

PARTICIPATION GUIDE 2017-18

The Association of Christian Schools International Mid-America Region serves schools in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

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Mission

ACSI Student Activities enhance learning beyond the classroom by equipping Christian schools and educators while challenging students toward God-honoring applications of their leadership skills, fine art talents, and academic abilities.

Home School Participation Guidelines

Email student_activitiesMA@acsi.org for complete info.

School Registration

ACSI Student Activities is open to ACSI member schools. Online registration will be open in mid-August at www.acsi.org/masa. Registration payment can be made online with a credit card (preferred method) or by mailing a hard copy of the form and registration fees to the Mid-America regional office. Do NOT mail checks to ACSI headquarters in Colorado. Registrations are accepted on a first come, first serve basis. Registrations will not be processed until payment is received. The fee covers the cost of the handbooks and office-related expenses.

Confirmation Email

Once registered, a confirmation will be emailed to each school's school coordinator and will contain detailed instructions on how to participate in the events for which you have registered.

Handbooks

Within this confirmation email will be a password to download event handbooks at www.acsi.org/masa.

Participation Form & Fees

Approximately four weeks prior to the event date, each school's event coordinator will email a Student Participation form to the chairperson and at the same time, pay the student participation fee at www.acsi.org/masa. Late entries may not be accepted. This fee helps cover the cost of mailings, judges, awards, suppliers, rental equipment, and more.

Required Adult Volunteers

It is the school coordinator's responsibility to provide quality volunteers for chairpersons. If participating schools do not send helpers, we will not be able to sustain events. Each school needs to contribute or be precluded from participation. If a chairperson does not have enough volunteers, the event may be canceled. In addition, please be sure to plan for necessary chaperones and transportation to and

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from the event. By participating, schools are agreeing to ensure that all staff and volunteers provided by your school meet the school's internal policies and standards as well as state requirements for working with children in a K-12 private school setting.

School Coordinator

The school coordinator is the person within your school designated to oversee all ACSI student activities at your school. The school coordinator communicates directly with the ACSI regional office.

Event Coordinator

The event coordinator is the person within your school that coordinates all that needs to happen in order for your students to participate in a specific event, such as the Spelling Bee. The event coordinator communicates with the school coordinator and the event chairperson.

Chairperson

The event chairperson plans, sets up the facility, distributes awards, and communicates with the event coordinators about event specific details. He/she is responsible for locating judges (with the assistance from participating schools) for those events that require outside, additional experts. The chairperson also maintains expense receipts and finance reports. The chair receives an honorarium for their time invested in chairing the event. For questions specific to the host location, contact the event chairperson.

Scheduling

Schools should schedule in-school events well ahead of the corresponding district events. For example, if a school will be participating in a district spelling bee in January, they should have their in-school spelling bee sometime in November to be ready to submit the *Student Participation* form and fees by the deadline. Also, be sure to list all ACSI event activities for which you registered on your school calendar to avoid conflicts later.

Accident Insurance

All schools participating in an event with the Association of Christian Schools International are required to have adequate insurance coverage for students and sponsors/teachers. ACSI does not assume responsibility for those coverages. The school's student accident insurance should cover most reasonable and customary medical expenses. Workman's Compensation coverage should cover employees/teachers.

ACADEMIC DAY

Objectives

- To encourage ACSI schools in West Virginia to participate in a day of scheduled student activities.
- To provide an opportunity for students to participate, fellowship, and exalt the Lord together.

Description

This one day of activities includes: Art Festival (K-12), Speech Meets (1-12), Science Fair (K-12), Music Festival – includes worship team, Math Olympics by Mail (3-8), Social Studies Fair (4-12). Please refer to the event specific information for events listed above. Additional information will be sent to schools that register for Academic Day. Schools are expected to conduct preliminary events to determine which students will advance to the ACSI Academic Day.

