



MUSLIM INTERSCHOLASTIC
TOURNAMENT

**THE CHARACTER
OF COMMUNITY:
HEALING TOGETHER
AS ONE**

OFFICIAL 2021 RULEBOOK

ASSALAMU ALAIKUM,

PEACE BE WITH YOU

Instead of the typical start to yet another rulebook (Alhamdulillah), I find it necessary to look back and reflect on the adversity faced in 2020 as well as the hopeful contentment we all found within ourselves and the support around us. It was definitely a difficult year for us all. We all went through our own unique struggles and inshAllah, Allah will guide us to continue to persevere through them. With the start of a new year comes the start of a new MIST season!

Even though MIST is different this year, the feeling will still remain. We will continue to support one another, collaborate with each other, and push one another in order to not only survive, but thrive. Sure we won't be chanting through the halls of our varied buildings, but we will still hype up our teammates and our peers. So what if we can't physically see one another? We are still coming together as *one* tournament, *one* region, and *one* ummah no matter the platform. We will make the most out of this experience, because it is our duty to ourselves. We. Got. This.

As organizers, as brothers and sisters, as teammates, and as friends we are all here to help one another grow, prosper, and succeed. Hold onto that and remember it constantly. #ZoomOut and see the bigger picture that is formed when we all simultaneously participate in something so much bigger than ourselves.

May Allah protect all of us and strengthen our hearts as we go through these difficult times. May He protect our souls so that we feel like we can survive and get through anything. We, the National team at MIST, as well as your regional MIST organizing teams, have worked hard to try and supply a little light, a planted seed, and a glimmer of hope for each and every one of you. It will definitely not be the same, but who said change wasn't good? We grow when we step outside of our comfort zone and into a new reality. I don't know about you, but I'm excited to grow.

sincerely,

HAJUR EL-HAGGAN
National Competitions Director

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THEME

THE CHARACTER OF COMMUNITY

Healing Together as One

COVID-19 affected our lives in ways previously unimaginable. Throughout the turbulence of the past year, communities around the world have come together to assist those in need, highlight and fight injustice, and stand with frontline workers. Despite the mandated physical distance between us, our communities and social circles have often drawn closer in the face of profound tragedy.

Although our communities have rallied in some respects, we remain deeply divided in other ways. Racism, sectarianism, and elitism were rampant before the pandemic, and continue to be present. Arrogance, power-seeking, and a lack of compassion drive some of us away from communities where we once felt welcome. Crisis will often make existing divisions worse while reinforcing the importance of strong communities at the same time. The station of community bonds was emphasized by the Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him, who is reported to have said: “Verily, the believers are like a structure, each part strengthening the other...” (Bukhari, Muslim).

The current situation where we find ourselves can take us down two paths, according to incoming Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy: one leads to further isolation, loneliness, and their negative mental and physical effects, and the other is to “...use this moment to recenter our lives on people. And if we do that, then I believe we can come out of this pandemic more connected, more fulfilled and more resilient than before the pandemic began.”

What are some characteristics of strong and resilient communities? Do you feel included in your community? How do discrimination, racism, and bias affect communal bonds? How has the COVID-19 pandemic brought out the best in your community? Can we utilize our periods of solitude to better understand our social needs and responsibilities?

We encourage you to creatively explore these concepts and more in online Regional and National competitions and workshops during MIST 2021. Remember that unique projects displaying creativity and insight will be judged most favorably.

General Competitions Guidelines

- These competitions have been altered for an online format and will only last for this year (inshAllah)
- Competitions will still be run as school-based teams
- Competitors will compete with the school they are currently registered with. If you are attending a modified school, due to the pandemic, please contact your region for details
- Competitors may only sign up/compete in one competition per category
- MANY competitions have changed in either how they are run, when they are submitted, or how many competitors may sign up per team.
- Look carefully at what competitions are included or not included this year. Look at what your region has decided to possibly add or not run as well.
- Prepared Essay, Poetry, and Short Fiction have all been combined into one (1) competition- Creative Writing.
- Competing in an E-sport(if your region decides to pilot one) does not require competition in another competition
- While preparing for or making your projects, especially ones in which you can work with others, you MUST abide by any local, state, or national guidelines for pandemic safety, such as social distancing, facemasks, or gathering size limitations. Teams which break any such rules or guidelines will automatically be disqualified and referred to the relevant public health authorities.

Early Competition Details

ALL COMPETITIONS REQUIRE SOME ASPECT OF A 2-WEEK EARLY SUBMISSION EXCEPT FOR:

- Knowledge Test
- Quran Recitation
- Extemporaneous Speaking
- Debate
- Bowl
- Improv

Please check with your regional headquarters for exact dates and more information about how to submit.

For all video submissions the format **MUST** be MP4

General Guideline for Written Submission Documents

- Typed and Double spaced
- Size 12 font, Times New Roman
- All submissions must be in PDF format.
- A written statement is required for all early submission competitions, which should be included on a separate page at the end of your document, or submission.
- Have a cover page with the title, MIST ID and name of competition. Competitor name or other identifying markers should not be anywhere on the piece.
- Label your document in the following format: "MISTID_COMPETITIONNAME" for example "123-7869_Originaloratory"
- Written submissions not submitted on time will be subject to potential disqualification or score reduction.
- Submissions submitted within 24 hours of the regional deadline will be subject to a 10 mark overall deduction
- Every incremental day the submission passes the deadline, another 15 marks will be deducted.
- Submissions beyond 3 days of the original deadline will not be accepted and will be disqualified.

*Note your region has the right to dock points from your piece if the above format of titling your pieces is not followed for early submission.

**Make sure to check the rules pertaining to your competition for Written Statement. All the competitions do NOT have the same requirements.

Competitor Guidelines

1. Each student competing is responsible for being prompt to the Orientation Session for his/her event and for the time period for which they are scheduled to compete. Students must be on time or risk losing their chance to compete.
2. Be prompt in attending all activities. Students and their teams receive points for attending!
3. Always show utmost respect to the person(s) leading and taking part in workshops, competitions, and all other parts of MIST. Any discrimination or acts that may infringe the rights of others in any part of MIST, including but not limited to competition submissions, will not be tolerated. This includes but is not limited to discrimination against individuals based on religion, race, color, gender, sex, ethnicity, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, pregnancy, ancestry, national origin, mental health, and socio-economic background.
4. Any unwanted private one-on-one interactions are not permitted. Anyone reserves the right to request a third person in any interaction.
5. Absolute, positively, NO form of cyberbullying will be tolerated or allowed. Only good vibes are accepted.
6. Be a mature representative of your high school or city. Remember that you are representing the next generation of community leaders. Your behavior should reflect that image.
7. Read the program/schedule and your competition rules carefully. Participants are required to follow the rules published in the Annual Competitions Rulebook published at www.getmistified.com. If you don't know, ASK!
8. Share ideas with others, help each other solve problems, and HAVE FUN

