.			
Message and Design	☐ The board presents a clear, meaningful vision of the theme or this year's Bible text, with text that genuinely explains and clarifies it.	☐ The board presents a recognizable vision of the theme or this year's Bible text, with text that helps explain it.	☐ A viewer would have trouble identifying the theme or this year's Bible text, or the text does little to explain it.
Visual Composition	☐ Points of interest draw the eye naturally, elements are arranged into a pleasing, balanced whole, and texture, materials, and color work together to enhance the entry.	☐ The entry has some clear points of interest and a reasonably balanced arrangement, with color and materials used appropriately.	☐ The arrangement, points of interest, or use of color and materials need attention.
Creativity	☐ The entry shows a strong amount of original, inventive thought.	☐ The entry shows some original thought and ideas.	☐ The entry would benefit from more original thought and ideas.
Craftsmanship	☐ The entry is built with exceptional skill, and the workmanship is neat and orderly.	☐ The entry shows reasonable skill and orderly workmanship.	☐ The materials used or the workmanship need more attention.
Standard Requirements	☐ The board is no larger than 3' x 4', is self-supporting and portable, uses no electrical or battery-powered materials, and has a complete church identification card attached.		☐ The board exceeds 3' x 4', is not self-supporting, uses electrical or battery-powered materials, or the identification card is incomplete or missing.
What you did really well: 1. 2.			
Ways to grow and improve next time: 1. 2.			
Please help us improve these rules and rubrics each year by sending feedback by email to lrc@hoaltc.org within 30 days of the end of the convention.			

Christian Art

Purpose

Encourage young people to communicate their faith and beliefs through an artistic medium, and to develop skills with the medium they choose.

Expectations

- Coaches and students will familiarize themselves with the event rules and rubrics prior to beginning the project. If any student needs special consideration, see information posted on the Church Coordinator quick links page at hoaltc.org.
- Adult assistance will be limited to that of advice and supervision. The entries will be the work of the students only, including last-minute work at the convention.
- The entries should be original and creative in thought, composition, and execution.
- Each student may submit two entries in this event, each in a differing media category. Students should be coached to understand the distinctions between the four media (Drawing, Painting, Mixed Media, Sculpture) and should register each entry in the correct medium.

Rules

- Entries must highlight the current year's theme and/or content from the Bible text covered in the current year.
- Identification: A small card (about 3x5") must be placed with the entry on the table, containing the artist's name and grade, congregation name and number, and up to four sentences explaining the work and how it relates to the theme. Missing or incomplete identification could result in a lowering of the award level.
- Entries will be judged on message, design principles, creativity, and craftsmanship. Noncompliance with the size or presentation requirements below, or major inaccuracies in meeting the chosen medium's definition, may result in a lowering of the award level.
- Media-Specific Requirements:
 - Drawing — Materials/surfaces: charcoal, pen and ink, pencil, colored pencil, crayon, chalk, or oil pastels, etc., on a 2-dimensional surface (paper, card stock, scratch board, illustrator's board, etc.). Presentation: edges neatly finished, frame not required, must lie flat on the table; no special lighting permitted. Size: including frame if used, must not exceed 18 x 24 inches (smaller is permissible).
 - Painting — Materials/surfaces: oils, acrylics, watercolors, transparent inks, gouache, alkyds, etc., on a 2-dimensional surface (canvas, paper, Masonite, illustrator's board, etc.); a mounted canvas is acceptable. Presentation and size requirements are the same as Drawing.
 - Mixed Media (including Collage and Computer-Generated Art) — Materials/surfaces: a combination of drawing, painting, and/or collage materials on a 2-dimensional surface. Presentation and size requirements are the same as Drawing, except relief/collage texture up to approximately one inch in height is allowed.
 - Sculpture — Materials: not restricted (including Legos), provided the display is in good taste; Event Coordinators reserve final judgment on this. Presentation: must be self-supporting and stable, but remain movable; no special lighting permitted. Size: base must fit within a 12 x 12 inch square, height must not exceed 18 inches (smaller is permissible).
- Artificial Intelligence: Generative AI image-generation tools may not be used to create or complete any part of an entry, in any medium. This includes the Mixed Media category's Computer-Generated Art option — computer-generated art must be designed and executed by the student using design software, not generated by a Generative AI tool.

CHRISTIAN ART HOALTC 2027 - Make Waves			
Judge each entry relative to the grade range noted on the rubric, not by one fixed standard — a strong entry from a lower range should look different from a strong entry from a higher range.			
Message	☐ The artist presents a clear, compelling vision of the theme or this year's Bible text.	☐ The artist presents a recognizable vision of the theme or this year's Bible text.	☐ A viewer would have trouble identifying the theme or this year's Bible text in this work.
Design Principles	☐ The work skillfully uses emphasis, balance, variety, movement, and proportion to draw the eye and create a unified, well-scaled composition.	☐ The work shows reasonable use of emphasis, balance, variety, movement, and proportion.	☐ The work's use of emphasis, balance, variety, movement, or proportion needs attention.
Creativity	☐ The entry shows excellent original thought, with creative and inventive ideas.	☐ The entry shows some original thought and ideas.	☐ The entry would benefit from more original thought and ideas.
Craftsmanship	☐ The entry shows exceptional skill and fully meets the requirements of the specific medium.	☐ The entry shows skill with the medium and meets most requirements.	☐ The entry shows a need for further skill development with the medium.
Nonobservance of these rules may affect the award level:			
☐ Yes ☐ No A small identifying card (about 3x5") is placed with the entry and includes the artist's name and grade, congregation name and number, and up to four sentences explaining the work and how it relates to the theme.			
☐ Yes ☐ No Size and presentation meet the medium's requirements (Drawing/Painting/Mixed Media: no larger than 18" x 24", lies flat, edges neatly finished; Sculpture: stable and self-supporting, base no larger than 12" x 12", no taller than 18").			
☐ Yes ☐ No Piece was removed from judging due to inappropriate content.			
What you did really well:			
1. 2.			
Ways to grow and improve next time:			
1. 2.			
Please help us improve these rules and rubrics each year by sending feedback by email to lrc@hoaltc.org within 30 days of the end of the convention.			

Christian Banner

Purpose

Give young people an opportunity to develop their talents, creative ideas, and artistic techniques to communicate a Biblical thought or theme by creating a Christian banner.

Expectations

- Coaches and students will familiarize themselves with the event rules and rubrics prior to beginning the project. For students requiring special consideration, see instructions found at HOALTC.org/CC.
- Adult assistance will be limited to that of advice and supervision. The entry should be the work of the students only, including last-minute work at the convention.
- A banner is an attention-getting display and should make a clear point that is quickly and readily understood.
- Each congregation is expected to self-monitor so that no student works on multiple banners. Teams are subject to grade-level divisions of grades 3-6, grades 7-9, grades 10-12. If a team consists of mixed age groups, the banner will be judged at the grade level of the oldest team member.

