



MACS Fine Arts Festival Manual

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UPDATED OCTOBER 2014

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MACS SENIOR HIGH FINE ARTS FESTIVAL GUIDELINES

UPDATED OCTOBER 2014

Purpose

The purpose of the Minnesota Association of Christian Schools Fine Arts Festival is to assist the youth of our Minnesota Christian Schools in developing their talents for the Lord's service and to provide an opportunity for fellowship among our youth.

Eligibility

Students from MACS member schools who are in 9th-12th grades. Students who are in the 7th and 8th grades may compete in the Band and Handbell categories only.

Limitations

Only projects which were started since the last MACS Festival may be entered for participation in the current festival.

Students participating in the MACS Fine Arts Festival may enter up to (6) performance events in the music categories (not including large ensembles of more than 5 students), and (5) events in the art, photography, or science fair categories. Participants may not enter the same category multiple times (i.e. performing two vocal solos, or creating two monochromatic drawings).

Festival Ratings

The participants are evaluated by the standard below:

Superior	100-94
Excellent	93.9-87
Good	86.9-80
Fair	79.9-70

Students or groups must receive a score of 90 or above to receive First Place in any category.

Students in individual and small groups will receive rating ribbons according to the rating they receive.

Awards

First, Second, and Third Place will be awarded in each category. Large ensembles will receive trophies for First, Second, and Third Place.

Dress, Grooming, and Conduct

It is expected that each participant will follow general MACS standards for dress. Given the nature of this festival this would include:

Women - skirts or dresses to the middle of the knee for women with no pants or leggings visible, modest tops, no athletic attire

Men - shirts and ties for men, hair no longer than the natural hair line with ears and eyes visible, clean shaven with side burns no longer than the middle of the ear, no athletic attire

The conduct of participants is expected to meet the standard for believers in I Timothy 4:12. Patience, kindness, and good sportsmanship are the exemplary rule to follow at all times for all students, sponsors, parents and visitors. Insubordination or disruptive behavior by any student, sponsor, parent, or visitor toward any judge or festival official will not be tolerated. Behavior which does not exemplify a Christian will be grounds for disqualification.

MUSIC

GENERAL RULES – MUSIC

- A. Eligibility: Students in 9-12 are eligible for all events. Students in grades 7-8 may participate in the band and handbell categories.
- B. Each category will have specific guidelines as to the number of students, number of selections, length of selections and eligible instruments. Please refer to the specific guidelines as you prepare.
- C. All Vocal and Piano Solo selections shall be memorized. All other categories need not be memorized.
- D. Solos, ensembles, and large groups may be accompanied by piano. No other instrument may be used for accompaniment. Taped accompaniments of any sort are not allowed for festival use.
- E. The accompanist must be provided by the participant and will not be considered part of the group size in determination. The accompanist may be an adult.
- F. Each performer or group will provide (2) copies of performance music to the judges, along with the attached appropriate judging form. These copies must have each measure clearly numbered. Full scores of ensembles and large groups should be provided; deviations from the printed score and personal arrangements should be clearly marked. A copy of the original music must also be shown to the judges prior to performance.
- G. All music used in the festival will be selected from either Classical Music or the Recommended Repertoire List.
- H. No participant or group will perform the same selection in two consecutive years.
- I. Microphones will not be used for any music category. No choreography or extreme or unnecessary bodily movement shall be permitted.
- J. Warm up rooms will be available on a sign up basis.
- K. Pianists shall be afforded the opportunity to “get the feel” of the instrument prior to judging. Instrumentalists may tune their instruments with the piano before presentation.
- L. When the judges are ready and the musicians have finalized their preparation, a judge will notify the contestant to take his place at the front of the room. The student will announce his name, school, title of his selection, and the composer/arranger. Timing will start with the first music note, including accompaniment.
- M. Failure to comply with MACS Festival rules and guidelines will result in a lowered score or a disqualification (pending approval of the MACS Festival Coordinator).