MIST Honor Code

Students are expected to submit original work for MIST competitions each year. Actions that violate the standards of academic integrity include:

- Reading, obtaining, or sharing a copy of any test materials before or after the competition without authorization.
- Consulting or obtaining assistance from unauthorized sources during a competition, including copying another person's answers or referring to any aids not specifically approved for use during the time of the competition.
- Submitting work prepared entirely or partially by another individual, or otherwise misappropriating works or intellectual property belonging to another individual and presenting it as one's own, without the owner's consent or without providing proper citation and acknowledgment. This includes copying ideas from popular media (tv, books, etc) even with citation.
- Presenting audio or visual recordings of others without their consent, or otherwise abusing confidentiality such that the ideas or works of individuals discussed in confidence are released without proper authorization.
- Submitting material used for MIST in previous years, or otherwise used for the purposes of a class or project at any other institution.
- Falsifying or misrepresenting your results or procedures.
- Sabotaging the work of other competitors or otherwise infringing upon the ability of others to compete fairly.
- Interfering with the judging or scoring of any competition by anyone other than the official judges and competition organizers.
- Impersonating any other MIST competitor, judge, volunteer, or organizer for the purposes of gaining an unfair advantage.
- Being in the willful companionship of someone who violates any portion of the Honor Code, or failing to report any direct knowledge (other than hearsay) of violations.
- Misrepresenting your age or otherwise registering for a MIST team for which you are ineligible.
- Participating in, or attempting to participate in, a competition for which you have not registered.

Actions that do not violate the Code include, but are not limited to the following:

- Serving as a proxy to present the work of another student on account of an excused absence (such as medical emergency, death in the family, etc.), which has been pre-approved by MIST.
- Submitting the same or modified work between Regionals and Nationals of the same year.
- Getting help from and collaborating with others, while crediting ideas or work that are not your own with proper citation.

Depending on the severity of the infraction, competitors and their teams, found guilty of academic misconduct may lose points or be disqualified from a competition. Disciplinary misconduct warrants full disqualification from this year's tournament.

Students registering for any MIST competition automatically agree to abide by the principles of academic integrity as outlined in the MIST Honor Code.

CATEGORY I: KNOWLEDGE & QURAN

Knowledge Tests:

Read one of two books and take a test on it. The test consists of a set of questions and a possible essay portion to judge reading and comprehension.

Quran Recitation:

Test your recitation of the Quran in Arabic, according to tajweed (rules of recitation).

Knowledge Tests

1. This competition requires live cameras that are on throughout the entirety of the exam
2. There are only two (2) tests administered each based on one book/text.
3. No more than eight (8) students per each team may register for each test.
 - a. Example: up to eight (8) can sign up for test one (1) and up to eight (8) can sign up for test 2.
 - b. Students may ONLY choose ONE test. They may not sign up for both.
4. Each student will be given an online test containing possible combinations of multiple choice, short answer, and essay question(s) at the time of the competition. Questions will have an analytical/thinking focus. Each region will choose how to present the online test through whatever technology platform they see fit (Kahoot, Quizziz, Google Form, etc)
5. Tests are open-book and must be taken individually
6. All questions for each topic will be based on the material covered in the assigned book/text.
7. There is no ballot for this competition. Scores are based solely on test performance.

Note: The books can be found at many online bookstores.

Quran Recitation

1. There are no levels for this competition - the entirety of the Quran is part of the testable material.
2. Up to 4 competitors may register for each competition ie: up to 4 brothers and 4 sisters.
3. Judges will tell the competitor where to start the recitation and where to stop.
4. Judging will be based on three separate passages from any part of the Quran.
5. The focus of the competition is Quran recitation and tajweed, NOT memorization.
6. Competitors will be expected to recite 3 passages live during their interview.
7. Each passage will be about 20 verses long.
8. The interview will include:
 - a. Recitation of up to 3 passages.
 - b. In addition to being scored on the pronunciation (Tajweed) during the recitation of the passages, competitors will also be tested on basic Tajweed rules for the final 10 points.
 - c. Competitors will be indicated to a verse in a copy of the Qur'an and they will be expected to identify as many rules as possible, such as the place of articulation of letters, the respective qualities of letters, nasal sounds, type of elongation (madd), etc. Competitors will not be expected to have an extensive knowledge on the laws of Tajweed.

Quran Recitation Ballot

Self-correction -1 point

Minor mistake not corrected -5 points

Major mistake not corrected -10 points

	Mistakes & Tallies	Subtotal
Passage 1 Recitation		/ 15
Passage 1 Tajweed		/ 15
Passage 2 Recitation		/ 15
Passage 2 Tajweed		/ 15
Passage 3 Recitation		/ 15
Passage 3 Tajweed		/ 15
Tajweed		/ 10

TOTAL: _____ / 100

Overall Judges Comments and Feedback

CATEGORY II: ART

2D Art:

Are you an aspiring painter? Do you doodle more than writing notes in class? Put your inspiration on canvas with the 2D art competition!

3D Art:

Think you have what it takes to be the next great sculptor? Is clay your ultimate inspiration? Show us your skills in the 3D art competition.

Fashion Design:

You don't just love fashion, you design it! Get inspired by the MIST theme to become the next fashion phenomenon.

Graphic Design:

If you're the Photoshop or Illustrator whiz that everyone goes to for event flyers, the graphic design competition is for you. Pixelate away!

Photography:

Not only do you carry around your camera with you all the time, but you see everything as an opportunity for the perfect photo. Those other artists, yeah, they're cool - but you prefer a lens and the dark room for your creative pursuits.

2D Art

1. No more than four (4) students from each school can register for this competition.
2. This competition is NOT a team effort. Each competitor must turn in a separate piece of work.
3. No more than \$100 can be spent on supplies.
4. Artwork must relate to the overall MIST Theme.
5. Artwork should avoid realistic, representational rendering of lifelike human or animal form. If in doubt, contact MIST. Therefore, fully defined facial, skeletal, or muscular features are not permitted.
 - a. Suggestions: Draw a general picture of a squirrel; do not draw a detailed image of the adorable facial expressions when it comes across a good acorn.
6. Submission must be two-dimensional (examples: painting, drawing, etc.). You can create the illusion of depth, but the artwork must still be two-dimensional.
7. Acceptable mediums for artwork include, but are not limited to: watercolor, oil, crayon, mixed mediums, chalk, pastels, charcoal, digital design software...etc.
8. Competitors will be expected to submit:
 - a. Early submission video showcasing and explaining their artwork (Video Limit: 7 minutes)