Required Adult Volunteers

Schools MUST provide helpers to assist with the various responsibilities on Academic Day. Students will not be allowed to participate in an event if the necessary helpers are not provided by their school. Students must be supervised at all times.

Eligibility

Refer to the Host Info Sheet for the number of entries allowed in each event. In addition to Math Olympics by Mail and Art Festival, students may be limited to just two other events on Academic Day.

Awards

Trophies, medallions, and ribbons are awarded on the same basis as district events of the same type.

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Fees

School Registration: \$50.00 (early); \$65.00 (after October 2)

Student Participation: \$8.50 per entry (except Music)

ART FESTIVAL

Objectives

- To encourage art education and promote artistic creativity and expression.
- To provide an opportunity to recognize and exhibit outstanding student artwork.
- To encourage students to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ through the use of artistic talent and personal expression in the art media of their choice.

Description

Students will display artwork in various artistic media. All projects must be prepared according to established guidelines and will be judged on the day of the festival. The students will have the opportunity to view the artwork of other students and to meet fellow artists. A guest artist is often invited to demonstrate their talent with the students.

Required Adult Volunteers

Schools may need to provide to the chairperson names of possible judges in addition to providing adequate adult supervision for their own students.

Eligibility

Grades 3-12. Schools may submit a max of 39 entries. Refer to the Host Info Sheet for specifics. Schools must first conduct their own art festival and advance only the top-rated projects to the ACSI Art Festival.

Awards

Superior, excellent or good rosettes are awarded to every entry according to points earned. Three *Best of Show* rosettes will be awarded in each grade division (3-5, 6-8, 9-12).

Fees

School Registration: \$50.00 (early); \$65.00 (after October 2)

Student Participation: \$8.50 per entry

CREATIVE WRITING FESTIVAL MAIL-IN EVENT!

Objectives

- To provide an opportunity for students to develop creative writing.
- To provide criteria for the evaluation of creative writing work.
- To give students an opportunity to share their writing with others.

Description

Schools will evaluate their students' creative writing pieces written during the current school year then submit only the best compositions to the district level for evaluation. The Superior works that receive an average score of 62 or above will be published in the ACSI Creative Writing Book of Winners. Copies of the book will be available for purchase for a nominal fee from an online book publishing source.

Required Adult Volunteers

Schools may need to provide to the chairperson names of possible judges.

Eligibility

Grades 4-12. Schools may submit a max of 15 writings. Any combination of categories is acceptable.

Categories of Competition

Short Story, Poetry—rhymed and free verse (one category, two styles) and Essay

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Awards

Superior, excellent, or good ribbons are awarded to every entry according to points earned. The Superior works that receive an average score of 62 or above will be published in the ACSI Creative Writing Book of Winners. Because this is a mail-in event, schools are encouraged to conduct their own awards assembly.

Fees

School Registration: \$50.00 (early); \$65.00 (after October 2)

Student Participation: \$9.50 per entry

MUSIC FESTIVAL

ILLINOIS

Objectives

- To encourage students to share in the ministry of music.
- To provide an opportunity for students to exalt the Lord through use of their musical talents.
- To give students an opportunity to worship as a part of a larger choir, band, or orchestra.
- To give students the opportunity to sit under the direction of quality directors.
- To allow students to experience a Christian college campus.

Description

This two-day festival consists of rehearsals followed by a mass concert. Musicians will rehearse and perform under the direction of a guest conductor who selects the music for his/her group. Students are required to memorize their music prior to attending the festival. There will be no solo or small ensemble performances, or adjudication at the festival.

Required Adult Chaperones

Schools must provide one chaperone for every five junior high students and one chaperone for every ten high school students.

Eligibility

Grades 7-12. Gifted 6th grade students may be included at the discretion of the participating school's music director.

Categories

Due to the rehearsal schedule, students may perform in one of the following only: Junior High Choir, Senior High Choir, Junior High Band, Senior High Band. Orchestra is offered every other year.