RULES BY CATEGORY - MUSIC

VOCAL SOLO (6 total Entries): MALE VOCAL SOLO and FEMALE VOCAL SOLO

1. Each school may enter up to 6 vocal solos – any combination of 6 total male or female vocal soloist entries is allowed.
2. Time Limit: One memorized selection within (5) minutes

VOCAL DUET – (5 entries)

VOCAL TRIO – (4 entries)

VOCAL QUARTET – (3 entries)

1. Time Limit: One memorized selection within eight (8) minutes.
2. Students may only participate in one ensemble per category (ie: one vocal duet, not multiple duets)

LARGE VOCAL ENSEMBLE (3 entries total between Large Vocal Ensemble and Choral Group)

1. A large ensemble has 5-12 members
2. A director may be used
3. Time Limit: One memorized selection within (8) minutes

CHORAL GROUP (3 entries total between Large Vocal Ensemble and Choral Group)

1. A choral group has 13-24 members
2. A director may be used
3. Time Limit: Two memorized selection within (8) minutes

YOUTH CHOIR (1 Entry)

1. A youth choir has 25 or more members
2. A director may be used
3. Time Limit: Two memorized selections within (12) minutes

BRASS & WOODWIND INSTRUMENT SOLO - (6 Entries)

1. Each school may enter (6) total entries in any combination of brass and woodwind instruments
2. Pieces do not need to be memorized
3. Time Limit: One selection within (8) minutes

STRING INSTRUMENT SOLO - (6 Entries)

1. Includes all standard orchestra string instruments, classical guitar, and harp.
2. Pieces do not need to be memorized
3. Time Limit: One selection within (8) minutes

PERCUSSION INSTRUMENT SOLO - (3 Entries)

1. Includes pitched or unpitched percussion
2. Pieces do not need to be memorized
3. Time Limit: One selection within (8) minutes

SMALL INSTRUMENT ENSEMBLE (6 Entries)

1. A small ensemble has 2-4 members
2. Includes any combination of winds, percussion, and strings
3. Pieces do not need to be memorized
4. Time Limit: One selection within (8) minutes

LARGE INSTRUMENT ENSEMBLE (6 Entries)

1. A large ensemble has 5-12 members
2. Includes any combination of winds, percussion, and strings
3. Pieces do not need to be memorized
4. A director may be used
5. Time Limit: One selection within (8) minutes

PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE (2 Entries)

1. Includes pitched and unpitched percussion instruments
2. Percussion Ensemble may have 2 or more members
3. Pieces do not need to be memorized
4. A director may be used
5. Time Limit: One selection within (8) minutes

BAND (1 Entry)

1. Band has 13 or more members
2. Pieces do not need to be memorized
3. A director may be used
4. 7th and 8th grade students may participate in this category
5. Time Limit: Two selections within (12) minutes

SACRED PIANO SOLO (6 entries total between Sacred and Classical Piano Solos)

1. This category includes sacred or patriotic arrangements
2. Time Limit: One memorized selection within (8) minutes

CLASSICAL PIANO SOLO (6 entries total between Sacred and Classical Piano Solos)

1. This category includes selections from the classical repertoire.
2. Time Limit: One memorized selection within (8) minutes

CLASSICAL PIANO DUET (One piano, four hands)

SACRED PIANO DUET (One piano, four hands)

CLASSICAL PIANO DUO (Two pianos, four hands)

SACRED PIANO DUO (Two pianos, four hands)

1. These are four separate categories and schools may enter 4 total duets or duos in any combination.
2. The selection must be either classical or sacred
3. Pieces do not need to be memorized
4. Time Limit: **One** selection within (8) minutes

HANDBELL SOLO - (3 Entries)

1. Includes handbells or handchimes
2. Pieces do not need to be memorized
3. Time Limit: **One** selection within (8) minutes

HANDBELL ENSEMBLE - (3 Entries)

1. A handbell ensemble has 2-6 students
2. Includes handbells or handchimes
3. Pieces do not need to be memorized
4. A director may not be used
5. Time Limit: **One** selection within (8) minutes

HANDBELL CHOIR - (2 Entries)

1. A handbell choir has 7 or more students
2. Includes handbells or handchimes
3. Pieces do not need to be memorized
4. A director may be used
5. 7th and 8th grade students may participate in this category
6. Time Limit: **Two** selections within (15) minutes

MUSIC GUIDELINES

1. Selection Process

- A. All music in the MACS State Festival will be selected from Classical Repertoire or the MACS Approved Repertoire List.
- B. Music which is not from classical repertoire or on the Approved Repertoire List may be submitted to Levi Kolwinska (Fourth Baptist) by February 15.
- C. Individuals or groups which submit music that is subsequently not approved will select music from the existing list or may submit a substitute piece for approval.