OR

 - b. A picture of themselves and their piece
 - i. As many pictures of the piece they seem fit to aid the judges (5-7 is the recommended amount for physical projects)
 - ii. 500-word artist statement
9. All submissions should be in JPG, PNG, or GIF format. Video must be submitted in MP4 **AND ONLY HAVE MIST-IDs ON THE FILE TITLES.**
10. Competitors will be expected to submit by the deadline. No submissions following the deadline will be accepted.
11. Contact information must be given to be reached out to for interviews.
12. All submitted pieces will be judged.
 - a. Top 15 will be interviewed if there are 25+ submissions
 - b. Top 10 will be interviewed if there are 15-24 submissions
 - c. Top 5 will be interviewed if there are 14 or less submissions

2D Arts Detailed Ballot

Section A: Technical

Points: 5

- Participant is appropriately dressed in any pictures and videos
- Length of explanation video is not more than 7 minutes long/length of artistic statement is no longer than 500 words
- Correct format is used for pictures and videos
- Submission meets all competition criteria

Section B: Production Quality

Points: 30

Purpose

- Evidence of the student's effort to achieve the stated purpose. Design meets the stated purpose and fulfills the intent of the artwork.
- Artwork clearly communicates a story or statement.
- Work integrates expression, organization, technique and MIST's theme through evaluation and revision.

Skill and Technique

- Media selection effectively enhances the design and the student chooses and controls media and tools effectively to enhance the appearance of the work.
- Artwork shows a superior level of skills in the production of the work and execution of each technique and component is done in the superior manner.
- Design required time and patience and was difficult to execute.

Section C: Presentation Quality

Points: 40

Aesthetic and

Design

- Visual balance, composition and layout enhance the overall beauty of the artwork.
- Work features a recognizable center of interest in relation to the theme.
- The selected colors enhance or complement the subject matter.
- The Artwork makes use of elements and principles of art (shape, color, texture, flow, composition) effectively.
- Artwork makes a visual impact and stands on its own as a complete work of art.

Creativity

- Expression is unique and fully developed to present fresh concepts in imaginative and inventive ways
- Work breaks new ground in communicating the message.

Section D: Application of Theme

Points: 25

- There is a strong, clearly evident relevance to the theme.
- The theme is expressed in a unique or outstanding way.
- Purpose of the artwork is clearly articulated and shows evidence of reflection and/or research.
- Elements and principles of art are clearly articulated and competitors show evidence of careful selection and organization of these elements and principles.

Please use the following questions to gauge the understanding of the theme and how it was expressed in the work. Then proceed to scoring.

2D Art Ballot

MIST ID: _____

Judge's Name: _____

		Subtotal
Section A	Technical	/5
Section B	Purpose	/15
Section B	Skills and Technique	/15
Section C	Aesthetic and Design	/20
Section C	Creativity	/20
Section D	Application of Theme	/25

TOTAL: _____ / 100

Overall Judges Comments and Feedback

3D Art

The 3D Art competition follows the same rules as the 2D Art Competition. However, the following additional rules are specific to the 3D competition:

1. All submissions must be three-dimensional

3D Arts Detailed Ballot

Section A: Technical

Points: 5

- Participant is appropriately dressed in any pictures and videos
- Length of video is not more than 7 minutes long
- Correct format is used for pictures and videos
- Submission meets all competition criteria

Section B: Production Quality

Points: 30

Purpose

- Evidence of the student's effort to achieve the stated purpose. Design meets the stated purpose and fulfills the intent of the artwork.
- Artwork clearly communicates a story or statement.
- Work integrates expression, organization, technique and MIST's theme through evaluation and revision.

Skill and Technique

- Media selection effectively enhances the design and the student chooses and controls media and tools effectively to enhance the appearance of the work.
- Artwork shows a superior level of skills in the production of the work and execution of each technique and component is done in the superior manner.
- Design required time and patience and was difficult to execute.

Section C: Presentation Quality

Points: 40

Aesthetic and

Design

- Visual balance, composition and layout enhance the overall beauty of the artwork.
- Work features a recognizable center of interest in relation to the theme.
- The selected colors enhance or complement the subject matter.
- The Artwork makes use of elements and principles of art (shape, color, texture, flow, composition) effectively.
- Artwork makes a visual impact and stands on its own as a complete work of art.

Creativity

- Expression is unique and fully developed to present fresh concepts in imaginative and inventive ways
- Work breaks new ground in communicating the message.

Section D: Application of Theme

Points: 25

- There is a strong, clearly evident relevance to the theme.
- The theme is expressed in a unique or outstanding way.
- Purpose of the artwork is clearly articulated and shows evidence of reflection and/or research.
- Elements and principles of art are clearly articulated and competitors show evidence of careful selection and organization of these elements and principles.

Please use the following questions to gauge the understanding of the theme and how it was expressed in the work. Then proceed to scoring.

3D Art Ballot

MIST ID: _____

Judge's Name: _____

		Subtotal
Section A	Technical	/5
Section B	Purpose	/15
Section B	Skills and Technique	/15
Section C	Aesthetic and Design	/20
Section C	Creativity	/20
Section D	Application of Theme	/25

TOTAL:

_____/ 100

Overall Judges Comments and Feedback

Fashion Design

The following is a list of rules and procedures for this category. Failure to fulfill these obligations and/or any violation of them may result in point loss.

1. No more than four (4) students from each school can register for this competition.
2. This competition is NOT a team effort. Each competitor must turn in a separate piece of work.
3. Each participant must submit an early submission, up to seven (7) minute video describing the purpose and inspiration of the artwork and showcasing their designs **OR** an artist statement not to exceed 500 words.
4. Your portfolio can be an online, easily accessible platform shared by the early submission date, or several pictures submitted by the early submission date.
5. All submissions should be in JPG, PNG, or GIF format. The artist video must be submitted as a MP4.
6. Your portfolio should have a cover or presentation case. Be creative. (see example).
7. Your portfolio should include your philosophy: how you are going to use your inspiration to make a collection (your inspiration is this year's theme and it can be combined with other inspirations as well). For example, Loyalty + Environment (trees, landscape, etc.). (see example).
8. Your portfolio should include a "Mood" or "Inspiration" page of the image(s) that inspire your collection. So if your philosophy is Loyalty and environment then there should be images of those things so you can refer to them to draw inspiration for your designs. (see example).
9. Your portfolio should include pictures of a fabric swatch/color palette page. (see example)
10. Each competitor's portfolio must have a total of six (6) outfits in the following combinations:
 - a. OPTION 1: 3 complete adult female outfits AND 3 complete adult male outfits.
 - b. OPTION 2: 6 complete male outfits OR 6 complete female outfits.
11. These six (6) outfits can either be on a figure (see example) or as a colored flat (it would just be your black and white flats colored.) You are welcome to make xerox copies of your flats and color on top. For each outfit, you must submit the following as part of your portfolio:
 - a. One 5"x7" -- 8.5"x11" illustration of each design as worn, in color, matted and mounted on heavy paper or poster board enclosed in an 8.5"x11" page protector to protect the design. No smaller than 5" x 7". (A total of 6 mounted illustrations).
 - b. Two (2) flat design sketches (working/detail sketches) for each outfit, for example: front and back (for a total of 12 flat sketches). These flats should be in black and white so the details can be seen easily.
 - c. Description and sewing notes. Include in this section details that are hard to see or identify in your design illustration and/or sketches (see sample flat).
 - d. The illustration is to be clean. Colored pencils, charcoal, pastels, watercolor, colored pen/ink, or crayons may be used (see sample flat).
 - e. Competitors can gain extra points by providing extra design items such as shoes, accessories: pins, jewelry, etc. (outfits can be designed with shoes; however, outfits without shoes will NOT be disqualified).
 - f. Competitors must provide a common feature within a set such as similar buttons, similar colors, etc. Competitors are encouraged to be original in all their designs.
12. The sketch must fulfill all the basic requirements below:

- a. The designs are modest in nature while exuding creativity.
 - b. The designs inspire comfort, confidence, and dignity.
13. All submitted pieces will be judged.
- i. Top 15 will be interviewed if there are 25+ submissions
 - ii. Top 10 will be interviewed if there are 15-24 submissions
 - iii. Top 5 will be interviewed if there are 14 or less submissions

Judges will interview competitors on their inspiration behind the design, what they like the most and dislike the most. Competitors should be ready to explain any details, parts, and characteristics in the design that are outstanding or unusual. Judges will also ask competitors what they think makes their designs different from others in the market. Interview questions can be found in the last section of the Fashion Design Ballot interviewed. Both the interview and the portfolio will be judged according to the Fashion Design Ballot.

Fashion Design Detailed Ballot

Section A: Technical

Points: 5

- Participant is appropriately dressed in any pictures and videos
- Length of explanation video is not more than 7 minutes long/length of artistic statement is no longer than 500 words
- Correct format is used for pictures and videos
- Submission meets all competition criteria
- Portfolio includes six (6) full outfits

Section B: Production Quality

Points: 30

Overall

- There is a common theme/feature across the collection.
- Portfolio is well organized, neat and professional.
- Description and sewing notes are thorough when needed.

Skill and Technique

- The student chooses and controls media and tools effectively to enhance the appearance of the design.
- Portfolio shows superior level of skills in the production and execution of each design.
- Portfolio required time and patience, and was difficult to execute.

Section C: Presentation Quality

Points: 40

Aesthetic and

Design

- Interesting seams and shapes in clothing.
- The selected fabrication (colors, prints, trims, etc.) enhances or complements the fashion designs while remaining cohesive.
- Designs inspire comfort, confidence and sense of dignity.
- Designs appear to be possible to construct/are functional.
- All elements work together to create a unified design and the total effect is pleasing to the eye while still enhancing the design.

Creativity

- Expression is unique and fully developed to present fresh concepts in imaginative and inventive ways
- Designs are creative while maintaining a modest nature.

Section D: Application of Theme

Points: 25

- There is a strong, clearly evident relevance to the theme.
- The theme is expressed in a unique or outstanding way.
- Purpose and inspiration of designs are clearly articulated and shows evidence of reflection and/or research.

- Design elements and principles of art are clearly articulated and competitors show evidence of careful selection and organization of these elements and principles.

Please use the following questions to gauge the understanding of the theme and how it was expressed in the work. Then proceed to scoring.

Fashion Design Ballot

MIST ID: _____

Judge's Name: _____

		Subtotal
Section A	Technical	/5
Section B	Overall	/10
Section B	Skills and Technique	/20
Section C	Aesthetic and Design	/20
Section C	Creativity	/20
Section D	Application of Theme	/25

TOTAL: _____ / 100

Overall Judges Comments and Feedback

Graphic Design

The following is a list of rules and procedures for this category. Failure to fulfill these obligations and/or any violation of them may result in point loss.

1. No more than four (4) students from each school can register for this competition.
2. This competition is NOT a team effort. Each competitor must turn in a separate piece of work.
3. MIST ID and order of competition will be pre-assigned on a random selection basis.
4. All artwork must be labeled with the MIST ID ONLY. If the competitor name appears anywhere on the artwork, points will be deducted.
5. Artwork must reflect on this year's theme.
6. Artwork should avoid realistic, representational rendering of lifelike human or animal form. If in doubt, contact your Regional Competitions Headquarters.
7. Competitors should ONLY use their computers to generate any artwork for this competition.
8. Artwork should not be animated.
9. All submissions should be in JPG, TIFF, or GIF format. All submissions will be submitted online.
10. Please check with your Regional Competitions Headquarters for the exact date of the early submission deadline.
11. A video up to seven (7) minutes OR an artist statement up to 500 words(PDF format) explaining the artwork must be included with the artwork. The explanation will include what the artwork is about and what inspired the participant to make it.
12. Judging will be based on the explanation provided and the artwork
13. All submitted pieces will be judged.
 - i. Top 15 will be interviewed if there are 25+ submissions
 - ii. Top 10 will be interviewed if there are 15-24 submissions
 - iii. Top 5 will be interviewed if there are 14 or less submissions

Graphic Design Detailed Ballot

Section A: Technical

Points: 5

- Participant is appropriately dressed in any pictures and videos
- Length of explanation video is not more than 7 minutes long/length of artistic statement is no longer than 500 words
- Correct format is used for pictures and videos
- Submission meets all competition criteria
- Portfolio includes six (6) full outfits

Section B: Production Quality

Points: 30

Purpose

- Evidence of the student's effort to achieve the stated purpose. Design meets the stated purpose and fulfills the intent of the artwork.
- Artwork clearly communicates a story or statement.
- Work integrates expression, organization, technique and MIST's theme through evaluation and revision.

Skill and Technique

- Media selection effectively enhances the design and the student chooses and controls media and tools effectively to enhance the appearance of the work.
- Artwork shows a superior level of skills in the production of the work and execution of each technique and component is done in the superior manner.
- Design required time and patience and was difficult to execute.

Section C: Presentation Quality

Points: 40

Aesthetic and

Design

- Visual balance, composition and layout enhance the overall beauty of the artwork. •
- Work features a recognizable center of interest in relation to the theme. • The selected colors enhance or complement the subject matter.
- The Artwork makes use of elements and principles of art (shape, color, texture, flow, composition) effectively.
- Artwork makes a visual impact and stands on its own as a complete work of art.

Creativity

- Expression is unique and fully developed to present fresh concepts in imaginative and inventive ways
- Work breaks new ground in communicating the message.