Fees

School Registration: \$50.00 (early); \$65.00 (after October 2)

Illinois Participation: \$35.00 per student; \$23.00 per chaperone

MUSIC FESTIVAL

OHIO

Objectives

- To provide an opportunity for students to benefit from evaluation by a qualified adjudicator.
- To encourage students to share in the ministry of music.
- To provide an opportunity for students to exalt the Lord through use of their musical talents.

Description

The Music Festival provides the opportunity for students to perform and be adjudicated by qualified judges in both vocal and instrumental categories. Every student participating as vocal entry is required to be a member of an official school choir or vocal ensemble. In other words, if a student performs in a vocal solo/ensemble, a school ensemble or choir performance is mandatory. Each large group (vocal and instrumental) will perform three consecutive numbers, one of which must come from a required list. Ensembles and soloists perform one number from a required list.

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Required Adult Volunteers

One adult chaperone for every ten students.

Eligibility

Grades 7-12. Students are permitted to enter a total of four performances. For vocal entries, the choir is one of the performances. Instrumental entries must have at least one full year of lessons before participating. Schools must provide their own accompanists. Each accompanist is limited to four performances. Taped/recorded background accompaniment is not permitted.

Categories

Vocal and instrumental performance opportunities are available in the following divisions: Soloists, Small ensembles (duet/trio/quartet), Large ensembles (5-12 members), Choirs/bands (13 or more members).

Awards

All large ensembles, choirs and bands receive a group certificate and corresponding rosette. All other entries receive individual certificates and corresponding ribbon.

Fees

School Registration: \$50.00 (early); \$65.00 (after October 2)

Soloists: \$8.50

Small Ensembles: \$15.00 per group

Large Ensembles: \$20.00 per group

Choirs/bands: \$85.00 per group

MUSIC FESTIVAL

WEST VIRGINIA (WITH ACADEMIC DAY)

Objectives

- To provide an opportunity for students to benefit from evaluation by a qualified adjudicator.
- To encourage students to share in the ministry of music.
- To provide an opportunity for students to exalt the Lord through use of their musical talents.

Description

The Music Festival in West Virginia is a part of Academic Day. Students perform in front of 1-3 adjudicators in both instrumental and vocal entries. This is not a competition and performances are rated according to a judging form. There is no required music list; however, music directors are expected to choose challenging and appropriate music. Selections are not limited to Christian music, but all aspects of music should be acceptable to Christian standards as they relate to lyric, rhythm, etc.

Required Adult Volunteers

One adult chaperone for every ten students.

Eligibility

Grades 1-12. Each student is limited to a maximum of three performances. Of these, only two may be in the soloist/small ensemble category. Instrumental soloists must have at least one full year of lessons before performing at this festival. Schools must provide their own accompanists. Each accompanist is limited to four performances. Taped/recorded background accompaniment is not permitted.

Categories

Vocal and instrumental performance opportunities are available in: Soloists, Small ensembles (2-4 members), Large ensembles (5-12members), Large groups (13 or more members).

Awards

All large ensembles, choirs and bands receive a group certificate and corresponding rosette. All other entries receive individual certificates and corresponding ribbon.

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Fees

School Registration: \$50.00 (early); \$65.00 (after October 2)

Soloists: \$8.50

Small Ensembles: \$15.00 per group

Large Ensembles: \$20.00 per group

Choirs/bands: \$75.00 per group

Worship Teams: \$30.00 per group

MATH OLYMPICS & MATH OLYMPICS BY MAIL MAIL-IN EVENT!

Objectives

- To stimulate an interest in mathematics.
- To recognize the achievements of students in mathematics.
- To offer opportunity to glorify God in the use of their mathematical abilities beyond the classroom situation.

Description

Math Olympics (MO) is a series of four timed tests. Actual testing procedures for MO and Math Olympics by Mail (MbM) are the same—the difference being MbM is done within your own school and tests are then mailed immediately to a scoring station (chairperson). With MO, schools go to a host school where they test, tabulate, and give awards as one event. Calculators are not permitted.