2. Guidelines for the selection of music

The following will be used to evaluate music for the Recommended Repertoire List. These principles are set forth as a guide to selecting music for approval. It is realized these guidelines are somewhat narrow in scope. Music which is appropriate in context of a particular school's chapel or concert may not be appropriate for the MACS Fine Arts Festival.

A. Lyrics

1. If it is a religious work, the lyrics must be theologically correct, proper for instruction, clearly phrased, and respectful of the dignity of God and the church. Participants should carefully avoid songs with the trite messages or songs which project good morals without giving a clear gospel message.
2. If it is a secular work, the lyrics must be consistent with the educational philosophy of the MACS. The participant should clearly avoid songs of any era which contradict sound Bible teaching or include references to man-centered values.
3. If it is in a foreign language, the literal English translation should be made available for approval by February 15.

B. Style of Music

1. Selections will be from religious, classical, or patriotic music. The term "classical" refers to serious concert music of any historical era, including folk songs and spirituals. Serious twentieth-century idioms are welcome, but not popular music or show tunes.
2. Music selected must be free of associations with ungodly lifestyles and ideals. Some idioms are too closely associated with immorality to be used in a Christian music festival setting. This includes rock and a variety of popular music genre. Even classical music will contain some material which is acceptable and some which should be avoided.
3. Songs on the Approved Repertoire List should be well-written, showing a balance of melody, harmony, and rhythm. While rhythmic aspects will be of special concern, a piece of music may possess strongly marked rhythm without implying association with immoral idioms. In any case, the rhythm of the music should not be the dominant compositional technique.
4. Songs connected with the Christian Contemporary Music movement will pose special problems. It is recognized that the CCM movement has produced songs which may meet all of the other criteria given in this guide. Such songs may be disallowed if they have exclusive association with Christian performers of questionable testimony or standards of separation.
5. Hymns and gospel songs will form a major part of the Approved Repertoire List. **In festival categories where two selections are required, it is required that the participants present at least one Sacred selection.**
6. Hymns and gospel songs should be in the form of seriously-written musical arrangements. Simple hymnbook or chorus book accompaniments are not acceptable for soloists and groups; full arrangements would be better given the nature of a music festival. Personal arrangements of an extended nature should be written and submitted in manuscript. Medleys are acceptable.
7. Finally, it must be realized that not all songs which fit into the context of a particular ministry will be appropriate for festival use. The purpose of the Approved Repertoire List and submission of new songs for approval is only to select fitting music for our particular festival, not to pass judgment on any school's institutional standards.

ART

GENERAL RULES - ART

1. Entries are not restricted to sacred themes, but entries which reflect sensualism, humanism, occultism, or worldliness will be disqualified; basically, any subject detrimental to spiritual edification will not be allowed. Modesty is expected.
2. Each entry will be the original creation of the participant alone, but the participant may have had advice or instruction.
3. Each entry must have been created since the last MACS Competition.
4. A student may only enter one piece of artwork per category (i.e. one monochromatic drawing).
5. Each school may have 3 entries per category.
6. Students should do original drawings or paintings from imagination or actual life. Working from a personal photograph is allowed. Other photographs may be used if the student has strived to be creative in his interpretation of the photograph, rather than trying to copy it exactly. There must be a significant change, at least 40%, in the artwork when using another person's photograph. Copying of any existing artwork (painting, drawing, illustration, etc.) is prohibited unless permission is granted from the copyright holder. The reference or source photograph must be included with the artwork - please state if it is a personal photograph or if you have the copyright holder's permission.
7. Two-dimensional work must be matted or framed. Framing is an important aspect of the presentation of a work of art. A simple frame and mat are effective. Elaborate mats and heavy ornamental frames are not necessary and sometimes detract from the artwork.
8. Each student must sign the "Statement of Originality" on the Artist's Idea Statement.
9. Each entry must have attached a completed Artist's Idea Statement which gives the source of his idea and explains how he developed his artwork from the idea. Photographs showing the development of the artwork may be included, if desired. Photographs are not a replacement for a required pattern.
10. All entries must have appropriate identification of category and contestant, using a 3 x 5 card on the back of the artwork with the following information: school name, student's name, and category.
11. All entries should be seen by the individual school's Fine Arts Coordinator to ensure quality of submission.