Section D: Application of Theme

Points: 25

- There is a strong, clearly evident relevance to the theme.
- The theme is expressed in a unique or outstanding way.
- Purpose and inspiration of designs are clearly articulated and shows evidence of reflection and/or research.

- Design elements and principles of art are clearly articulated and competitors show evidence of careful selection and organization of these elements and principles.

Please use the following questions to gauge the understanding of the theme and how it was expressed in the work. Then proceed to scoring.

Graphic Design Ballot

MIST ID: _____

Judge's Name: _____

		Subtotal
Section A	Technical	/5
Section B	Purpose	/15
Section B	Skills and Technique	/15
Section C	Aesthetic and Design	/20
Section C	Creativity	/20
Section D	Application of Theme	/25

TOTAL: _____ / 100

Overall Judges Comments and Feedback

Photography

1. No more than four (4) students from each school can register for this competition.
2. This competition is NOT a team effort. Each competitor must turn in a separate piece of work.
3. No more than \$100 can be spent on supplies.
4. Artwork must relate to the overall MIST Theme.
5. A minimum of three (3) and a maximum of five (5) photographs must be submitted as part of the photography portfolio. The photographs must carry a coherent theme or style to showcase the photographer's skill.
6. The pictures must reflect on this year's theme and can be of any inanimate OR animate object. It must be the competitor's own work from beginning to end, including taking the pictures. Pictures must be taken exclusively for this competition (pictures from previous years may not be used).
7. Photographs may NOT be digitally modified beyond standard optimization (removal of dust, cropping, minor adjustments to exposure, color and contrast, etc.).
8. The pictures must each be a minimum of 2400x2400 pixels or larger.
9. Competitors will be expected to submit:
 - a. Early submission video showcasing and explaining their artwork, what it's about, what inspired them (Video Limit: 7 minutes)

OR

 - b. A picture of themselves and their piece
 - i. As many pictures of the piece they seem fit to aid the judges (5-7 is the recommended amount for physical projects)
 - ii. 500-word artist statement
10. All submissions should be in JPG, PNG, or GIF format. The artist video must be submitted as a MP4.
11. Competitors will be expected to submit by the deadline. No submissions following the deadline will be accepted.
12. All submitted pieces will be judged
 - a. Top 15 will be interviewed if there are 25+ submissions
 - b. Top 10 will be interviewed if there are 15-24 submissions
 - c. Top 5 will be interviewed if there are 14 or less submissions

Photography Detailed Ballot

Section A: Technical

Points: 5

- Participant is appropriately dressed in any pictures and videos
- Length of video is not more than 7 minutes long
- Correct format is used for pictures and videos
- Submission meets all competition criteria

Section B: Production Quality

Points: 30

Purpose

- Evidence of the student's effort to achieve the stated purpose. Design meets the stated purpose and fulfills the intent of the artwork.
- Artwork clearly communicates a story or statement.
- Work integrates expression, organization, technique and MIST's theme through evaluation and revision.

Skill and Technique

- Media selection effectively enhances the design and the student chooses and controls media and tools effectively to enhance the appearance of the work.
- Artwork shows a superior level of skills in the production of the work and execution of each technique and component is done in the superior manner.
- Design required time and patience and was difficult to execute.

Section C: Presentation Quality

Points: 40

Aesthetic and

Design

- Visual balance, composition and layout enhance the overall beauty of the artwork.
- Work features a recognizable center of interest in relation to the theme.
- The selected colors enhance or complement the subject matter.
- The Artwork makes use of elements and principles of art (shape, color, texture, flow, composition) effectively.
- Artwork makes a visual impact and stands on its own as a complete work of art.

Creativity

- Expression is unique and fully developed to present fresh concepts in imaginative and inventive ways
- Work breaks new ground in communicating the message.

Section D: Application of Theme

Points: 25

- There is a strong, clearly evident relevance to the theme.
- The theme is expressed in a unique or outstanding way.
- Purpose of the artwork is clearly articulated and shows evidence of reflection and/or research.
- Elements and principles of art are clearly articulated and competitors show evidence of careful selection and organization of these elements and principles.

Please use the following questions to gauge the understanding of the theme and how it was expressed in the work. Then proceed to scoring.

Photography Ballot

MIST ID: _____

Judge Name: _____

		Subtotal
Section A	Technical	/5
Section B	Purpose	/15
Section B	Skills and Technique	/15
Section C	Aesthetic and Design	/20
Section C	Creativity	/20
Section D	Application of Theme	/25

TOTAL:

_____/ 100

Overall Judges Comments and Feedback

CATEGORY III: WRITING AND ORATORY

Extemporaneous Speaking:

The art of extemporaneous speaking is not for the faint-hearted. Delivering a coherent, engaging, and moving speech, is easy enough, right? Now try doing that on the spot with only 15 minutes of preparation on a topic you just received!

Original Oratory:

Okay. So maybe a speech on the spot with little to no prep-time isn't your cup of tea. However, you still enjoy public speaking. Welcome to Original Oratory. Competitors present a memorized original oration within a seven (7) minute period that is related to the theme. The speech must also be applicable to a general audience.

Spoken Word:

Love public speaking, but you're more of the performer type? Spoken word is for you! Here's your chance to convey your poetic passion and originality, all while inspiring those around you. It must relate to the theme and be memorized, all while dazzling the audience with your performing skills.

Creative Writing:

Okay, so maybe performing in front of people isn't what brings you joy and excitement. Maybe what sparks your internal flame is creating a story, a scene, a beautiful narrative that takes your reader through an experience completely created by your imagination, literary prowess, and wordsmith abilities. If this applies to you, then you're in the right place. This competition allows competitors to submit a poem, personal narrative, or short fiction story that relates to the theme. Figurative language, storytelling ability, and engagement of the reader is all necessary to excel in this competition.

Extemporaneous Speaking

Procedures

1. A limit of four (4) students from each team may register for this competition. Each student competes individually, so collaboration is not permitted.
2. Submissions must ONLY have MIST ID on them, or else participants will be disqualified.
3. All competitors are to report to the competition Discord room promptly at the start of the competition.
4. Competitors will have thirty (30) minutes once the competition starts to create and record a speech based on one (1) of three (3) given topics presented at the time of competition. The topics will be relevant to the annual theme and will be phrased in the form of a question.
5. Competitors are to create a speech centered around answering that question and stating their thoughts, views, and opinions.
6. Participants may, if they choose, use references (books, the Quran, etc.) If any reference is used the participant MUST cite the reference during his or her speech. NO references will be provided by MIST. The use of reference material is optional.
7. Time limit for the speech/video is up to seven (7) minutes maximum. Participants MUST submit their recorded speech using the regional-decided platform within the seven (7) minutes or else they will be disqualified.
8. The submission should be titled ONLY with your full MIST-ID.