Rules

- Entries must highlight the current year's theme and/or content from the Bible text covered in the current year.
- Materials: Banners must be made primarily of cloth materials. All displays must be in good taste.
- Size: The banner must be no larger than three feet by six feet, with nothing extending beyond this area. Smaller sizes are permissible.
- Display: Each entry must furnish its own stand (similar to a map stand) and/or other items needed for display. It must be self-supporting (braced or supported so it can be viewed at eye level), must stand alone on the floor (not propped on a table), and must be portable.
- Identification: A small card (about 3x5") with the church name and number, and age level, must be attached to the front of the banner. Banners are entered under the name of a church rather than individuals.
- Numbers: Each team should have a maximum of six students, with an unlimited number of teams per congregation. Each student may work on only one banner (see Expectations above).
- Artificial Intelligence: Generative AI-generated images, text, or other content may not be used anywhere on the banner. All content must be the students' own original work.

CHRISTIAN BANNER HOALTC 2027 - Make Waves			
Judge each entry relative to the grade range noted on the rubric, not by one fixed standard — a strong entry from a lower range should look different from a strong entry from a higher range.			
Message and Design	☐ The team presents a clear, unique, and meaningful vision of the theme or this year's Bible text, and any text used clearly explains and clarifies it.	☐ The team presents a recognizable vision of the theme or this year's Bible text, with text that reasonably explains it.	☐ A viewer would have trouble identifying the theme or this year's Bible text, or the text does little to explain it.
Visual Composition	☐ Points of interest draw the eye naturally, elements are arranged into a pleasing, balanced whole, and texture, materials, and color work together to enhance the entry.	☐ The entry has some clear points of interest and a reasonably balanced arrangement, with color and materials used appropriately.	☐ The arrangement, points of interest, or use of color and materials need attention.
Creativity	☐ The entry shows a strong amount of original, inventive thought.	☐ The entry shows some original thought and ideas.	☐ The entry would benefit from more original thought and ideas.
Craftsmanship	☐ The entry is built with exceptional skill, and the workmanship is neat and orderly.	☐ The entry shows reasonable skill and orderly workmanship.	☐ The materials used or the workmanship need more attention.
Standard Requirements	☐ The banner is no larger than 3' x 6', is made primarily of cloth, is self-supporting and portable, and has a complete church identification card attached.		☐ The banner exceeds 3' x 6', is not primarily cloth, is not self-supporting, or the identification card is incomplete or missing.
What you did really well: 1. 2.			
Ways to grow and improve next time: 1. 2.			
Please help us improve these rules and rubrics each year by sending feedback by email to lrc@hoaltc.org within 30 days of the end of the convention.			

Christian Photography

Purpose

Develop skills among youth to use photography to record events, express emotions, and capture images to strengthen their Christian living and encourage young people to communicate their faith and beliefs through the artistic medium of photography.

Expectations

- Coaches and students will familiarize themselves with the event rules and rubrics prior to beginning the project. If any student needs special consideration, see information posted on the Church Coordinator quick links page at hoaltc.org.
- Adult assistance will be limited to that of advice and supervision. The student submitting the work should be the sole creator of the entry.
- The entries should be original and creative in thought, composition, and execution. Photographs may be either black-and-white or color. Each student should submit only one entry in this event.

Rules

- Entries must highlight the current year's theme and/or content from the Bible text covered in the current year.
- Size: All photographs must be no larger than 8 x 10 inches, and no smaller than 5 x 7 inches.
- Identification: A small card (about 3x5") must be placed next to the photograph for display, containing the artist's name, grade level, home congregation name and number, and up to four sentences explaining the work and how it relates to the theme.
- Special lighting will not be permitted. No photo frames are permitted.
- Artificial Intelligence: The photograph must be an original image captured by the student. Generative AI tools may not be used to generate or substantially alter the image (standard cropping, exposure, and color correction are permitted).

CHRISTIAN PHOTOGRAPHY HOALTC 2027 - Make Waves			
Judge each entry relative to the grade range noted on the rubric, not by one fixed standard — a strong entry from a lower range should look different from a strong entry from a higher range.			
Message	☐ The artist presents a clear, compelling vision of the theme or this year's Bible text.	☐ The artist presents a recognizable vision of the theme or this year's Bible text.	☐ A viewer would have trouble identifying the theme or this year's Bible text in this work.
Design Principles	☐ The work skillfully uses emphasis, balance, variety, movement, and proportion to draw the eye and create a unified, well-scaled composition.	☐ The work shows reasonable use of emphasis, balance, variety, movement, and proportion.	☐ The work's use of emphasis, balance, variety, movement, or proportion needs attention.
Creativity	☐ The entry shows excellent original thought and creative, inventive ideas.	☐ The entry shows some original thought and ideas.	☐ The entry would benefit from more original thought and ideas.
Craftsmanship	☐ The entry shows exceptional skill with the medium of photography.	☐ The entry shows reasonable skill with the medium of photography.	☐ The entry shows a need for further skill development with the medium.
Focus	☐ The subject is sharp and clearly in focus, with any blur being a clear, intentional artistic choice.	☐ The subject is reasonably in focus, with only minor softness.	☐ The subject is noticeably out of focus in a way that detracts from the image.
Nonobservance of these rules may affect the award level:			
☐ Yes ☐ No A small identifying card (about 3x5") is placed next to the entry and includes the artist's name, grade level, congregation name and number, and up to four sentences explaining the work and how it relates to the theme.			
☐ Yes ☐ No Size is between 5x7" and 8x10".			
What you did really well: 1. 2.			
Ways to grow and improve next time: 1. 2.			
Please help us improve these rules and rubrics each year by sending feedback by email to lrc@hoaltc.org within 30 days of the end of the convention.			

Digital Poster

Purpose

Encourage young people to develop the ability to use graphic design to create a theme-based message and creative design. A digital poster can be used to inspire others with a message or to promote an event, and has a variety of uses (PowerPoint, social media post, printed poster, and more). For LTC Display purposes, it will be printed and displayed as a poster, similar to a Bulletin Board.

Expectations

- Coaches and students will familiarize themselves with the event rules and rubrics prior to beginning the project. For students requiring special consideration, see instructions found at HOALTC.org/CC.
- Entries will be judged on message, design principles, and creativity. Noncompliance with size or presentation could result in lowering of the award level. Only entries whose content is deemed inappropriate will be removed from judging entirely. See the rubric and specific requirements below.
- Adult assistance will be limited to that of advice and supervision. The digital poster will be the work of the students only.
- A digital poster is an information-giving tool and should make a clear point that is readily understood.

Rules

- Entries must highlight the current year's theme and/or content from the Bible text covered in the current year.
- Creation: The student will make their digital poster using a graphic design program of their choice (e.g., Adobe Illustrator, Paint.net, Canva, etc.). The poster must be printed for LTC display purposes, but should be rigid enough to stand on its own (poster board alone is too flimsy). All displays must be in good taste.
- Size: The display must be no smaller than 16 x 20" and no larger than 36 x 48". Nothing may extend beyond this area.
- Display: Each entry must furnish its own easel or other item needed for display. It must be self-supporting (braced or supported so it can be viewed at eye level), must stand alone on the floor (not propped on a table), and must be portable.
- Identification: A small card (about 3x5") will be attached to the front of the Digital poster containing the artist's name and grade, congregation name and number, the graphic design program used to create the artwork, and up to four sentences explaining the work and how it relates to the theme.
- Stock Media: Rights-free or properly licensed stock photos/images may be used as part of the poster design, provided the source and license/rights status are noted on the identification card or otherwise documented. This is distinct from AI-generated content, which remains prohibited (see Artificial Intelligence rule below).
- Artificial Intelligence: Generative AI image-generation tools may not be used to create or complete the poster. The design must be the student's own original work, created using the graphic design program named on the identification card, with the exception of rights-cleared stock photos/images as permitted under the Stock Media rule above.