RULES BY CATEGORY - ART

CATEGORY 1: CALLIGRAPHY

1. Lettering will be done with a calligraphy pen, either metal or fiber tip. Ordinary felt tip markers are not acceptable.
2. No traced letters or dry-transfer lettering will be acceptable.
3. Any style of calligraphy may be used.
4. The entry may contain other elements (color, illustration) but the lettering should be the dominant element.
5. Lettering should be original: i.e., done by the student himself based on an example supplied by the teacher or taken from a book. *Suggested book for calligraphy examples: Calligraphy from Beginner to Expert, Caroline Young, Chris Lyon, Paul Sullivan, Usborne Publishing, ISBN 0-7460-0426-5
6. Attention should be paid to the overall composition or arrangement of words and lines to ensure balance, focus and communication.

CATEGORY 2: MONOCHROMATIC DRAWING

1. Monochromatic drawing is done only in one color.
2. The student may use ink, pencil, charcoal, or another drawing medium; a combination of these media is acceptable.
3. Work done in a medium subject to smearing must be sealed with a protective spray, or be covered with clear glass or acetate.
4. No scratch art is allowed.

CATEGORY 3: POLYCHROMATIC DRAWING

1. Polychromatic drawing is done in more than one color.
2. The student may use pastels, crayons, colored pencils, or another drawing medium; a combination of these media is acceptable.
3. Work done in a medium subject to smearing must be sealed with a protective spray, or be covered with clear glass or acetate.

CATEGORY 4: WATERCOLOR

1. Translucent techniques will be acceptable; use of proper watercolor paper is required.
2. Opaque techniques will be acceptable if the paints used qualify as watercolors.
3. Any water-based medium, such as watercolor, gouache, or tempera, may be used.

CATEGORY 5: OIL PAINTING

1. Oil painting involves the use of oil-based paints on a suitable ground.
2. Oil paint and appropriate solvents must be used. Paint should be applied to a ground suitable to the medium. These include, but are not limited to, canvas, wood, and assorted art boards.
3. The work must be completely dry before it is submitted.
4. The use of an airbrush is not permitted.

CATEGORY 6: ACRYLIC PAINTING

1. Acrylic painting involves the use of acrylic paints on a suitable ground.
2. Paints must be acrylic polymers and should be applied to a ground suitable to the medium. These include, but are not limited to, canvas, wood, and assorted art boards. Additional substances may be used for textural effects, as long as the surface of the work remains paint.
3. The work must be completely dry before it is submitted.
4. The use of an airbrush is not permitted.

CATEGORY 7: SCULPTURE

1. Sculpture is the art of carving (subtracting), modeling (shaping), or welding (combining), to produce a three dimensional work.
2. Works from molds are acceptable if the student created the mold and poured the object himself. Molds must be presented with the finished artwork.
3. Acceptable materials include, but are not limited to the following: wood, plaster, stone, metal, wax, ceramic slip, clay (both fired and unfired), balsa foam, model magic, and friendly plastic. Paper is an unacceptable material for sculptures.
4. No objects should be displayed other than the sculpture itself (i.e., flowers, plants, toys).
5. If possible, the sculpture should have an attached base. If a base is not attached, then the project should be placed on an appropriate surface, such as a ceramic tile, for display purposes.
6. Entries should not include models or dioramas.

CATEGORY 8: TEXTILES

1. Entries will be limited to selections from this listing: macramé; weaving (must show extensive, comprehensive work); string/thread art; appliqué (hand-sewn only); and batike or tie-dye.
2. Kits are not acceptable; however, commercially produced plans or patterns are acceptable. A copy of the plan or pattern must accompany the project. Photographs showing development of the artwork are not a replacement for the required plan or pattern.
3. No purchased garments, towels, or similar items are permitted.
4. No objects should be displayed other than the textile itself (no furniture, plants, or other items).