Extemporaneous Speaking Detailed Ballot

NOTE: Students do NOT have to use references. If they do use references, they may be rewarded 2 points. However, if a student uses references and does NOT cite them, DEDUCT 3 points.

Section A: Technical Points: 10

- Participant is on time for the competition.
- Did the speech last less than seven minutes?
- The participant gives no identifiers aside from their MIST ID.
- Participant looks credible and dressed for an interview.

Section B: Content

Introduction Points: 10

- Did the speaker get the audience's attention?
- Was the topic clearly stated/addressed?
- Did the speaker preview and give focus to the key ideas?

Body Points: 15

- Was adequate time devoted to each division within the seven minute time limit?
- Was there a logical progression of ideas?

Conclusion Points: 10

- Did the speaker tie the speech together?
- Was the answer to the question clear?
- Was there a note of finality?

Section C: Presentation

Analysis and Content Points: 15

- Did the speaker answer the question?
- Was the content informative?
- Was there sufficient use of logic, facts, examples, and/or expert opinion?
- Was the information pertinent to the selected topic?

Delivery Points: 15

- Was the delivery natural, lively, and spontaneous?
- Was enunciation clear? Was volume appropriate?
- Was there sufficient variety in rate, pause, and pitch?
- Did the speaker exhibit poise and confidence?
- Were gestures varied, movement motivated, and eye contact direct?

Language Points: 15

[OFFICIAL MIST RULEBOOK 2021]

- Did the speaker exhibit command of conversational style?
- Was the language precise, grammatically correct, and vivid?

Overall Ranking Points: 10

After the perusing of the extemporaneous speaking content, performance, and interview, rate the entire experience from 1 to 10.

- 1 being very poor (no organization, intonation, or relation to the theme)
- 4 to 6 being average
- 10 being exceptional (memorable performance, sound understanding of the theme, exceptional extemporaneous speech content).

Extemporaneous Speaking Ballot

MIST ID: _____

Judge Name: _____

		Subtotal
Section A	Technical	/10
Section B	Introduction	/10
Section B	Body	/15
Section B	Conclusion	/10
Section C	Analysis and Content	/15
Section C	Delivery	/15
Section C	Language	/15
Section D	Speech Ranking	/10

TOTAL:

_____/ 100

Overall Judges Comments and Feedback

Original Oratory

Procedures

1. A limit of four (4) students from each team may register for this competition. Each student competes individually, so collaboration is not permitted.
2. MIST ID must be the only form of identification used.
3. All competitors are to report to the competition room at the same time, which will be designated in the competition schedule.
4. The Orator must submit PDF copies of the speech as a 2-Week Early submission. The competitor must compete with the script that is submitted at that time.
5. Orations must be labeled with the MIST ID ONLY. The competitor name must not appear anywhere on the work.
6. The orator must be truthful. Any non-factual reference, especially a personal one, must be so identified.
7. The oration may not contain more than 150 words of quoted material. Extensive paraphrasing from other sources is prohibited. Orators caught plagiarizing or extensively paraphrasing will be disqualified.
8. No visual aids may be used in the delivery of the speech.
9. An orator holding a manuscript or notes will be ranked last.
10. Time limit is seven minutes maximum. Violation of this rule will result in the competitor being ranked last in the round when visible time signals have been given by the judge or by the authorized timekeeper.
11. Electronic device usage is not permitted during the competition
12. While this has an early-submission component, ALL registered competitors that submitted a speech by the 2-week early submission deadline will be interviewed. Anyone else will be disqualified.

Original Oratory Detailed Ballot

Section A: Technical Points: 10

- Participant is on time for the competition.
- Did the speech last less than seven minutes?
- The participant gives no identifiers aside from their MIST ID.
- Participant looks credible and dressed for an interview.
- Copies of the speech were given during the 2-week early submission date.

Section B: Content

Introduction Points: 10

- Did the speaker get the audience's attention?
- Was the topic clearly stated/addressed?
- Did the speaker preview and give focus to the key ideas?

Body Points: 15

- Was adequate time devoted to each division within the seven minute time limit?
- Was there a logical progression of ideas?

Conclusion Points: 10

- Did the speaker tie the speech together?
- Was the answer to the question clear?
- Was there a note of finality?

Section C: Presentation

Analysis and Content Points: 15

- Did the speaker answer the question?
- Was the content informative?
- Was there sufficient use of logic, facts, examples, and/or expert opinion?
- Was the information pertinent to the selected topic?
- Were the quotes cited properly?

Delivery Points: 15

- Was the delivery natural, lively, and spontaneous?
- Was enunciation clear? Was volume appropriate?
- Was there sufficient variety in rate, pause, and pitch?
- Did the speaker exhibit poise and confidence?
- Were gestures varied, movement motivated, and eye contact direct?

Language Points: 15

- Did the speaker exhibit command of conversational style?
- Was the language precise, grammatically correct, and vivid?

Overall Ranking Points: 10

After the perusing of the oratory content, performance, and interview, rate the entire experience from 1 to 10.

- 1 being very poor (no organization, intonation, or relation to the theme)
- 4 to 6 being average
- 10 being exceptional (memorable performance, sound understanding of the theme, exceptional speech content).

Original Oratory Ballot

MIST ID: _____

Judge Name: _____

		Subtotal
Section A	Technical	/10
Section B	Introduction	/10
Section B	Body	/15
Section B	Conclusion	/10
Section C	Analysis and Content	/15
Section C	Delivery	/15
Section C	Language	/15
Section D	Speech Ranking	/10

TOTAL:

____ / 100

Overall Judges Comments and Feedback

Spoken Word

Competitors must perform an original spoken word piece within a six (6) minute period. The piece must relate back to the theme, but also be applicable to a general audience.

1. Up to 4 competitors may register for this competition.
2. Spoken word pieces will be judged based on the following criteria: writing, performance, originality, sincerity, and inspiration.
3. Spoken word pieces are expected to be memorized.
4. The performance should not exceed more than six (6) minutes. Points will be deducted from the total score if the performance exceeds the allotted time.
5. No instruments can be used for the performance.
6. Competitors will record their piece via video and submit online using the regional-decided platform.
7. 2-Week Early Submission must include:
 - a. A PDF copy of the piece
 - b. A video recording of the piece
 - c. A 250-word artist statement answering, “What was the inspiration behind your piece?”
 - i. Or a video explanation no longer than 2 minutes explaining the same question.
8. Competitors will be expected to submit by the deadline provided by your region. No submissions will be accepted after that period.
9. All submitted pieces will be judged, and top 5 competitors will be called in for live interviews and performances.