DIGITAL POSTER HOALTC 2027 - Make Waves			
Judge each entry relative to the grade range noted on the rubric, not by one fixed standard — a strong entry from a lower range should look different from a strong entry from a higher range.			
Message	☐ The artist presents a clear, compelling vision of the theme or this year's Bible text.	☐ The artist presents a recognizable vision of the theme or this year's Bible text.	☐ A viewer would have trouble identifying the theme or this year's Bible text in this work.
Design Principles	☐ The work skillfully uses emphasis, balance, variety, movement, and proportion to draw the eye and create a unified, well-scaled composition.	☐ The work shows reasonable use of emphasis, balance, variety, movement, and proportion.	☐ The work's use of emphasis, balance, variety, movement, or proportion needs attention.
Creativity	☐ The entry shows excellent original thought, with creative and inventive ideas.	☐ The entry shows some original thought and ideas.	☐ The entry would benefit from more original thought and ideas.
Craftsmanship	☐ The entry shows exceptional skill and fully meets the requirements of the digital poster medium.	☐ The entry shows skill with the medium and meets most requirements.	☐ The entry shows a need for further skill development with the medium.
Nonobservance of these rules may affect the award level:			
☐ Yes ☐ No A small identifying card (about 3x5") is placed with the entry and includes the artist's name and grade, congregation name and number, the graphic design program used, and up to four sentences explaining the work and how it relates to the theme.			
☐ Yes ☐ No Size is between 16 x 20" and 36 x 48".			
☐ Yes ☐ No Display structure is self-supporting and portable.			
What you did really well: 1. 2.			
Ways to grow and improve next time: 1. 2.			
Please help us improve these rules and rubrics each year by sending feedback by email to ltc@hoaltc.org within 30 days of the end of the convention.			

Scrapbook

Purpose

Development of visual and artistic skills in compiling and presenting a pictorial and written history of church fellowship and/or ministry activities from the previous year. These skills can be used throughout the students' lifetimes.

Expectations

- Coaches and students will familiarize themselves with the event rules and rubrics prior to beginning the project. For students requiring special consideration, see instructions found at HOALTC.org/CC.
- The scrapbook should be an album of pictures and written labels and/or descriptions of fellowship and ministry activities of the members of this congregation. Documentation of LTC work may be included but is not required.
- Use of this year's LTC theme is NOT required for this event.
- Adult assistance should be limited to that of advice and supervision. The scrapbook should be the work of the students, including last-minute work at the convention.
- Scrapbooks may be created and bound manually and/or using software and online tools; computer-prepared scrapbooks must still be printed for display.
- Each congregation is expected to self-monitor so that no student works on multiple scrapbooks. Teams are subject to grade-level divisions of grades 3-6, grades 7-9, grades 10-12. If a team consists of mixed age groups, the scrapbook will be judged at the grade level of the oldest team member.

Rules

- Scrapbooks must be no smaller than 8.5 x 11 inches and no larger than 13 x 16 inches when closed. The scrapbook must have a cover and a title page as its first page, plus at least six more pages (a front and back count as two pages; an open double-page spread counts as two pages).
- The title page must include the church name and number, the age level for judging, the names of the students, and the name of the adult advisor(s).
- Scrapbooks will be judged on appearance, creativity, design, craftsmanship, and proper use of the English language. Noncompliance with size or presentation could result in lowering of the award level. Only entries whose content is deemed inappropriate will be removed from judging entirely.
- Numbers: Each team will have a maximum of six students, with an unlimited number of teams per congregation. Each student may work on only one scrapbook (see Expectations above).
- Artificial Intelligence: Generative AI tools may not be used to generate text, images, or layouts included in the scrapbook. The scrapbook's content must be the students' own original work.

SCRAPBOOK HOALTC 2027 - Make Waves			
<i>Judge each entry relative to the grade range noted on the rubric, not by one fixed standard — a strong entry from a lower range should look different from a strong entry from a higher range.</i>			
Content	☐ The scrapbook presents an exceptionally clear historical record of this congregation's fellowship and ministry activities — a viewer unrelated to the events would fully understand them, and captions/journaling draw the reader in.	☐ The scrapbook presents a good historical record of this congregation's activities; captions and journaling describe the photos and events.	☐ A viewer unrelated to the events would have trouble understanding what's depicted, or the captions and journaling need attention.
Design	☐ Space, shapes, texture, and color are used with strong creativity, making the cover and pages very pleasing and attractive to the eye.	☐ Space, shapes, texture, and color are used with reasonable creativity, giving the scrapbook a pleasing appearance.	☐ The use of space, shapes, texture, or color needs more attention to creativity and appearance.
Craftsmanship	☐ The scrapbook is neatly assembled with evident care, and most photos are well-composed and in focus.	☐ The scrapbook is reasonably neat, with some photos well-composed and in focus.	☐ The scrapbook's assembly, or its photo composition and focus, needs additional care.
Use of Language	☐ Spelling, punctuation, and grammar are used with a high degree of accuracy, as appropriate to the team's grade level.	☐ Spelling, punctuation, and grammar are used with reasonable accuracy, as appropriate to the team's grade level.	☐ Spelling, punctuation, or grammar need attention, relative to the team's grade level.
Standard Requirements	☐ The title page is in the correct location, is neat, and shows all required information; the entry is within the size requirements and contains at least 6 pages beyond the title page.	☐ The title page is in the correct location and contains most of the required information.	☐ The title page is missing, misplaced, or incomplete, or the entry is outside the size or page-count requirements.
What you did really well: 1. 2.			
Ways to grow and improve next time: 1. 2.			
Please help us improve these rules and rubrics each year by sending feedback by email to lrc@hoaltc.org within 30 days of the end of the convention.			

HOALTC CONVENTION EVENTS

HOALTC Convention Events are events that are presented or conducted at the convention.

There are nine convention events, which fall in four general categories:

- **Scripture Events**
 - Bible Bowl
 - Bible Quiz
 - Bible Reading (Grades 3-6 only)
- **Music**
 - Chorus
 - Song Leading
- **Performance**
 - Live Christian Drama
 - Puppets
- **Speaking**
 - Public Speaking
 - Signing for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing

Church Coordinators and Coaches should consult the rules and judging rubrics for each event as they help students prepare their entries. If any student needs special consideration or special accommodation, see information posted at the Church Coordinator Links page at HOALTC.org. Time must be allowed to accommodate the request.

There are 3 grade levels in most events: grades 3-6, grades 7-9, and grades 10-12.

Several events have designated spaces called 'staging areas' at the convention in which groups may practice or gather prior to being judged. The Event Coordinator will direct groups to these areas, when available. Ambassadors will facilitate the entry and exit of performance rooms.