CATEGORY 9: CRAFTS

1. A craft can be anything three dimensional that is not strictly a sculpture or a textile.
2. Types of projects are limited to the following: jewelry making; stained glass; candle making; flower arranging (only if the student has made the flowers); decorative castings (from plaster, etc., as long as the student pours and decorates it himself); wearable art using appliqué, paints, batik, or tie-dye items; basketry; tole painting (on wood or metal); wood burning; sand art; ribbon crafts; decoupage; diorama; beadwork; leather work; metal repousse; punched designs into metal; papier-mâché; origami (paper folding); scratch art; and mosaic.
3. No kits or commercially produced plans, or parts of such, are acceptable. Purchased beads, pin backs or earring backs for jewelry are acceptable. A commercially-produced pattern is allowed for origami.
4. Entries are to be original and handmade, not copied from a commercial pattern. Containers and garments used for these projects may be purchased. Original student plans (sketches) must be included with the work. A commercially-produced pattern is allowed for origami.

CATEGORY 10: PRINTMAKING

1. Printmaking is a design or picture carved or etched into one surface, then inked and transferred to another surface.
2. The following media will be acceptable: linoleum block, woodcut, etching, dry point, collagraph, silk screen, and speedy-carve material.
3. The original carved or etched surface must be presented with a finished print.

CATEGORY 11: MIXED MEDIA

1. Mixed Media includes two-dimensional or three-dimensional artwork which combines two or more mediums including the use of paint, ink, pencil, chalk, oil paints, tempera paints, sand, collage, and printmaking.
2. A collage must be made of two-dimensional materials that were created by the student. Adhesives and glazes such as glues, fixatives, etc. are allowed in the assembling and finishing processes. Photographs not taken by the student may be used as long as the portion used cannot be recognized as part of the original picture.
3. No kits or commercially produced parts are acceptable, such as plastic leaves and any other prefabricated media; all parts are to be handmade, painted, inked, etc.

CATEGORY 12: WOODWORKING

1. Entries will be basic carpentry/cabinetmaking projects.
2. The original design and a simple mechanical drawing done by the student must be submitted with the project.
3. All production procedures (sawing, mitering, routing, assembling, and finishing) must be done by the student himself; the work may be done under adult supervision.
4. The maximum size is to be 40 cubic feet.
5. No kits are permitted.

PHOTOGRAPHY

GENERAL RULES - PHOTOGRAPHY

1. Entries are not restricted to sacred themes, but entries which reflect sensualism, humanism, occultism, or worldliness will be disqualified; basically, any subject detrimental to spiritual edification will not be allowed. Modesty is expected.
2. Each entry will be the original creation of the participant alone, but the participant may have had advice or instruction.
3. Each entry must have been created since the last MACS Competition.
4. A student may only enter one piece of artwork per category (i.e. one Still Life Photo).
5. Each school may have 3 entries per category.
6. The print may not have obvious "touch up" work. Good retouching, whether digital or analog, cannot be detected.
 - a. Retouching work should be limited to enhancements and modifications that improve the presentation of the image, but do not change the truth of the original story. The photographer may not add or replace elements in an image. Red-eye removal and spot editing are permitted.
 - b. Retouching may only include the use of corrective functions to improve the natural appearance (for example: levels, contrast, brightness, curves, intensity, tone, hue, saturation, color balance, etc.).
 - c. Artistic filters may NOT be used.
 - d. Retouching is part of the creative process. Good retouching cannot be seen and poor retouching will be graded against; therefore, graphics and text must not be included.
7. The print will be judged on the basis of composition, aesthetic appeal, and originality.
8. All entries must have appropriate identification of category and contestant, using a 3 x 5 card on the back of the artwork with the following information: school name, student's name, and category.
9. **Photos must be 8x10 with NO Mat.**
10. Photos must be framed. Glass may NOT be used in framing. Students should do the framing.
11. Each entry must have an Artist's Idea Statement and the student must sign the "Statement of Originality."
12. Note: Not every photograph will fit one of these categories. To be entered in this competition, a photograph must fit one of the listed categories.
13. All entries should be seen by the individual school's Fine Arts Coordinator to ensure quality of submission.

RULES BY CATEGORY - PHOTOGRAPHY

CATEGORY 11: STILL LIFE PHOTOGRAPHY

The photograph must be a single black and white or color image of a still life, macro photograph, or design.

CATEGORY 12: LANDSCAPES AND ARCHITECTURE PHOTOGRAPHY

The photograph must be a single black and white or color image of a landscape or architecture.

CATEGORY 13: PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHY

The photograph must be a single black and white or color image of a person(s).