Spoken Word Detailed Ballot

Section A: Technical Points: 10

- Participant submitted early submission link on time.
- Did the piece last less than six minutes?
- The participant gives no identifiers aside from their MIST ID.
- Participant looks credible and dressed for an interview.
- A copy was submitted (PDF) with the early submission

Section B: Spoken Word (Writing) Points: 35

- Is the Spoken Word piece free from any inappropriate content? If it contains profanity, sexual innuendo, etc., do not score the rest of the section; competitor receives 0/35.

Content

- Is the structure of the piece easy to follow?
- Is the Spoken Word well written (i.e. Are rhyme, metaphors, and figurative language present in the piece)?
- Does the Spoken Word show originality and creativity?

Section C: Performance

Stage Presence Points: 20

- Is there a connection with the performer and the content?
- Do the competitors make use of the “stage” space? (i.e. Movement, body language.) Are bodily movements used in an effective manner?
- Does the competitor’s performance grab your attention and convey sincerity and inspiration?

Familiarity Points: 20

- Are the words clear and easy to understand? (In their presentation, not interpretation) Is pronunciation acceptable?
- Are rate, pitch, and volume appropriate? Is vocal variety adequate?
- Does the competitor set an adequate mood relating to their spoken word piece?
- Is the piece seemingly memorized?

Overall Ranking Points: 15

After the perusing of the oratory content, performance, and interview, rate the entire experience from 1 to 15.

- 1 being very poor (no organization, intonation, or relation to the theme)
- 8 being average
- 15 being exceptional (memorable performance, sound understanding of the theme, memorized piece).

Spoken Word Ballot

MIST ID: _____

Judge Name: _____

		Subtotal
Section A	Technical	/10
Section B	Content	/35
Section C	Stage Presence	/20
Section C	Familiarity	/20
Section D	Overall Ranking	/15

TOTAL:

_____/ 100

Overall Judges Comments and Feedback

Creative Writing

This competition revolves around creative written expression within the realm of personal narratives, short stories, and poetry. It is centered around storytelling and using the domains of figurative language and plot development to engage and enthrall the reader.

Procedures

1. This is an Early Submission, HOWEVER, the top six(6) will be invited for live interviews
2. A limit of six (6) students from each team may register for this competition. Each student competes individually, so collaboration is not permitted.
3. Submission must clearly reflect upon any aspect of this year's theme.
4. Submissions must be labeled with the MIST ID and the title only. The competitor's name must not appear anywhere on the work.
5. Submissions must be the original work of the entrant. Entries must not have been published, self-published, published on a website or broadcast before January 2017.
6. Competitors may incorporate any style or genres of writing within poetry, short fiction, or personal narrative. One must be chosen.
 - a. The difference between a personal narrative and a short story is that a personal narrative is the telling of a life-event(non-fiction) through the lens of figurative language and expression while short fiction or a short story is a fictional event that is told in that same way. The use of a poem can be fiction or nonfiction.
7. Each submission must include:
 - a. Title
 - b. Submitted written piece (poem may not exceed 40 lines, narrative and short fiction story may not exceed 10 pages)
 - c. Video (4 minute limit) or written statement explaining your piece.
 - i. In what ways does your piece represent your individuality? What inspired or influenced you when writing your piece? Are there any subtleties in the piece you were wishing would come across to the audience without having to be explained? Do you feel you conveyed the theme well in your piece?
8. A PDF copy must be submitted to your Regional Competitions Headquarters TWO WEEKS before the Regional Tournament. Late submissions will result in a point deduction on your final score. Your region may have different deadlines for this competition. Contact your Regional Competitions Headquarters for more information.
9. All submissions must be typed, times New Roman, 12-point font and double spaced (poetry does not have to be double-spaced)
10. Entries are scored based on a weighted rubric below/ Failure to follow the submission guidelines may disqualify a student.

Creative Writing Detailed Ballot

Section A: Technical Points: 10

- Submission is either a personal narrative, poem, or short fiction story.
- Entries should not include images, introductions, or special fonts.
- The participant gives no identifiers aside from their MIST ID.
- Submission does not exceed 10 (ten) pages for personal narrative and short fiction story, or 40 lines for a poem.

Section B: Organization and Structure

Conventions Points: 5

- Is the submission mostly free of spelling mistakes?
- Is the submission mostly free of punctuation mistakes? (good grasp of conventions and uses them effectively; few minor errors that do not distract from readability or interfere with meaning)
- Is the submission mostly free of grammatical mistakes (correct verb and subject agreement; correct verb tense)
- Was dialogue formatted in an appropriate way? (if used)

Ideas and Development Points: 15

- Did the writer address the theme in a clear manner?
- Did the writer take a unique approach when addressing the theme?
- Did the writer stay on topic throughout the entire submission?
- Was the main idea or message clear to the reader?

Organization Points: 10

- Showcases central ideas and theme; structure moves reader easily through text
- Easy flow and rhythm; strong, varied sentence structure
- Uses appropriate text organization for entry type: e.g. short story has beginning, middle, and end; essay expresses main idea with related, supporting body paragraphs, etc
- Is the title relevant and applicable to the submission?
- Does the submission have a logical series of events?
- Were there adequate details that led to a natural flow between introduction, plot, climax, and resolution?
- Were the ideas well-developed with natural transitions?
- Was the content original, not falling into cliché story lines?

Section C: Content

Is the piece free from any inappropriate content? If not, do not score rest of section; competitor receives 0/35. If so, continue scoring.

Voice Points: 10

- Words convey message in an interesting and creative way; creates a vivid impression

- Expresses experience in a personal and insightful way
- Uses literary devices, striking words/phrases, and strong descriptive word choice
- Was the writer able to distinguish a clear voice?
- Is the tone natural and consistent, reflecting original thinking and expression?
- Does the writer capture a tone or mood with his/her words?
- Does the competitor's writing grab your attention and convey sincerity?
- Does the piece create an appropriate mood?
- Does the competitor's writing convey creativity and originality?

Style and Word Choice Points: 25

- Did the writer use thoughtful adjectives to create more vivid imagery?
- Did the writer use strong action verbs to support their message (i.e. "cruise" instead of "drive," or "stroll" instead of "walk")?
- Did the writer use precise nouns to help present a clear and distinct message (i.e. "7th Grade students" instead of just "students," or "Science project" instead of "project")?
- Did the overall usage of words create color and texture in the writing? Was it clear that this writer took risks with their word choice?
- Does the poem enable the reader to see, hear, feel, or think about the subject in a new way or in a more potent way than ever before?
- Does the poem use sensory details and figurative language to create vivid images that contribute significantly to the meaning of the poem?
- Are the sound devices used, such as rhyme, alliteration, or onomatopoeia, used effectively and contribute to the meaning of the piece?
- Is word choice vivid and exact throughout?