Required Adult Volunteers

MO—each school must provide five adult workers. MbM—each school must have two adult helpers, one being a teacher, in each testing room and does not require any volunteers at the tabulation site as it is a mail in event.

Eligibility

Grades 3-8. Each school may enter a maximum of three students per grade level (not per classroom) for each category. Four entries per category are permitted in grades 7 and 8. Students may participate in one category only.

Categories of Competition

COMPUTATION: Problems will be of the paper/pencil computational variety, e.g., fundamental operations. MATHEMATICAL REASONING: These paper/pencil problems will be more difficult than the daily mathematical assignments of the student's grade level. They involve more than one operation and/or concept and could require a higher level of reasoning, e.g., story problems, patterns, puzzles.

Awards

First through fifth place in each category and grade will be recognized with a ribbon. All remaining participants will receive a certificate. A medallion will be awarded to the highest scoring student in each grade and category (85% score required).

Fees

School Registration: \$50.00 (early); \$65.00 (after October 2)

Student Participation: \$8.50 per entry

SPEECH MEETS—ELEMENTARY

Objectives

- To encourage effective speech in an audience situation.
- To help students develop techniques to speak audibly, articulately, expressively, and with poise and confidence.
- To develop communication skills that will contribute to effective leadership in Christian activities.

Description

Students demonstrate their ability by delivering a memorized poem, speech, or Bible passage. Contestants do not compete against one another; rather, they are judged against an established set of criteria.

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Required Adult Volunteers

One judge for every five student entries in addition to providing adequate adult supervision for their own students.

Eligibility

Grades 1-6. Each student may participate in one category only. Entry limits are determined by the host site.

Categories

Poetry—grades 1-6, Bible Memorization—grades 1-6, Fable and Folklore—grades 2-6, Patriotic Oration—grades 5-6, Dramatic Bible Prose—grades 5-6, Original Speech—grades 5-6.

Awards

Superior, excellent, or good ribbons are awarded to every entry according to points earned.

Fees

School Registration: \$50.00 (early); \$65.00 (after October 2)

Student Participation: \$8.50 per entry

SPEECH MEETS—JUNIOR HIGH

Objectives

- To encourage students to develop good speech techniques and to speak before groups with poise and confidence.
- To encourage students to use their speaking abilities to communicate God's Word and their Christian faith.
- To encourage fellowship and unity with students from other Christian schools.

Description

Students present speeches before evaluators, students and parents. Junior high selections are not available through ACSI—schools must develop their own library of published works.

Required Adult Volunteers

Three judges and one timer in addition to adequate adult supervision for their own students.

Eligibility

Grades 6-8. Schools may send a total of four students per category. Sixth graders may participate at the elementary or junior high level, not both.

Categories

Dramatic Reading & Poetry, Humorous Reading & Poetry, Original Speech, Puppets, Bible Memorization & Application, Visual Aid, Dramatic & Humorous Costumed Monologue.

Awards

Superior, excellent, or good rosettes are awarded to every entry according to points earned. A top award will be presented to the highest scoring performer in each category (minimum points apply).

Fees

School Registration: \$50.00 (early); \$65.00 (after October 2)

Student Participation: \$8.50 per entry

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SPEECH MEETS—SENIOR HIGH

Objectives

- To encourage students to strive for a high degree of academic and artistic excellence in various types of verbal communication.
- To encourage students to glorify the Lord through the use of their speaking skills.
- To bring Christian school students together, not to compete, but to encourage and strengthen one another in the perfection of verbal communicative skills.

Description

The student interprets, informs, or communicates from published literary work(s), a self-written speech, or an impromptu speech. Senior high selections are not available through ACSI—schools must develop their own library of published works. Selections must be of high literary quality.

Required Adult Volunteers

Three judges and one timer in addition to adequate adult supervision for their own students.

