

The Challenge of Excellence 2009

Categories of Entry

There are five categories available for entry:

- 1) White light puppetry (consists of any form of puppetry other than blacklight)
 - Lighting will be provided
 - Includes shadow puppetry, hand puppetry, and big mouth puppetry (special staging needs such as shadow screens must be pre-approved and be provided by the participant, setup must be completed in allotted time)
 - A standard 3 tier puppet stage will be provided (curtain on the bottom, middle, and top tiers).

- 2) Blacklight performance (includes puppetry, drama, interpretative movement, or any creative are incorporating the use of blacklight)
 - Participant must ensure that proper blacklight is being provided.
 - A standard 3 tier puppet stage appropriate for blacklight use will be provided (curtain on the bottom, middle, and top tiers)

- 3) Dance/ Interpretative Movement
 - All participants must adhere to *extremely modest* dress code. When hands are lifted, shirts must cover the middle. Tight or inappropriate costumes will **NOT** be permitted. All costuming must be pre-approved by the Challenge staff.
 - All participants must adhere to *modest* gestures and use of body and movement.
 - We are a Christian organization and must present ourselves as such in all areas. Dance and interpretative movement have a very definite place in worship and in creative arts. But, please be sensitive to your audience.

- 4) Clowning/Mime/Signing
 - Includes clown or mime skits, and signing to music

- 5) Drama
 - Includes dramatic or comedy skits, illustrated sermons, and human videos

Challenge of Excellence Rules and Regulations

- Participants will be given a **MAXIMUM** of 3 minutes setup time. The first performers of the afternoon should be ready to start when the Challenge is opened. (*Note: They will not be given an additional three minutes of time*)
- Participants will be given a **MAXIMUM** of 7 minutes performance time.
- Participants will be given a **MAXIMUM** of 3 minutes tear down time.
- Additional props, scenery, or staging may be used, but will be held to the maximum setup and tear down time given.
- Participants failing to adhere to the maximum time limits will be penalized one point for each 15 seconds over setup, performance, and tear down time.
- **Absolutely no pyrotechnics or anything with a flame will be allowed.**
- Participants will be assigned time prior to their performance to assemble and have their props ready backstage. Please keep in mind that other teams will be staging at the same time.
- **NO PRACTICE TIME WILL BE ALLOWED ON THE PERFORMANCE STAGE PRIOR TO THE PERFORMANCE.**
- Each team or individual may enter two different categories.

- Challenge time will be 1:00-2:00 P.M. daily. Once again, the first team of the day should be setup promptly at 1:00 to avoid delays.
- All props, scenery, staging, and personal items must be removed from the auditorium immediately following the completion of The Challenge of Excellence for the day.
- Entries will be accepted until all the time slots are filled. Once spaces have been filled, your team will be placed on a waiting list in the event a space becomes available.
- If changes need to be made in your entry, they **MUST** be presented at registration. This includes changes in songs, skits, or categories. A new entry form will need to be filled out and completed no later than at the time of registration for the conference.
- Communication with participants in The Challenge of Excellence will be done via e-mail. This includes, but is not limited to the notification of entry being received, any scheduled meetings during the week of the conference, or any information deemed necessary concerning an entered team in The Challenge of Excellence. Meetings may be announced at conference and attendance is required.
- Past winners of The Challenge of Excellence may not enter that same category for a period of two years, but may enter another category.
- FCP, or those working with FCP, are not responsible for lost entries. It is the responsibility of the entrant to make sure confirmation has been received.

- Workshop leaders are not permitted to participate in The Challenge of Excellence, in the area they are teaching. It is acceptable for them to enter a category not related to the class they are teaching. It is also permissible for them to coach a team and be listed as their director.
- Entry to The Challenge of Excellence constitutes an agreement to all the rules, regulations, and decisions of judges.
- Un-sportsmanlike behavior will **NOT** be tolerated. Persons acting in such a manner will be disqualified from The Challenge of Excellence. The officers of FCP, Conference Director, and The Challenge of Excellence directors reserve the right to disqualify any performance that is deemed inappropriate due to Un-Christian like content or behavior.