SCRIPTURE EVENTS

Bible Bowl

Purpose

Challenge our youth to increase their personal commitment to Bible study as a continuing way of life. Participation in Bible Bowl provides students an opportunity to commit scriptural facts to memory.

Expectations

- Participating congregations will register each student online by name and grade by the final registration deadline.
- Church Coordinators, Coaches, and Students should familiarize themselves with the instructions and organization of the event. If any student needs special consideration (e.g., being seated near overhead screens due to vision difficulties), see information posted on the Church Coordinator quick links page at hoaltc.org.
- HOALTC will notify Church Coordinators via email with finalized seating charts approximately one week before the convention.
- Church Coordinators must provide one Scorer for every four Bible Bowl students from their congregation. Scorers should report to the event room 10 minutes before the event start time.

Rules

- Subject of Study: Bible Bowl questions and answers are taken from the text of the 2011 New International Version of the Bible. The theme and related book(s) of study can be found at hoaltc.org. HOALTC provides a study guide designed to prepare students for gold-level performance (see hoaltc.org for details).
- Bowl Format: The Bible Bowl consists of three rounds. Rounds One and Two each contain 35 questions and each cover roughly half of the material in chapter order. Round Three contains 30 questions covering the entirety of the material at a deeper level. Questions are multiple choice and objective, calling for no interpretation, and content is drawn from the current year theme's text, including footnotes and chapter headings.
- Divisions: Division One consists only of students in grades 3-6, who are required to participate in Rounds One and Two; grades 3-6 students may choose to also take Round Three. Division Two consists of students in grades 7-12 and any grades 3-6 students who opt to move up; Division Two students must participate in all three rounds.
- Bowl Administration: Students sit in assigned seats facing a Scorer, with a spectator area near the back of the room; spectators must remain silent and may only enter or exit between rounds. Each student is provided a block with the letters A-E, though only A-D are used. For each question, the question and its four possible answers are projected on a screen and read aloud by the Event Coordinator; students then have ten seconds to display one of the letters A-D on the block to the Scorer (a timekeeper announces "five" at the five-second mark and "time" at the ten-second mark). A student not displaying an answer by the end of the ten seconds receives no credit for that question. Between Rounds One and Two, students must stay in place but may stand and stretch. After Round Two, Division One students turn in their score sheets and are dismissed; after Round Three, all Division Two students turn in their score sheets.
- Students may have no materials during the event and may be disqualified for speaking or looking at another student's answers during a round.

- Protests: Protests of questions and/or scoring should be lodged by the student's Bible Bowl Coach or Scorer to the Event Coordinator on the evening of the event.
- Awards: Awards are based on the percentage of correct answers out of the questions in the rounds each student completes.

Division One (grades 3-6) students who do not opt into Round Three are scored out of 70 possible questions (Rounds One and Two only); since Round Three's questions are more difficult, Division One students can still reach a perfect 100% without taking it.

Division Two (grades 7-12, plus any Division One students who opt into Round Three) are scored out of all 100 questions across all three rounds.

Division One Awards:

- Gold: 63-70 correct (90-100%)
- Silver: 53-62 correct (75-89%)
- Bronze: 42-52 correct (60-74%)

Division Two Awards:

- Gold: 90-100 correct (90-100%)
- Silver: 75-89 correct (75-89%)
- Bronze: 60-74 correct (60-74%)

For example, a Division Two student who answers 87 out of 100 questions correctly (87%) would earn a Silver for the event.

Students who score below the Bronze threshold for their division do not receive an award for the Bible Bowl event; however, Church Coordinators may choose to offer a "certificate of participation" to students who did not meet that threshold.

Bible Quiz

Purpose

Challenge our youth to increase their personal commitment to Bible study as a continuing way of life. Participation in Bible Quiz provides students an opportunity to gain knowledge of the scripture, learn resourcefulness in locating content of the scripture, and gain confidence in their use of the scripture.

Expectations

- Coaches and students will familiarize themselves with the expectations and rules of the event. For students requiring special consideration, see instructions found at HOALTC.org/CC.
- Participating congregations will register each student online by name and grade by the final registration deadline. Bible Quiz teams consist of one to five students. Each team must be entered in a grade level equal to or higher than the oldest team member; a team member may participate in a grade level above, but not below, their own. There is no limit to the number of teams a church may enter in any grade level (3rd-6th, 7th-9th, and 10th-12th).
- Provide one adult Table Monitor for each Bible Quiz team registered.
- Coaches will equip their youth with the resources necessary to increase their Bible knowledge. HOALTC provides a study guide designed to prepare students for Bible Quiz (see hoaltc.org for details).

Rules

- Subject of Study: Bible Quiz material is taken from the Bible text chosen as the theme for each year (the theme and related book(s) of study can be found on the HOALTC home page). Content of all questions is drawn from the text, including footnotes and chapter headings, of the 2011 New International Version.
- Quiz Format: The Bible Quiz is a team event featuring five 12-minute paper test rounds, with two grade-based divisions: the Elementary Series (teams registered at 3rd-6th grade, 40 questions per test) and the Teen Series (teams registered at 7th-9th or 10th-12th grade, 50 questions per test). Teams with students from both Series levels compete at the Teen Series level.
- Test format varies by the year's theme text: a New Testament theme text uses one closed-book "What Chapter?" test followed by four open-book section tests, each covering roughly 1/4 of the theme text; an Old Testament theme text uses five open-book section tests, each covering roughly 1/5 of the theme text. "What Chapter?" tests are closed-book and require identifying the chapter in which a verse or event is found. Section tests are open-book and divided into five question types: True/False, Multiple Choice, Matching, Find the Verse, and Short Answer.
- Quiz Administration: The quiz is administered at tables with chairs for each team and its table monitor. Coaches and spectators not serving as a table monitor sit behind or around the testing area, separated from the teams and silent during testing, and should not enter or leave the event area while a round is in progress. Team members must stay with the same team for the entire event; no substitutions are allowed. A team member who misses the start of a round competes without a substitute for that round but may rejoin for the next round.
- At the start of each round, each team receives a closed envelope containing five copies of the question sheet and five pencils, not to be opened until instructed. Bibles may be used for all rounds; no other helps (charts, concordances, maps, etc., even if included in a Bible) may be used, though the Bible text may be marked in any way and extra papers must be removed. An electronic Bible may be used, but its search function may not be — using it disqualifies the team for that round. All teams take all five rounds, with a 3-minute break between rounds.

- Scoring: Each test is scored by two different volunteers for accuracy while the next round is administered. Maximum score per round is 50 points for the Teen Series (250 total) and 40 points for the Elementary Series (200 total).
- Protests: Protests are received only from adult coaches or Table Monitors and must be logged with the Event Coordinator, whose judgment is final in all cases.
- Awards: A team's raw score is the sum of correct answers across all five tests. The highest score in each age division is rounded up to 250 to produce an adjusted score, and the same number of points added is applied to every team's score in that division. Awards are Gold (90-100%, adjusted score 225-250), Silver (75-89%, adjusted score 188-224), and Bronze (60-74%, adjusted score 150-187).

Bible Reading

Purpose

Provide an opportunity for 3rd through 6th grade students to develop and improve their skill of reading God's word in public.

