

IFCA INTERNATIONAL • YOUTH CONVENTION

NATIONAL GOSPEL ART MINISTRY TRAINING AREA (MTA)

Rules & Guidelines

➤ PURPOSE

To encourage and strengthen the desire and abilities of students to represent biblical truths or Christian themes through the medium of graphic art, either in the context of the local church or in the outreach ministries of a local church (Rom. 12:3-8).

➤ WHAT IS “GOSPEL ART?”

Truly Christian art clearly represents biblical truths or Christian themes with a classical understanding of graphic artistic interpretation. Modern, postmodern or abstract contemporary artistic presentations which are primarily influenced by a relativistic worldview and which deny objective truth and beauty have no place in Christian churches. When God speaks or creates, He speaks and creates with purpose, clarity, and beauty. As those created in His image, Christians should direct their creative impulse to “image God” on earth by re-creating and re-presenting with as much purpose, clarity, and beauty as God did before us. Those who view Christian art should go away with an understanding of the truths which the artist intended to convey with minimal explanation. The goal of “Gospel Art” should be to bring glory to God (the first Creator) and to lead others to glorify Him as well.

➤ RULES

1. All entries must clearly represent biblical truths or themes with a classical understanding of graphic artistic interpretation.
2. Presentations can either be submitted as a pre-completed single piece or series or as a live presentation.
 - Pre-completed artwork must be properly framed or mounted as they would be displayed in a local church.
 - Live presentations are presented on a large format canvas, paper or cloth (at least 2’x3’) using a variety of mediums in front of an audience. Presentations are usually accompanied by a message, narration, music, dramatized Bible reading and/or special lighting effects. Many presentations conclude when the art piece is completed and revealed to be something other than expected either by reorientation, the use of a blacklight, or other medium.
 - Presentations or submissions which are outside the above described parameters must be approved by the MTA Coordinator.
3. The Junior High Division shall be limited to those students in grades 7-9, and the Senior High Division to those in grades 10-12.
4. A cover cloth must be on the floor under the drawing area for live presentations. All media and presentation materials and equipment (canvas, chalk/paint, easels, lighting, extension cords, floor cover, etc.) must be provided by the presenter. For live presentations with pre-recorded audio, students also need to provide a way of playing

that audio on an amplified Bluetooth speaker device which they also provide. All artwork will remain in the possession of the presenter until the time of the presentation.

5. Each entrant must provide three (3) copies of a correctly filled-out evaluation. For live presentations with pre-recorded audio, the student must also submit the recording in the form of an MP3 on a single USB thumb drive. **These three (3) copies of all MTA submission materials must be presented at registration on the first day of convention.** The final deadline for all MTA materials to be received in the Convention Office is no later than 8pm the first day of Convention.
6. The same presentation must be used throughout both Regional and National MTA events must not have been previously evaluated at an IFCA National Youth Convention.
7. Presentation Attire Guidelines
 - All clothing must be **modest**—appropriate for the worship environment. Any questions or concerns can be directed to mta@ifcayouth.org.
 - **Young Men:** Dress pants (no jeans), dress shirt with collar, belt and dress shoes; no flip-flops. Hair must be clean and neatly groomed.
 - **Young Ladies:** Dress or blouse with skirt or dress pants (no jeans). Dress shoes or sandals; no flip-flops. Hair must be clean and neatly groomed.
 - A professional-looking smock over dress clothing during a presentation is appropriate.

➤ EVALUATION

1. A panel of 3 persons will evaluate each entry. There are 6 categories of evaluation on the Apologetics Ministry Training Area Evaluation Form. Each evaluator will assign a division 1, division 2 or division 3 rating for each category. The overall score will be calculated by taking an average of the scores awarded from all 3 evaluators.

| <u>Final Division Rating</u> | <u>Average Score</u> |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Division 1 (best) | 1.0 – 1.5 |
| Division 2 | 1.6 – 2.4 |
| Division 3 | 2.5 – 3.0 |

Note: The National Ministry Training Area evaluators are advised to consider the age and experience of the entrant in the evaluation process and score accordingly.

2. An introduction must be made by the presenter, which includes his or her name, church, IFCA region, the title of the presentation, and a brief explanation.
3. The lead evaluator will be the official timekeeper. The length of a live presentation should be long enough to present the art and message. Each entry needs to be no longer than 15 minutes with no minimum for both Jr. and Sr. High division. Time does not include the introduction or prayer.

Questions? Contact:

Pastor Andy Huber

NATIONAL MINISTRY TRAINING AREA COORDINATOR
(913) 727-5006 • mta@ifcayouth.org

Revised Jan. 2024