CATEGORY 14: ANIMAL PHOTOGRAPHY

The photograph must be a single black and white or color image of an animal(s).

CATEGORY 14: DIGITALLY ENHANCED MEDIA

1. Digitally Enhanced Media is a composition or design created, developed, assembled, or finished with the use of computer hardware and software.
2. Digital Media may be pixel-based, vector-based, or a combination of the two. It may include typographic elements.
3. The work may be based on a photograph, and may include scanned images or art. However, no stock photography may be used.
4. The digital file may be printed on a variety of media including, but not limited to, paper or canvas. The final print should be of high enough resolution to produce a smooth image with no unintended pixilation. The final print should be suitably matted, mounted, or framed as with any piece of fine art.
5. Digital Media will be judged on the basis of composition, aesthetic appeal, originality, and technical achievement.
6. **Digitally Enhanced Photos MUST include a print of the original photo before any changes or enhancements were made.**

NEEDLE & THREAD

GENERAL RULES – NEEDLE AND THREAD

1. The Needle and Thread category includes any item that has been sewn either by machine and/or by hand. Items would include clothing for men or women and items used in the home.
2. Each entry should include a list of all material used in creating the project and an explanation of the type of material (cotton, polyester, wool, silk) and why it works well with the pattern.
3. Each entry must be created by the participant alone, but the participant may have had advice or instruction.
4. Clothing items should be modest and in accordance with Biblical principles.
6. Each entry must have been created since the last MACS Competition.
7. A student may only enter one piece of artwork per category (i.e. one crochet project).
8. Each school may have 3 entries per category.
9. A label with the student's name, school name, and category of entry must be attached to each project.
10. Each student must sign the "Statement of Originality" on the Artist's Idea Statement.
11. Each entry must have attached a completed Artist's Idea Statement which gives the source of his idea and explains how he developed his project from the idea.
12. All entries should be seen by the individual school's Fine Arts Coordinator to ensure quality of submission.

RULES BY CATEGORY

CATEGORY 1: CLOTHING (Sewing) - Dress, skirt, jacket, blouse, pants, apron, etc.

CATEGORY 2: HOME (Sewing) - Pillow, table runner, tablecloth, travel bag, jewelry organizer, stuffed animal, etc.

CATEGORY 3: QUILTS, THROWS, WALL HANGINGS (machine sewn)

CATEGORY 4: EMBROIDERY/NEEDLEPOINT - Pillowcase, table runner, purse, place mats, hand towels, count and cross stitch, etc.

CATEGORY 5: CROCHET/KNITTING - Afghan, throw, rug, sweater, purse, scarf, gloves, stuffed animal, etc.

SCIENCE FAIR

GENERAL RULES - SCIENCE FAIR

A science project is a largely independent activity in which you research a topic and then conduct a series of experiments to solve a scientific problem. Science projects give you the opportunity to go beyond what you learn in science class and explore other areas which interest you. The 2 categories available for entry are Biological Science and Physical Science. Schools may enter 3 students per category (ie. 3 Physical Science and 3 Biological Science)

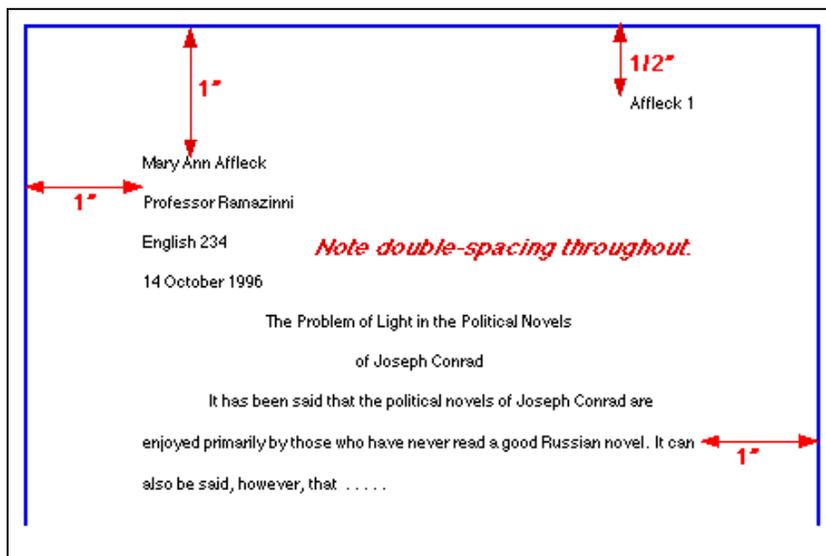
OVERVIEW OF SCIENCE PROJECT

The science project is divided into four main sections.