Expectations

- Coaches and students will familiarize themselves with the event rules and rubrics prior to beginning the project. If any student needs special consideration, see information posted on the Church Coordinator quick links page at hoaltc.org.
- The student should place major emphasis on the actual reading of scripture; memorization is neither required nor encouraged. The ability to read the passage aloud is what is being judged.
- A speaker's podium is supplied, but the reader may choose to stand behind it, move around it, or stand to the side of it.

Rules

- Entries must highlight the current year's theme and/or content from the Bible text covered in the current year.
- The reading must be from a standard translation; paraphrases are not permitted. The student may opt to read in Spanish, indicated by a checkbox on the registration form.
- A brief introduction identifying the passage, the translation, and the setting is required, and must not exceed 20 seconds.
- The reader will be judged on confidence and enthusiasm, posture, eye contact, volume, tone of voice, planned pauses, and pronunciation and articulation.
- The combined introduction and scripture reading must be more than 1 minute and less than 2 minutes. At the discretion of the Emcee, if the student excessively exceeds the two minutes, the reader may be stopped.

BIBLE READING HOALTC 2027 - Make Waves			
Judge each entry relative to the grade range noted on the rubric, not by one fixed standard — a strong entry from a lower range should look different from a strong entry from a higher range.			
Scripture	☐ The chosen scripture clearly and directly supports this year's theme or Bible text.	☐ The chosen scripture reasonably connects to this year's theme or Bible text.	☐ A listener would have trouble connecting the chosen scripture to this year's theme or Bible text.
Introduction	☐ The introduction clearly states all three required elements — passage, translation, and setting — in under 20 seconds.	☐ The introduction states two of the three required elements.	☐ The introduction states one or none of the three required elements, or ran over 20 seconds.
Poise and Posture	☐ The reader stands with both feet planted and shows confidence and energy throughout the reading.	☐ The reader's posture and confidence hold up reasonably well, with only brief lapses.	☐ The reader shifts weight, slouches, or shows visible nervousness for much of the reading.
Delivery	☐ Eye contact, pronunciation, volume, tone, and pacing are all clear and well-controlled throughout — the passage is easy to follow and the pauses land naturally.	☐ Eye contact, pronunciation, volume, tone, and pacing are reasonably clear, with occasional lapses (e.g., a rushed line, a moment of lost eye contact).	☐ The reading is hard to follow because of unclear pronunciation, inconsistent volume or pacing, or little eye contact.
Nonobservance of these rules may affect the level of the award: ☐ Introduction exceeded 20 seconds. ☐ Combined introduction and reading fell outside the 1–2 minute window.			Time as measured by the Timer Judge, from the time the student reaches the podium to the end of the scripture reading: _____ : _____
What you did really well: 1. 2.			
Ways to grow and improve next time: 1. 2.			
Please help us improve these rules and rubrics each year by sending feedback by email to lrc@hoaltc.org within 30 days of the end of the convention.			

MUSIC

Chorus

Purpose

Equip our youth to sing as an a cappella chorus in a variety of settings (VBS, foreign missions, camps, etc.) to encourage believers, witness to unbelievers, and praise God.

Expectations

- Coaches and students will familiarize themselves with the event rules and rubrics. If any student needs special consideration, see information posted on the Church Coordinator quick links page at hoaltc.org.
- Coaches will select an arrangement of songs that highlights the a cappella singing talents of their chorus and their ability to convey a message related to the year's theme or Bible text. Coaches/Directors are not to sing with the chorus.
- Students' attire should positively reflect their congregation and Christ. Themed or matching attire is welcomed but not required, and should not distract from the overall performance.
- For safety and judging reasons, the room will not be dimmed or blacked out. No hazardous materials (e.g., candles) may be used as props. The focus should be on singing and the message, not technical effects. No risers are provided.

Rules

- Entries must highlight the current year's theme and/or content from the Bible text covered in the current year.
- Each chorus will be rated on general musicianship, blending of voices, diction, dynamic contrast to express mood and feeling, stage presence, and overall effectiveness.
- Each chorus will have eight minutes to set up, sing, and clear the stage; time is measured from when the first student reaches the stage until the last student leaves it.
- Choruses are permitted but not required to use accompanying sounds (e.g., snapping fingers, vocal percussion) during their performance; any such sounds should enhance the message.

CHORUS HOALTC 2027 - Make Waves			
<i>Judge each entry relative to the grade range noted on the rubric, not by one fixed standard — a strong entry from a lower range should look different from a strong entry from a higher range.</i>			
LTC Theme	☐ The theme or this year's Bible text stands out and is strongly supported throughout the performance.	☐ The theme or this year's Bible text is evident and supported.	☐ The theme or this year's Bible text needs more attention to be evident and supported.
General Musicianship	☐ Attack, release, accent, rhythm, and pitch are all strong and consistent throughout.	☐ Attack, release, accent, rhythm, and pitch are understandable and generally appropriate.	☐ Attack, release, accent, rhythm, or pitch need further development.
Appearance and Stage Presence	☐ The chorus looks energetic and comfortable on stage, with strong eye contact with the audience or director throughout.	☐ The chorus looks reasonably energetic and comfortable on stage, with eye contact most of the time.	☐ The chorus's energy, comfort on stage, or eye contact needs attention.
Diction	☐ Lyrics and consonants are consistently clear and easy to understand.	☐ Lyrics and consonants are clear and understandable most of the time.	☐ Lyrics or consonants are hard to understand for much of the performance.
Non-Verbal Communication	☐ The chorus clearly believes what they're singing and evokes a strong emotional response from the audience.	☐ The chorus shows some conviction and evokes some emotional response.	☐ The chorus's conviction or emotional connection with the audience needs attention.
Dynamic Contrast	☐ Clear dynamic contrast and range are maintained throughout.	☐ Some dynamic contrast and range are present throughout.	☐ Dynamic contrast and range need attention.
Blend of Voices	☐ Voices blend into a strongly unified sound.	☐ Voices blend reasonably well and sound mostly unified.	☐ The blend and unity of voices need attention.
Accompanying Sounds (if used)	☐ Accompanying sounds clearly enhance the message.	☐ Accompanying sounds reasonably enhance the message.	☐ Accompanying sounds need attention to better enhance the message.
Overall Effectiveness	☐ The songs are inspiring and encouraging.	☐ The songs are reasonably inspiring and encouraging.	☐ The songs' inspirational impact needs attention.
Nonobservance of these rules may affect the level of the award: ☐ Maximum time limit of 8 minutes was exceeded (starts with first person on stage, ends with last person off stage).			Time as measured by the Timer Judge, from the first person reaching the stage to the last person leaving the stage: _____ : _____
What you did really well: 1. 2.			
Ways to grow and improve next time: 1. 2.			
Please help us improve these rules and rubrics each year by sending feedback by email to lrc@hoaltc.org within 30 days of the end of the convention.			

Song Leading

Purpose

Equip and encourage our youth to lead a cappella singing in a variety of settings (VBS, foreign missions, camps, etc.) to encourage believers, witness to unbelievers, and praise God.

