



***5<sup>th</sup> District  
LAY  
CHRISTIAN ARTS FESTIVAL***

A Festival for Youth & Young Adults



**Theme:**  
**“Crafted Into *His* Perfect Plan”**

“But now, O LORD, you are our father, we are the clay, and you our potter;  
And we all are the work of your hand”

*Isaiah 64:8 UKJV*

# Lay Christian Arts Festival

## Purpose

The Lay Christian Arts Festival is designed to encourage the development and use of God-given talents of A.M.E. youth and young adults

## Categories

### Humanities

Oratorical  
Poetry

### Visual Arts

Painting/Drawing

### Performing Arts

Dance (solo)  
Vocal (solo)  
Instrumental (solo)



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**5th District  
Conference Lay Christian Arts Festival  
Registration Form**

(Please type or print neatly and include all information)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street, city, zip)

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent or Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Local Church \_\_\_\_\_ Conference \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor \_\_\_\_\_

Young Adult Representative \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Categories**

Please check the performance or entry in which you plan to participate. Participants may sign-up for a maximum of three performances/entries. There is a \$20 participant fee per performance or entry.

**HUMANITIES**

- Oratorical
- Poetry

**VISUAL ARTS**

- Painting/Drawing

**PERFORMING ARTS**

- Dance (Solo)
- Vocal –Gospel, Contemp.(Solo)
- Vocal-Spirituals, Classical (Solo)
- Instrumental (Solo)

**NOTE:** If there is only one participant competing in an age group, this does not constitute an automatic first place. Participants will be judged on performance and preparation based on the published criteria and an individual point system that will determine placement.

Participant Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Conference Young Adult Representative Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Conference President Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail completed forms, fees, orations & poetry to the Fifth District Youth and Young Adults Representative  
Jene'l A. Sconier.....PO BOX 5546, TACOMA, WA 98415  
BY JUNE 13, 2014**

*Lay Christian Arts Festival 2014*



## “Crafted Into *His* Perfect Plan”

### General Program Guidelines

<b>Group I</b>	<b>Ages 10 – 12</b> *Local & Conference Only
<b>Group II</b>	<b>Ages 13 – 16</b>
<b>Group III</b>	<b>Ages 17 – 20</b>
<b>Group IV</b>	<b>Ages 21 - 24</b>

#### **Eligibility**

- Member of a local A.M.E. church
- Must be the First Place winner at the conference level. **Tie breakers must be addressed at the conference level and the process is up to the discretion of each conference.**
- Must be in attendance on the day of the Arts Festival with the **EXCEPTION** of Painting/Drawing and Poetry categories

#### **Fees**

**A \$20.00 participation fee per individual is due with the registration form for each performance or entry.**

#### **Important Dates/Deadline Dates**

Deadline to submit participant registration forms and fees June 13, 2014

- ONLY Conference presidents should submit forms and fees

Deadline to electronically submit Oratorical & Poetry June 13, 2014

NOTE: If there is only one participant competing in an age group, this does not constitute an automatic first place. Participants will be judged on performance and preparation based on the published criteria and an individual point system that will determine placement.

#### **Send completed registration forms to:**

**Jene'l A. Sconier, Fifth District Youth and Young Adults Representative  
PO BOX 5546, TACOMA, WA 98415**



## ORATORICAL

- |                  |                      |  |
|------------------|----------------------|--|
| <b>Group I</b>   | <b>3 – 5 Minutes</b> | What does “Crafted Into <i>His</i> Perfect Plan” mean to you?  |
| <b>Group II</b>  | <b>4 – 6 Minutes</b> | How can you as a young person continue to let “God Craft You” and continue to stay current, connected, and cool in today’s social and technical world?   |
| <b>Group III</b> | <b>5 – 7 Minutes</b> | Young Adults are busy structuring their futures; school, work, relationships, church to make it in the world: How can young adults maintain “ <i>His</i> Perfect Plan” for our lives and the plan ‘we’ have for ourselves? |
| <b>Group IV</b>  | <b>6 – 8 Minutes</b> | From the Moses Generation to the Joshua Generation: how does the plan that was crafted for our fore fathers and mothers differ from the “Crafted Plan” God has for us today?   |