Eligibility

Grades 9-12. Each school is limited to four student entries per category except Reader's Theater and Duet Acting (limit of two entries) and TV News Team (limit of one entry). Each student may participate in up to two categories.

Categories

Bible Memorization & Application, Devotional Homiletics, Impromptu, Original Oratory, Readers' Theatre, Dramatic Interpretation, Individual Acting, Duet Acting, TV News Team, Expository Speaking, Humorous Interpretation, Prose and Poetry, and Children's Literature.

Awards

Superior, excellent, or good rosettes are awarded to every entry according to points earned. A top award will be presented to the highest scoring performer in each category (minimum points apply).

Fees

School Registration: \$50.00 (early); \$65.00 (after October 2)

Student Participation: \$8.50 per entry

SPELLING BEES

Objectives

- To develop good spelling habits.
- To develop within the student the awareness of accurate usage of words and vocabulary by encouraging proper communication.
- To provide an opportunity for fellowship with students from other Christian schools.

Description

The ACSI Spelling Bee is not an exercise in memorization, but in spelling abilities. Practice word lists are provided, but as competition accelerates, words may be used from a higher grade level and/or from an unpublished word list. Grade level competitions are held in classrooms followed by the spell-off where top spellers from the 5-8th grades compete. The top five spellers in the spell-off round qualify for the regional competition.

Required Adult Volunteers

Approximately 40 volunteers are needed to run a spelling bee therefore schools are required to provide five workers in addition to adequate adult supervision for their own students.

Eligibility

Grades 1-8. Entry limits are determined by the host site.

Schedule

District level bees are held throughout January and February. The regional bee is in March and the national bee is held in early May.

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Awards

The top speller in each grade level receives a pendant. 2nd, 3rd, and 4th place winners in each grade level receive ribbons. Remaining participants receive a certificate. The top student in the spell-off round receives a trophy and the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th place winners receive rosettes.

Fees

School Registration: \$50.00 (early); \$65.00 (after October 2)

Student Participation: \$9.50 per entry

ATHLETICS

For information on the Athletic Tournaments contact Mike Lawrence, 815-935-8080, mikelaw56@msn.com, at Kankakee Trinity Academy, Kankakee, Illinois.

NATIONAL SENIOR HIGH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCES

Two conferences are offered this year. View the National Leadership Conference website for details:

<https://www.acsi.org/region/northeast/northeast-student-activities/national-high-school-leadership-conference>

MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCES

Description

These one-day conferences are for middle school students who are in leadership positions or who have demonstrated leadership potential. Students will be challenged in general sessions. Learning application times and team building activities will also highlight the day. There will be time for social interaction and a snack. Lunch and a conference booklet are included in the cost for the day.

Required Adult Volunteers

One Advisor is required for every 10 students.

Dates and Locations

KY: Friday, September 29, 2017 at Sand Springs Baptist Church, Lawrenceburg, KY

IL: Friday, October 27, 2017 at Rockford Christian School, Rockford, IL

NOH: Friday, January 26, 2018 at Radiant Life Church, Wadsworth, OH

SOH: Friday, February 23, 2018 at Polaris Christian Academy, Lewis Center, OH

Speakers

KY: Michael Furchert, Christian Inspirational Speaker "More Than Conquerors"

IL: Matthew Dominguez, Wheaton Academy

OH: TBA

Eligibility

Students in grades 6-8 who are serious about serving God as leaders should attend. Care should be taken in the selection of those attending, especially when choosing sixth grade students. It is suggested that those chosen to attend are student council members, class officers or have leadership roles in clubs or other school activities. Students from ACSI member and non-member Christian schools are encouraged to attend.

Schedule

Conferences are from 9:00 am—3:30 pm. Registration opens at 8:30 am.

Fees: Conference mailings with registration form and fee listings will be sent to schools approximately 6 weeks prior to each Conference.