Expectations

- Coaches and students will familiarize themselves with the event rules and rubrics prior to beginning the project. If any student needs special consideration, see information posted on the Church Coordinator quick links page at hoaltc.org.
- Students will lead one song from the list on hoaltc.org for group singing with the people in the room. Since most songs have many arrangements, students should practice using the songsheet provided on the website, noting which specific verses are to be sung. The student should bring a copy of this songsheet with them to the convention, as songbooks are not provided.
- A podium is supplied, but the song leader may stand behind it, move around it, or set it to the side; the microphone should be adjusted by the student if the podium is used.
- HOALTC follows current copyright laws concerning music, and strongly encourages congregations and students to do the same. Congregations interested in their own license can contact Christian Copyright Licensing, Inc. (www.ccli.com, (800) 234-2446).

Rules

- Each student should introduce themselves and announce the title of the song they selected.
- The student will lead two stanzas of the chosen song, or one stanza twice if the song has only one stanza.
- Singing will be evaluated on the student's ability to pitch the song appropriately, sing on pitch, control breathing, and use appropriate volume. A pitching device is not required but is encouraged, especially if the student struggles to find an appropriate pitch.
- Tempo/Beat will be evaluated on the student's ability to use hand gestures to indicate the beat and maintain a consistent tempo throughout.
- Transitions will be evaluated on the student's ability to move between stanzas (and between styles within a verse, if applicable) while communicating those changes to the audience.
- Leadership will be evaluated on the student's confidence, how well their actions enhance the song leading, and how well they convey the mood of the song.
- The student may choose to lead songs in Spanish, indicated on the registration form.

SONG LEADING HOALTC 2027 - Make Waves			
Judge each entry relative to the grade range noted on the rubric, not by one fixed standard — a strong entry from a lower range should look different from a strong entry from a higher range.			
Introduction	☐ The introduction and song announcement are spoken clearly and at an appropriate volume.	☐ The introduction and song announcement are reasonably clear and at an adequate volume.	☐ The introduction or song announcement needs attention to clarity or volume.
Singing (as appropriate for grade level)	☐ Pitch, breath control, and volume are strong and consistent throughout; if used, the pitching device is used effectively.	☐ Pitch, breath control, and volume are reasonably consistent throughout.	☐ Pitch, breath control, or volume need attention.
Tempo/Beat	☐ Hand gestures consistently and clearly indicate the beat, and tempo stays consistent throughout.	☐ Hand gestures indicate the beat and tempo stays consistent most of the time.	☐ Hand gestures or tempo consistency need attention.
Transitions	☐ Both stanzas are led, and the leader moves clearly between stanzas (and between styles within a verse, if applicable) while signaling those changes to the audience.	☐ The leader moves between stanzas reasonably well, signaling changes to the audience most of the time.	☐ More or fewer than two stanzas were led, or transitions between stanzas or styles need more practice.
Leadership	☐ The leader shows strong confidence, appropriate eye contact, voice control, and gestures that clearly convey the song's mood.	☐ The leader shows reasonable confidence and eye contact, with gestures that convey the song's mood most of the time.	☐ The leader's confidence, eye contact, or gestures need attention to better convey the song's mood.
What you did really well: 1. 2.			
Ways to grow and improve next time: 1. 2.			
Please help us improve these rules and rubrics each year by sending feedback by email to lrc@hoaltc.org within 30 days of the end of the convention.			

PERFORMANCE

Live Christian Drama

Purpose

Encourage students to dramatize Biblical stories or modern-day applications of Christian truths. Through drama, youth may see the issues they confront acted out and may become more receptive to hearing what God has to say.

Expectations

- Coaches and students will familiarize themselves with the event rules and rubrics prior to beginning the project. If any student needs special consideration, see information posted on the Church Coordinator quick links page at hoaltc.org.
- Each team will select or write an appropriate modern-life or Biblical drama based on the current year's theme and/or Bible text. The team provides its own costumes, props, and special effects if desired; see Event Coordinators about leaving props in the staging area if the schedule has a short turnaround.
- Adults may help with set-up and break-down of props but should be clear of the stage during the performance.
- The performance stage HOALTC provides is an 18-foot-wide by 8-foot-deep platform, raised 2 feet off the floor, with steps on both sides for safe access. Four microphones on stands are provided, placed on the floor in front of the platform.

Rules

- Entries must highlight the current year's theme and/or content from the Bible text covered in the current year; the theme may appear anywhere in the drama as long as it's clearly and accurately presented.
- The drama must be a minimum of five minutes long. Each team has a maximum of eight minutes to set up, perform, and exit the stage area; time is measured from when the first student reaches the stage until the last student leaves it.
- No electrical plugs may be used; any electronics must run on battery. For safety and judging reasons, the room will not be dimmed or blacked out, and the focus should be on acting and the message rather than technical effects.
- Script content is evaluated on originality, plot, how well the story flowed through transitions, and the level of character development.
- Acting is evaluated on the cast's energy and connection with the audience, articulation and audibility of lines, how well lines were memorized, appropriate expression of emotion and gestures, and how well movement on stage enhanced the story.
- If used, visuals (props, sets, costumes) and sound effects/background sound are evaluated on how well they enhanced the story.
- The drama's overall effectiveness is evaluated for entertainment value, and whether it is inspiring, motivating, encouraging, informative/instructive, and applicable and thought-provoking for modern times.
- Artificial Intelligence: The drama's script may not be generated using Generative AI tools; it must be selected or written by the team.

LIVE CHRISTIAN DRAMA HOALTC 2027 - Make Waves			
Judge each entry relative to the grade range noted on the rubric, not by one fixed standard — a strong entry from a lower range should look different from a strong entry from a higher range.			
LTC Theme	☐ The theme or this year's Bible text is clearly presented during the performance.	☐ The theme or this year's Bible text is presented during the performance.	☐ The theme or this year's Bible text is not evident in the performance.
Script	☐ The script is creative and holds audience attention well, with a well-written plot, smooth story flow, and strong character development.	☐ The script has creative elements and holds audience attention, with an acceptable plot and moderate character development.	☐ The script needs more creativity, or the plot, story flow, or character development need attention.
Acting	☐ The entire cast is energetic and engaging, lines are well-pronounced and fully memorized, delivered with emotion and appropriate gestures, and movement enhances the story well.	☐ Most of the cast is engaging, lines are mostly memorized and pronounced well, and movement mostly enhances the story.	☐ The cast's energy, line delivery, memorization, or stage movement need attention to better engage the audience.
Visuals and Sounds (if used)	☐ Props, sets, costumes, and sound effects (as used) all expertly enhance the story.	☐ Props, sets, costumes, and sound effects (as used) mostly enhance the story.	☐ The props, sets, costumes, or sound effects (as used) need attention to better enhance the story.
Overall Effectiveness	☐ The drama is very interesting and entertaining.	☐ The drama is interesting and entertaining.	☐ The drama's interest or entertainment value needs attention.
Nonobservance of these rules may affect the level of the award: ☐ The drama was shorter than the 5-minute minimum. ☐ Total time (setup through exit) exceeded the 8-minute maximum.			Time as measured by the Timer Judge, from the first person reaching the stage to the last person leaving the stage: _____ : _____
What you did really well: 1. 2.			
Ways to grow and improve next time: 1. 2.			
Please help us improve these rules and rubrics each year by sending feedback by email to lrc@hoaltc.org within 30 days of the end of the convention.			