1. Written Report/Research Paper—judged by MACS judges
2. Oral Presentation—presented to MACS judges
3. Display—exhibited in science fair, judged by MACS judges
4. Journal—step-by-step account of what took place during the experiment. It must include the hypothesis, observations made during the experiment, and the final conclusion.

WRITTEN REPORT—RESEARCH PAPER

1. The paper must be typed **by the student** in MLA 7 format (see MLA 7 handbook and <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/>).



2. The paper must include:
 - Outline
 - Main body: introduction, main points, conclusion, practical and spiritual applications. Pictures, diagrams, or graphs are not required in the main body, but they are permitted.
Practical application: discuss how the information in this report benefits society.
Spiritual application: discuss spiritual truths that can be drawn from the information in this paper. It may be a parallel or a literal application from Scripture, using at least three verses that support the application.
 - Works Consulted
3. Length of paper: 9th – 1000 words; 10th – 1200 words. The word count must be placed at the end of the main body of the report.
4. Students **MUST AVOID PLAGIARISM**, which is the direct copying of material and/or rewording material without giving credit to the author/source. Students must reword the material and properly acknowledge the source. A limited number of quotations may be used if they are properly cited.
5. Five cited sources minimum are required.
 - **Three** of the five sources **must be books or print sources**.
 - Internet sources may be used with discretion; Wikipedia is **not** an acceptable source.
 - Consult general science books, encyclopedias, science project books and websites; students who have successfully completed projects; teachers and librarians; suggestions from professionals (engineers, professors, medical personnel, etc.)
6. Judging
 - The MACS judges will focus primarily on the science content of the paper, looking for research that closely relates to the project's research question.

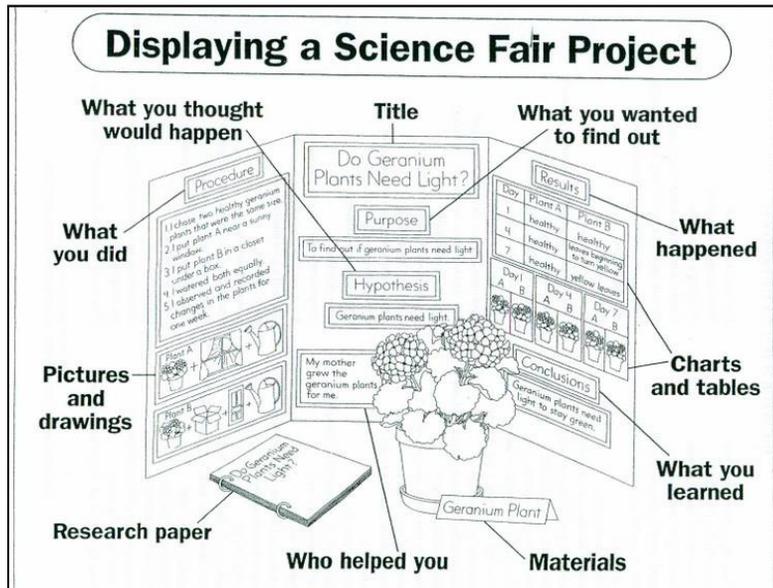
ORAL PRESENTATION

The oral presentation is presented to the MACS judges at the time assigned to each student. Carefully observe the following when preparing and giving the oral report:

1. Students should use the display board, journal, and any other materials (visuals) in order to more clearly present their material.
2. Students should be prepared to provide the judges with an overview of the experimental process and how the research is beneficial.
3. Students should be prepared to answer follow-up questions from the MACS judges.
4. Length of presentation: 3-5 minutes.

DISPLAY

The display is a visual summary of your experiment. The display must include: title (a question), abstract, materials, procedures, hypothesis, results, and conclusion. You may also include problems encountered and recommendations. Your display should be colorful, have large, readable letters, and give information through diagrams, pictures, visuals and charts. The visual below is simply a suggestion for board design, not a mandate.