### Guidelines

- Time limits will be strictly observed
- Must use the platform and equipment provided; other equipment restricted
- The use of notes, props, or prompting in any manner is not permitted and will result in **AUTOMATIC DISQUALIFICATION**
- State their name, church and conference prior to beginning their performance
- Display participant’s first & last name, age, parents name, school, grade level, church, pastor & conference on the top right corner of an electronic copy of the oration
- **Submit an electronic copy of the oration to by JUNE 15, 2014**

### Judging Criteria

- Presentation stays on the topic
- **One (1) point deduction for every second over the maximum time**
- Eye contact
- Ability to engage the audience
- Organization
- Use of voice, facial expression and gestures
- Clarity
- Creativity



## POETRY

### Guidelines

- Poems must reflect the theme, “**Crafted Into His Perfect Plan**”
- Poems must be word processed using a 12 point Times New Romans font and black ink
- Poems must be double spaced
- Display participant’s first & last name, age, parents name, school, grade level, church, pastor & Conference on the top right corner of the poem
- **Submit an electronic copy of the poem to by JUNE 15, 2014**

### Judging Criteria

- Language is used in a fresh way, avoiding clichés and forced rhymes
- Language is effective and clear
- Grammar and spelling
- Thoughtfulness and meaningful concepts
- The reader is moved emotionally or struck by the poet’s message
- The poet’s message is understood
- Creativity

## PAINTING/DRAWING

Visual Art must be **religious or Christ centered**, but does not have to reflect the theme.

### Guidelines

- The following Media can be used: Watercolor, Acrylic, Oil on canvas, or Pastels
- Artists must deliver their entry to the Arts Festival by the designated time
- The artist must display the following on the back of their painting:

Example	
<b>First and Last Name</b>	<b>Church, Pastor’s &amp; Conference</b>
<b>Age</b>	<b>Name of School &amp; Grade Level</b>
<b>Parent’s Name</b>	<b>1-5 sentences describing the art work</b>

### Judging Criteria

- Visual Aesthetics
- Depth and Dimensions
- Use of Colors
- Form
- Creativity



## DANCE (SOLO)

Performing Arts must be **religious or Christ centered**, but does not have to reflect the theme.

### Guidelines

- Dancers are responsible for providing their own musical accompaniment
- **5-minute** time limit that will be strictly observed
- Dancers should state their name, church and conference prior to beginning their performance
- Clearly marked CDs with their name and age group, burned with only the musical selection for the performance

### Judging Criteria

- Poise
- Appearance
- **One (1) point deduction for every second over the maximum time**
- Interpretation
- Technique



## VOCAL (SOLO)

Performing Arts must be **religious or Christ centered**, but does not have to reflect the theme.

### Guidelines

- Vocalist may use a soundtrack (CD) accompaniment or instrumental accompaniment; acappella (unaccompanied) is also acceptable. The accompanist is not allowed to sing at any time and the Arts Festival will not make provisions for accompaniments
- Vocalists may not use their own PA system
- Clearly mark CDs with name and age group, burned with only the musical selection for the performance
- Vocalists will have a **5-minute** time limit that will be strictly observed
- Vocalist must be present and give a live performance
- Each vocalist will be limited to one song
- Vocalists should state their name, church and conference prior to beginning their performance

### Judging Criteria

**AREA I:** Gospel: Praise & Worship, Rap, Contemporary, and Original Gospel Piece

**AREA II:** Spirituals, Classical, Easy Classical and Original Classical Piece

- Presence...eye contact, delivery, poise
- Tonality...pitch and sound
- Expression
- **One (1) point deduction for every second over the maximum time**
- Vocal Clarity...enunciation and diction
- Difficulty
- Overall Impression

## INSTRUMENTAL (SOLO)

Performing Arts must be **religious or Christ centered**, but does not have to reflect the theme.