Puppets

Purpose

Encourage youth in the development of skills for the presentation of Biblical stories through the use of puppets.

Expectations

- Coaches and students will familiarize themselves with the event rules and rubrics prior to beginning the project. If any student needs special consideration, see information posted on the Church Coordinator quick links page at hoaltc.org.
- Each team will select or write an appropriate puppet script to be presented live, based on the current year's theme or Bible text. No electric plugs may be used; all electronics must run on battery. For safety and judging reasons, the room will not be dimmed or blacked out, and the focus should be on puppetry skill and the message rather than technical effects.
- Recordings of special effects are allowed, but no recording of dialogue is allowed. Adults may help with set-up and break-down of props but should be clear of the stage during the performance.
- The performance stage HOALTC provides is an 18-foot-wide by 8-foot-deep platform, raised 2 feet off the floor, with a 12-foot-wide by 4-foot-tall front wall and a 12-foot-wide by 6-foot-tall back wall, spaced 3 feet apart (walls may be connected by an angled pipe at the top). The stage wall is black drape material; a diagram is linked at hoaltc.org. Steps are provided on both sides for safe access, and microphones on stands are placed on the floor in front of the platform. This is the required stage size and format for HOALTC puppet performances. All forms of puppetry are acceptable (hand puppets, marionettes, karaoke, etc.).

Rules

- Entries must highlight the current year's theme and/or content from the Bible text covered in the current year.
- Each team has 10 minutes to set up, perform, and exit the stage area. In grades 3-6, the play must be at least 3 minutes long; in grades 7-12, at least 4 minutes. Time is measured from when the team reached the stage to set-up until all students and props are removed from the stage.
- The puppet play will be judged on script content, theme, acting, visuals and sounds (if used), puppetry, teamwork, and overall effectiveness, as detailed in the rubric.
- Artificial Intelligence: The puppet script may not be generated using Generative AI tools; it must be selected or written by the team.

PUPPETS HOALTC 2027 - Make Waves			
<i>Judge each entry relative to the grade range noted on the rubric, not by one fixed standard — a strong entry from a lower range should look different from a strong entry from a higher range.</i>			
Script Content	☐ The script is creative and well-written, holds audience attention, shows clear Biblical principles throughout, and demonstrates strong character development.	☐ The script is reasonably engaging, shows Biblical principles some of the time, and has average character development.	☐ The script needs attention to hold audience attention or to develop Biblical principles and characters.
Theme	☐ The puppet play's main content is clearly and directly relevant to this year's theme or Bible text.	☐ The puppet play's main content is relevant to this year's theme or Bible text.	☐ The puppet play's main content needs attention to connect to this year's theme or Bible text.
Acting	☐ The spoken word is expertly pronounced and projected, with emotion expertly delivered through voice and gesture.	☐ The spoken word is pronounced and projected reasonably well most of the time, with emotion shown through voice and gesture.	☐ Pronunciation, projection, or emotional delivery need attention.
Visuals and Sounds (if used)	☐ Props, costumes, and sound effects (as used) greatly enhance the story and characterization, and are used safely.	☐ Props, costumes, and sound effects (as used) reasonably enhance the story and characterization.	☐ Props, costumes, or sound effects (as used) need attention to enhance the story, or were not used safely.
Puppetry	☐ Puppets move in a life-like way, interact with each other, don't sink while on stage, and keep their mouths closed when not speaking.	☐ Puppets are reasonably life-like and interact with each other, with only occasional lapses in staying up or keeping mouths closed.	☐ Puppets' movement, interaction, staying up on stage, or mouth control needs attention.
Teamwork	☐ The team shows cooperative interaction from set-up to take-down.		☐ The team does not show cooperative interaction from set-up to take-down.
Overall Effectiveness	☐ The presentation is very interesting and entertaining.	☐ The presentation is interesting and entertaining.	☐ The presentation's interest or entertainment value needs attention.
Nonobservance of these rules may affect the level of the award: ☐ The play was shorter than the required minimum (3 minutes for grades 3-6, 4 minutes for grades 7-12). ☐ Total time (setup through exit) exceeded the 10-minute maximum.			Time as measured by the Timer Judge, from the first person reaching the stage to the last person leaving the stage: _____ : _____
What you did really well: 1. 2.			
Ways to grow and improve next time: 1. 2.			
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SPEAKING

Public Speaking

Purpose

Provide opportunity for young men and women to develop their verbal communication talents for spreading the word of God by exercising public speaking skills in relation to life, current events, history, etc., and how they relate to Biblical principles.

Expectations

- Coaches and students will familiarize themselves with the event rules and rubrics prior to beginning the project. If any student needs special consideration, see information posted on the Church Coordinator quick links page at hoaltc.org.
- A parent's or coach's involvement is expected to differ by age group: parents/coaches may assist 3rd-6th grade students with preparing and structuring the speech's content, though students should be heavily involved; by 7th-8th grade, parents and coaches should minimize assistance and let students lead the work; by 9th grade and above, all research and preparation should be the student's own. In every case, adults should help students develop their own speech (offering direction on what works well in a speech) rather than writing one for them — coaches and parents are expected to model this principle, even though it can't be directly monitored or evaluated by judges.
- This event is an original speech, not a dramatic interpretation. Speeches may not be repeated by another speaker. There is no dress requirement, though students should dress in a way appropriate to how their speech will be received.
- A speaker's podium is supplied, but the speaker may stand behind it, move around it, or set it aside.

Rules

- Each speech must be 5 to 10 minutes long; speeches outside this range may have their rating changed as a result.
- The speech must fit the current year's theme or be drawn from the Biblical text for the current year's convention; students in grades 3-6 may instead choose to speak about a Bible character.
- Notes are allowed. Judging emphasis is on preparation and presentation — evaluated through the speech's Introduction, Style & Delivery, Organization & Content, and Overall Impression — and consideration is given to students who demonstrate thorough preparation rather than simply reading their speech; extra credit is not given for memorization.
- Props are allowed but will be judged for their appropriateness and how well they enhance the speech. Use of computer graphics such as PowerPoint is not allowed.
- Artificial Intelligence: Generative AI tools may not be used to research, write, or edit the speech, at any grade level. This applies in addition to the parent/coach assistance guidelines above.

PUBLIC SPEAKING HOALTC 2027 - Make Waves			
Judge each entry relative to the grade range noted on the rubric, not by one fixed standard — a strong entry from a lower range should look different from a strong entry from a higher range.			
Introduction	☐ The introduction grabs and holds attention, begins comfortably, connects with the audience, and leads clearly into the rest of the speech.	☐ The introduction reasonably holds attention and leads into the rest of the speech.	☐ The introduction needs attention to hold attention, connect with the audience, or lead into the speech.
Style & Delivery	☐ Grammar is strong, the speaker is comfortable, confident, and enthusiastic with strong eye contact, and volume, tone, pauses, and gestures all enhance the message.	☐ Grammar is reasonably strong, the speaker shows reasonable confidence and eye contact, and delivery elements reasonably support the message.	☐ Grammar, confidence, eye contact, or delivery (volume/tone/pauses/gestures) need attention.
Organization & Content (Grades 3-6 may use a Bible character.)	☐ The structure is easy to follow throughout, content clearly builds to the main point, transitions are smooth, illustrations and any props clearly demonstrate the point, and scripture use and application are strong.	☐ The structure is reasonably easy to follow, and content, transitions, and scripture use reasonably support the main point.	☐ The structure, transitions, illustrations, prop use, or scripture application need attention to support the main point.
Overall Impression	☐ The speech is challenging, interesting, and edifying, showing strong insight and originality.	☐ The speech is reasonably interesting and shows some insight and originality.	☐ The speech's ability to challenge, interest, or show originality needs attention.
Nonobservance of these rules may affect the level of the award: ☐ Speech was shorter than 5 minutes or longer than 10 minutes.			Time as measured by the Timer Judge, from the time the student reached the podium to the end of the speech: _____ : _____
What you did really well: 1. 2.			
Ways to grow and improve next time: 1. 2.			
Please help us improve these rules and rubrics each year by sending feedback by email to lrc@hoaltc.org within 30 days of the end of the convention.			