JOURNAL

One of the important aspects of an accurate investigation is the compilation of an accurate journal.

Others can benefit from your research only if you keep a clear, complete, and accurate record of your investigative work. Check and record the data of your investigation at regular intervals, and make a journal entry every time you work on your project. Think of the journal as the diary of your investigation. Anyone reading your journal should be able to exactly duplicate your process.

1. Begin each journal entry on a new page.
2. Format entries properly. In your final journal entry, convert the cumulative minutes to hours to show how long you worked on your investigation.
3. Keep journal entries as neat as possible. You may have to cross through data or make changes as you conduct your investigation, but do not rewrite a page unless it is illegible.

DATE: September 29	ENTRY NUMBER	<u>1</u>
TIME: 5:25–6:00	TOTAL MINUTES THIS ENTRY	<u>45</u>
	CUMULATIVE TOTAL MINUTES TO DATE	<u>45</u>

WORK: I gathered my materials for my experiment. I purchased the following:

- Soil—\$5.25
- Package of small cups—\$1.27
- Radish seeds—1 package—\$.87
- Permanent marker—\$1.00
- High-nitrogen liquid fertilizer—\$10.94
- Measuring cups with metric markings—\$1.95
- Medicine dropper with metric markings—\$.79

I plan to use 3 large containers from home.

OBSERVATIONS: None

DATA: None

DATE: September 30	ENTRY NUMBER	<u>2</u>
TIME: 3:00–4:15	TOTAL MINUTES THIS ENTRY	<u>75</u>
	CUMULATIVE TOTAL MINUTES TO DATE	<u>120</u>

WORK: I set up my experiment by following this procedure:

1. placed the small cups in three groups of 10 and labeled the groups A, B, and C
2. labeled the cups in each group with a number (1–10; 11–20; 21–30)
3. filled each cup with sandy soil
4. planted 3 radish seeds in each cup at the depth mentioned on the package
5. watered each cup with 60 ml of water
6. found a safe, sunny location (by the bay window in the front room of my house)
7. placed the plants in the sunny location in rows to allow each group the same amount of light

OBSERVATIONS: The amount of sunlight and temperature will be the same for all groups. They will all be watered every other day with 30 ml of water each until the experiment begins.

DATA: None

It is fine to make a simple list of data, but it is usually better to organize it into charts. Charts should also be used to organize averages and other calculations for easy reference. When making a chart, remember the following:

- Use a ruler and neatly draw the chart in your journal. If you know how to make the chart on the computer, that is also acceptable.
- Draw as many columns as you need.
- Label each column and give a name to the chart.

Plant Height at First Measurement (cm) – October 24					
Group A		Group B		Group C	
Plant Number	Height	Plant Number	Height	Plant Number	Height
1	4.2	11	4.2	21	4.5
2	4.1	12	4.7	22	5.1
3	4.0	13	3.6	23	4.2
4	3.9	14	4.9	24	3.4
5	4.0	15	4.1	25	4.1
6	4.2	16	4.1	26	4.1
7	4.7	17	3.4	27	4.9
8	4.5	18	4.2	28	3.6
9	4.1	19	5.1	29	4.7
10	4.1	20	4.5	30	4.2
Total	41.8 cm	Total	42.8 cm	Total	42.8 cm
Avg. Height	4.2 cm	Avg. Height	4.3 cm	Avg. Height	4.3 cm

What Should I Include in My Journal?

- A detailed description of the work that you do, including the equipment and techniques you use, plus sketches showing how you set up your equipment.
- A record and analysis of the data. The data consists of the actual numbers and measurements you obtain. Use metric units for all your measurements. Write down all data, even if you think something is not significant. Your analysis includes all the calculations you do with data, such as averaging, inserting the numbers into formulas, etc. These are the calculations that enable you to arrive at a final conclusion.
- A description of observations you make while doing the work. If your observations do not support your hypothesis, ask yourself why you think they do not. If you experience problems with the investigation, ask yourself why you think those problems occurred. Record the answers in your journal.
- A description of mistakes that you make or accidents that occur and a note on how to prevent or correct these.
- A record of all the work you do on your investigation. A thorough journal should have an average 15 to 20 entries (one per page). It is not necessary to record work that you do for your display board or oral report.