

# MidAmerica Extreme Talent Judging Rules and Criteria

## Vocal Solo

Participants may be either male or female. Male and female will compete in separate categories. Entry shall not exceed 5 minutes. Going past time limit shall result in a 5-point deduction of total score. One copy of music, with measures numbered, must be provided for the judge(s) at the time of competition. All participants performing without judge's music shall be docked 5 points from total score. **COPYRIGHT LAWS MUST BE OBSERVED.** Music must be religious, classical, or patriotic in nature. No participant shall be allowed to use a song of original composition. All participants must have music memorized. The use of score will result in a 5-point deduction. Participants may be assisted by live, pre-recorded accompaniment or no accompaniment. If participants use pre-recorded accompaniment, it must include printed music and words for judges.

## Keyboard Solo & Duet

Participants may be either male or female. Entry shall not exceed 5 minutes. Going past time limit shall result in a 5-point deduction of total score. One copy of music, with measures numbered, must be provided for the judge(s) at the time of competition. All participants performing without judge's music shall be docked 5 points from total score. **COPYRIGHT LAWS MUST BE OBSERVED.** All participants must have music memorized. Music must be religious, classical or patriotic in nature. No participant shall be allowed to use a song of original composition. All participants must have song memorized. The use of score during competition will result in a 5-point deduction.

## Instrumental Solo, Duet, & Ensemble

Participants may be either male or female. Entry shall not exceed 5 minutes. Going past time limit shall result in a 5-point deduction of total score. One copy of music, with measures numbered, must be provided for the judge(s) at the time of competition. All participants performing without judge's music shall be docked 5 points from total score. **COPYRIGHT LAWS MUST BE OBSERVED.** Participants are not required to memorize music. If you use original score for performance, an additional original score must be provided for the judge(s). No participant shall be allowed to use a song of original composition. Participants may be assisted by live or pre-recorded accompaniment or no accompaniment.

## Vocal Ensemble (small and large)

Participants may be either male or female. Entry shall not exceed 8 minutes. (This includes filing into and out of position). Going past time limit shall result in a 5-point deduction of total score. One copy of music, with measures numbered, must be provided for the judge(s) at the time of competition. All participants performing without judge's music shall be docked 5 points from total score. **COPYRIGHT LAWS MUST BE OBSERVED.** All participants must have music memorized. The use of score during competition will result in a 5-point deduction. Music must be religious, classical or patriotic in nature. No participants shall be allowed to use a song of original composition. Participants may be assisted by live, pre-recorded accompaniment or no accompaniment. If participants use pre-recorded accompaniment it must include printed music and words for judges. *Note: Small ensemble consists of quartet or smaller; Large ensemble consists of quintet or larger.*

## **Creative Arts**

This event encompasses all worship talent not otherwise listed (ex: interpretive dance, tambourines, sticks, etc.) There will be no set criteria in which to judge you. The judge(s) will instead write comments/suggestions.

## **Bands**

Participants may be either male or female. **Song must not exceed 5 minutes in length** (points will be deducted if the time is exceeded), and not exceed 20 minutes including set up and tear down time. Going past the total time limit shall result in a 5-point deduction. One copy of music, with measures numbered, must be provided for the judge(s) at the time of competition. All participants performing without judge's music shall be docked 5 points from total score. **COPYRIGHT LAWS MUST BE OBSERVED.** No participant shall be allowed to use a song or chorus of original composition. Music must be religious, classical or patriotic in nature. Participants are not required to memorize music but must have live accompaniment.

## **Original Composition**

Participants may be either male or female. The composition must be of spiritual, classical or patriotic content. A full score with numbered measures and including the part for each voice/instrument used in the performance must be written out. If the composition is a contemporary worship song, then only a lead sheet is required. A lead sheet includes melody, words and chords. The composition must be sent to the following address by **Thursday, April 2, 2009**, in order to be judged (NO EXCEPTIONS):

Dr. Terry Baldrige  
MidAmerica Nazarene University  
MAX 2009 – Original Composition  
2030 E. College Way  
Olathe, KS 66062

Each participant will perform his/her composition on Friday of MAX. The score of the composition will be averaged with the score of the performance to make the final score.