Signing for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing

Purpose

Develop and grow in the knowledge of American Sign Language for the purpose of reaching out to the Deaf/Hard of Hearing in your congregation and church gatherings, giving glory to God and His Church.

Expectations

- Each participating congregation will ensure students select the best signing system for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing in their congregation. ASL (American Sign Language) is the language of the Deaf in the United States and Canada, and is the best choice if you have no Deaf/signing members to guide you; however, some school-aged children and adults use Signed English systems (such as SEE or CASE). The important thing is to be considerate of the people you are learning to sign for and use the system of their preference.
- ASL is a visual-spatial language with 5 major components: Handshape, Palm Orientation, Location, Movement, and Facial Expression. Its grammar is encoded in non-manual markers (facial expressions, head movements, shoulder raises, body movements, classifier use, mouth morphemes) and shown through repetition and the length/brevity of a sign (for example, "SIT" is one short sign, while "CHAIR" bounces twice). ASL uses different word order, grammar, and syntax than English (example: "The boy has the book" would be signed BOY HE, BOOK HAVE HE).
- SEE (Signed Exact English) is English on the hands: it uses English grammatical structure with some regular and some modified ASL signs, plus suffixes and prefixes, focusing on correct English word order rather than conceptual signs.
- Reliable ASL resources include: ASLConnect (gallaudet.edu/asl-connect — free ASL courses from the only 4-year deaf university in the world), handspeak.com (North American video dictionary of signs and culture), "ASL That!" (Joseph Wheeler's sign videos on YouTube), deafmissions.com (ASL speeches, children's programs, and the first ASL Bible translation on DVD), and a Deaf friend or community member — the Kansas School for the Deaf / Deaf Culture Center in the Kansas City/Olathe area offers classes and other ways to serve the deaf population. Use technology and people before sign language books.

Rules

- Clarified in 2024: students are welcome to watch other students perform if desired. Since there are three distinct sign language methods and students learn signs differently, watching another student beforehand could be confusing to a younger student; adult leaders should consider this when deciding whether it's beneficial for a student to watch before completing their own event.
- Students will sign to the recordings provided by the Event Coordinator at convention, which are the same recordings provided on the website; no other recordings may be used at convention. No signs or coaching instructions may be given to a student while performing — judges may ask anyone who does so to leave the room for the duration of the performance.
- A solid-color blouse/shirt/dress contrasting with skin tone must be worn while signing, with minimal jewelry, no stripes or ruffles, and name lanyards removed while signing.
- All students are pre-registered by their Church Coordinator, who declares each student's grade category AND level of signing at registration. Students are assigned performance times by age group but are judged according to their declared level (there are 5 levels) — this makes the event more challenging for experienced signers and less intimidating for beginners of any age. A student who received a Gold in the previous two years is encouraged to move to the next level; if less than Gold, they should stay at the same level the following year. A student who has achieved all 5 levels may work with the Event Coordinator to develop an individually tailored, more challenging assignment.

- If a student's name is not on the list or other changes are needed, see the Event Coordinator for resolution prior to the event. All students must meet at their assigned room 10 minutes prior to their scheduled time.
- Students are judged on Preparation, Fingerspelling, Understandability/Sign Clarity, Expression, Vocabulary, and clothing choice, as detailed in the rubric. A video explaining these categories is available at hoaltc.org/sl.
- Level Requirements:
 - Level 1: fingerspell first and last name, then sign either one song OR one scripture from this year's list, fingerspelling its name/reference first.
 - Level 2: follow Level 1's rules but choose one song AND one scripture, and sign "Hello, my name is ____" before beginning.
 - Level 3: learn both songs and both scriptures (judges randomly select two to perform), following Level 1-2 rules for fingerspelling and introduction, adding a signed "Thank you" to the judges at the end.
 - Level 4: learn both songs and both scriptures, giving a signed self-introduction (30-60 seconds: name, grade, congregation, and briefly why they're involved in Signing at LTC) before judges randomly select one song and one scripture, with the Level 3 closing "Thank you."
 - Level 5: give a brief signed introduction (30-60 seconds: name, grade, congregation, years signing at LTC) and closing thanks as in Level 3, then sign/interpret a 2-5 minute communion talk and prayer; a recording of the talk must be made available to and approved by the Sign Language Coordinator at least 4 weeks before convention.

The list of songs and scripture choices is at hoaltc.org/sl.

SIGNING FOR THE DEAF/HARD OF HEARING HOALTC 2027 - Make Waves			
Remember that students self-select a skill level (1-5) at registration and are judged against that level's requirements, not by grade. Please judge according to the student's declared level.			
Standard Requirements	☐ The student fully met their level's requirements, and clothing choice provides strong, solid-color contrast.	☐ The student met most of their level's requirements, and clothing choice provides some contrast.	☐ The student's level requirements, or clothing contrast, need attention.
Introduction & Fingerspelling	☐ The name and selection(s) are fingerspelled very clearly and are easy to understand.	☐ The name and selection(s) are reasonably clear and understandable.	☐ The name or selection(s) fingerspelling needs attention to be clear and understood.
Movement	☐ Hand shapes and sign placement are smooth and flowing throughout.	☐ Hand shapes and sign placement are reasonably smooth.	☐ Hand shapes or sign placement need attention to be consistently smooth.
Understandability / Sign Clarity	☐ All signs are clear and distinct.	☐ Most signs are clear and distinct.	☐ Sign clarity needs attention for a viewer to follow along.
Confidence	☐ The signer is well-practiced and at ease with the material and the audience, with strong eye contact.	☐ The signer is reasonably practiced and at ease, with reasonable eye contact.	☐ The signer's practice, ease, or eye contact needs attention.
Expression	☐ Facial and body expression fits the selection(s) and greatly enhances the audience's understanding.	☐ Facial and body expression reasonably fits the selection(s) and supports understanding.	☐ Facial and body expression needs attention to fit the selection(s) and support understanding.
Vocabulary	☐ Word choice clearly demonstrates complete understanding of the selection(s)' meaning.	☐ Word choice demonstrates reasonable understanding of the selection(s)' meaning.	☐ Word choice needs attention to demonstrate understanding of the selection(s)' meaning.
What you did really well: 1. 2.			
Ways to grow and improve next time: 1. 2.			
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