### Guidelines

- Musicians will have a **5-minute** time limit that will be strictly observed
- Musicians may use an instrument of choice
- Absolutely no pre-recorded music will be allowed
- A piano or keyboard will be provided at the Arts Festival
- Musicians should state their name, church and conference prior to beginning their performance

### Judging Criteria

- Dynamics...crescendo, decrescendo, etc.
- Tonality...pitch and sound
- Artistic Presentation
- **One (1) point deduction for every second over the maximum time**
- Rhythm...meter, syncopation, tempo, etc.
- Difficulty
- Articulation...staccato, legato, accent
- Overall Impression





## GUIDELINES FOR JUDGES

Judges are an essential part of the Arts Festival. Qualifications of judges will be carefully considered to insure the integrity of the judging process.

### General Qualifications

- Judges must not be members of the A.M.E Church
- Judges must demonstrate interest and understanding of the Arts Festival purpose to encourage the development and use of God given talents
- Judges must have had experience working with, developing, coaching or judging youth and young adults
- Judges must have credentials reflecting their training and experience
- Judges must submit a bio or resume listing their qualifications prior to the Arts Festival

### Specific Experience, Knowledge & Expertise Required

#### **HUMANTIES (Oratorical & Poetry)**

- Familiar with Bible references and topics
- Ability to assess communication and organizational skills
- Ability to assess oral delivery skills

#### **VISUAL ARTS (Painting/Drawing)**

- Ability to appreciate and interpret art
- Ability to recognize the language of art, such as tones, strokes, color balances, etc.
- Ability to distinguish the differences between, fine art, studio art, graphics arts, etc.

#### **PERFORMING ARTS (Dance Solo, Vocal Solo, Instrumental)**

- Basic understanding of dance rhythm and synchronization
- Basic understanding of the principles of musical notes and rhythm
- Basic understanding of the principles of music
- Familiar with the genres of music specified in this packet

### Judging Logistics & Process

- No publicity of judges will be allowed in advance of the Arts Festival
- Judges will be given an orientation prior to the Arts Festival
- Judges will be seated in close proximity to the participants. Location of the judges will be determined by available space and the room set-up
- Judges will be instructed not to consult with other judges or any other person regarding scoring performances
- Judges will be instructed to address questions to the Judges Host



- Judging will be scored on the standard scoring sheet provided by the Arts Festival
- Judges may not consider any part of the performance after the maximum time limit
- Judges will be required to sign the scoring sheets that they complete
- If there is only one participant competing in an age group, this does not constitute an automatic first place. Participants will be judged on performance and preparation based on the published criteria and on an individual point system that will determine placement
- Participants will lose one (1) point for every second the maximum time is exceeded for performances in which this rule applies
- The Judges decisions is FINAL



## OTHER INSTRUCTIONS

### **PARTICIPANTS**

- Participants must meet at the designated time the day of the Arts Festival for organizing and preparation
- Participants are required to remain in the designated waiting area until they perform
- Participants will be placed under the supervision of an adult appointed by the Young Representative
- Participants will be informed if they will be seated in a designated area during the Arts Festival if space is available

### **TIMEKEEPER**

- Timekeepers will monitor and record the total time of each performance where required
- Timekeeping will be conducted electronically and projected in the performers view or timekeepers will be provided a stopwatch and time cards
- Timekeepers will notify participants of the following by projection or signage:
  - “1 MINUTE REMAINING”
  - “STOP”

### **REVIEWERS**

- The Young Adults Representative will appoint three reviewers
- Reviewers will check the scoring sheets to verify accuracy and the Judge’s signature
- Reviewers calculate individual participant scores and complete verification forms
- Reviewers will sign the scoring sheets and verification forms

### **FINAL SCORING**

- Judges, Timekeepers, Reviewers, the Young Adult Representative, and designee will convene in an assigned room for the final review of participant scores, immediately following the last performance.
- The Young Adult Representative and a designee will review the verification forms and certify the official winners of each group

### **PRESENTATIONS**

- Presentations to the Arts Festival winners will be made following the Arts Festival. The time will be determined by the Executive Board.

**THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!**