## **Creative Writing**

Participants may be either male or female. You may submit a fiction piece or poetry. The fiction piece must be double-spaced, using standard margins and 12-point font. Poems may be single-spaced, using standard margins and 12-point font. Acceptable fonts are Times New Roman and Arial. The entry must be sent to the following address by **Thursday, April 2, 2009**, in order to be judged (NO EXCEPTIONS):

April Hansen  
15342 S. Seminole Dr.  
Olathe, KS 66062

## **Drama (sketches, mime, puppets, group dramas)**

Participants may be either male or female. Entry shall be no shorter than 4 minutes and shall not exceed 6 minutes. Going past time limit shall result in a 5-point deduction of total score. One copy of manuscript must be provided for the judge(s) at the time of competition. All participants performing without judge's manuscript shall be docked 5 points from total score. **COPYRIGHT LAWS MUST BE OBSERVED.** All participants must have script memorized. No participant

shall be allowed to use manuscript of original composition. The use of manuscript during competition will result in a 5-point deduction.

### **Speech (original speech, speech interpretation)**

Participants may be either male or female. Entry shall be no shorter than 4 minutes and shall not exceed 6 minutes. Going out of range of time limit shall result in a 5-point deduction of total score. One copy of manuscript must be provided for the judge(s) at time of competition. All participants performing without manuscript shall be docked 5 points from total score. **COPYRIGHT LAWS MUST BE OBSERVED.** Memorized script is preferred but the use of manuscript is permitted for assistance.

### **Art (watercolor, drawing, photography, oil, acrylic, ceramics, sculpture, mixed media)**

All art must be of original composition. Works must be in "good taste". **All art except ceramics and sculpture must be matted and/or framed.** Each piece should be identified with the artist's name, church, district, age, grade, and medium used on a 3X5 card at time of entry. Participants may not have more than 3 art entries because one entry is equal to one MAX event. The entries must be of contrasting styles.

### **Video Production: Interview**

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

#### **CRITERIA**

You may have up to two additional people on your crew to help you. Dub your final video to a VHS or mini-DV tape, cued to the beginning. Label your tape with your name and district. Your tape will be returned with the judging form at MAX. The entry must be sent to the following address by **Thursday, April 2, 2009**, in order to be judged (NO EXCEPTIONS):

Josh Weinstock  
15514 W. 139<sup>th</sup> St.  
Olathe, KS 66062

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

1. Reporter stand-up lead (introduction)
2. Voice-over narration (VO) of reporter throughout story
3. Interviewees:
  - 1 main interview (pastor)
  - 1 supplemental interview, minimum (spouse, student, church member)Use a well-lit set, proper framing, camera set-up and audio levels.
4. B-roll footage - 3 different types or locations, minimum.  
Examples of "types" are still photos, home video footage, graphics, animation, etc. Showing the person doing something in different locations are considered "types."
5. Music behind footage (not necessarily ALL footage)
6. Reporter stand-up conclusion

Your video will be judged based on the following:

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

### TIPS

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

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

### Video Production: Commercial

Create a 40-60 second commercial promoting your church (could be about your youth group, children's dept, special event your church is hosting, etc.). The entry must be sent to the following address by **Thursday, April 2, 2009**, in order to be judged (NO EXCEPTIONS):

Josh Weinstock  
15514 W. 139<sup>th</sup> St.  
Olathe, KS 66062

## CRITERIA

You may have up to two additional people on your crew to help you. Dub your final video to a VHS or mini-DV tape, cued to the beginning. Label your tape with your name and district. Your tape will be returned with the judging form at MAX.

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

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

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

Your video will be judged based on the following:

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

### **Video Production: Youth Ministry Highlights**

Create a 4-5 minute video highlighting an event with your youth group. (i.e. camping trip, Work and Witness trip, holiday party, etc.) Criteria, except for time length, will be the same as the Commercial option. The entry must be sent to the following address by **Thursday, April 2, 2009**, in order to be judged (NO EXCEPTIONS):

Josh Weinstock  
15514 W. 139<sup>th</sup> St.  
Olathe, KS 66062

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Junior High \_\_\_\_\_ Senior High \_\_\_\_\_

Church: \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_

Video Option:     Interview     Commercial     Youth Ministry Highlights

Additional crew members: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

**DEADLINES:** All entries must be turned in no later than **April 2, 2009** (NO EXCEPTIONS).

## Web Design

1. Create a 3 to 7 page web site.
2. These pages should be built based on Christian ministry content.
3. Submit your web design on a CD or floppy disk with all necessary files included (html, images, graphics, background, etc.) OR as an active URL if the web site is published on the worldwide web.
4. Submit a print out of all computer code used for the pages. (This will help in judging the technical aspects).
5. Judging will be based on the following criteria:
  - Layout
  - Design
  - Graphics
  - Images
  - Text
  - Navigation
  - Credibility
  - Technical elements
  - Staying within the number of pages range

The URL for your entry must be emailed to the following address by **Thursday, April 2, 2009**, in order to be judged:

Weston George  
**[nitsew@gmail.com](mailto:nitsew@gmail.com)**