Section D: Application of Theme Points: 15

- There is a strong, clearly evident relevance to the theme.
- The theme is expressed in a unique or outstanding way.
- Purpose and inspiration of writings are clearly articulated and shows evidence of reflection and/or research.

Section E: Overall Ranking Points: 10

After the perusing of the content and worksheet, rate the entire experience from 1 to 10.

- 1 being very poor (no organization or relation to the theme)
- 4 to 6 being average
- 10 being exceptional (memorable, sound understanding of the theme, exceptional content).

Creative Writing Ballot

Student ID: _____

Judge Name _____

		Subtotal
Section A	Technical	/10
Section B	Conventions	/5
Section B	Ideas and Development	/15
Section B	Organization	/10
Section C	Voice	/10
Section C	Word Choice and Style	/25
Section D	Application of Theme	/15
Section E	Overall Ranking	/10

TOTAL:

_____/ 100

Overall Judges Comments and Feedback

CATEGORY IV: BRACKETS

MIST Bowl

Rules:

1. Teams will consist of a minimum of one (1) member and a maximum of six (6). At any given time, only a maximum of four (4) students can play. A student can substitute for another student ONLY between rounds.
2. If your team has six (6) students, there will be four (4) starters and two (2) people on the bench. The more students you have on your bowl team, the better it is for your team. This way, each student can study one of the six scholastic bowl categories.
3. Scores will not be released to the competitors after the end of the rounds.
4. Due to the nature of the online tournament settings, teams will be placed into Discord voice channel competition rooms (or other breakout room platforms) with the judges presenting the questions on their screens.
5. This use of cameras throughout each round is MANDATORY
6. NDC recommends the use of BuzzIn.live as the buzz-in system, although it is under regional discretion for selected technology platforms.

Preliminary/Quarterfinals/Semifinal Round Procedures:

1. A preliminary/quarter finals/semifinal competition consists of three rounds, with a total of 42 questions. A round consists of 7 questions each from 2 categories, with a total of 6 categories covered by the end of competition.
2. Each team is allowed 6 members, with no more than 4 members participating per round. Teams are allowed to shuffle their players ONLY between rounds. Judges should announce which two categories are being played in each round so that each team may arrange itself accordingly.
3. The competition begins with the judges explaining the rules of Round 1 to the competitors. Judges will tell the teams which two categories are represented in Round 1.
 - a. This round begins with the judge reading the point value of the question first, and then proceeding to read the question aloud. Only after the judge has finished reading the ENTIRE question, the question will be shown on the screen, and THEN the competitors buzz in, which will be signaled by the judge saying “Done”. The “Done” rule will only be applicable for Round 1, and will be dropped for the rest of the rounds. If a team buzzes in before the entire question is read, then they will not have the opportunity to answer that question. It is up to the judges’ discretion to select whether or not teams have adhered to the done rule. The first team to buzz in after the judge has said “Done” must begin to

- answer within 10 seconds and must finish answering within 30 seconds. This means that you have a total of 30 seconds to provide a complete answer.
- b. If judges suspect that you are stalling on a question or are “buying time,” they have the right to penalize you accordingly. A correct answer wins points and an incorrect answer does not penalize the team.
 - c. If an incorrect answer is given, then the floor is reopened once the judge has said “incorrect.” The question may now be answered by the next team to buzz in for half of its original point value, with a 10 second limit given on the response. The other team can attempt to answer any single question, after which, if they are unsuccessful, the judge will give the answer and proceed to the next question. The entire round consists of 14 questions from two categories. Scores will not be released to the competitors after the end of any round.
4. Round 2 follows with the next two categories of questions which follow in the packet, which will be mentioned at the beginning of the round. The rules for Round 2 are identical to the rules in Round 1, except the “Done” rule will be dropped for Rounds 2 and 3.
 - a. Judges will read the point-value of the question firstly, and then proceed to read the question to completion and then show it on the screen afterwards.
 - b. If a competitor believes that they can anticipate the answer from the current question, they may buzz in early and answer the question. If the student interrupts the moderator to give an answer, the student should immediately give the answer. The competitor must respond within the 10 second limit of buzzing in, and if incorrect, the question will be opened to the floor for all other teams.
 - i. For example, if a team were to respond incorrectly to a 200 point question, then 200 points are deducted from their running total. The question point value would be halved to 100 and be open for the other team to answer. If another team were to then respond to this same question incorrectly, then that team is penalized 100 points.
 5. Round 3 then follows in the same fashion as Round 2: incorrect answers are to be penalized. Judges will mention which two categories are being represented in Round 3.

Preliminary Competition Point Summary:

Round #	Initial Point Value	Second Attempt	Penalty	Time to Answer
1	Given Before Each Question	Yes, ½ initial point value	No	10 seconds per attempt
2	Given Before Each Question	Yes, ½ initial point value	Yes	10 seconds per attempt
3	Given Before Each Question	Yes, ½ initial point value	Yes	10 seconds per attempt

Final Round Procedures:

[OFFICIAL MIST RULEBOOK 2021]

1. The finals competition consists of three rounds, with a total of 42 questions. Questions for the entire competition are printed in one packet, with each round clearly marked. Round 1 and round 2 consist of one question related to each category printed in one packet, with each round clearly marked. Round 1 and round 2 consist of one question related to each category, thus there are six questions per round. In round 3, questions will proceed jeopardy-style with each team captain choosing the category and point value.
2. To begin the competition, judges will explain the rules of Round 1 to the competitors. This round is free-form, with the judge reading each question aloud. Only after the judge has finished reading the ENTIRE question may the competitors buzz in, which will be signaled by the judge saying "Done." If a team buzzes in before the entire question is read, then they will not have the opportunity to answer that question. It is up to the judges' discretion to select whether or not teams have adhered to the done rule. The first team to buzz in must answer within 10 seconds. A correct answer wins points and an incorrect answer does not penalize the team. If an incorrect answer is given, then the floor is reopened once the judge has said "incorrect." The question may now be answered by the next to buzz in for half of its original point value, with a 10 second limit given on the response. Only two teams can attempt to answer any single question, after which, if both teams are unsuccessful, the judge will give the answer and proceed to the next question. Each question in this round is worth 100 points.
3. The rules for Round 2 are exactly the same as Round 1, except that teams are penalized for incorrect answers and the "done" rule will no longer be in effect. For example, if a team were to respond incorrectly to a question, then 200 points are deducted from their running total. If a team were to then respond to this same question incorrectly when its value has been halved to 100 points (when the floor is reopened), then that team is penalized 100 points. Each question in this round is worth 200 points.
4. In Round 3, a jeopardy-style game will be played with each team captain choosing the category and point value. For example, a team captain could say "History for 300 please." Judges will then ask the appropriate question from the packet. The team with the lowest score will start off the round. After a question has been read, any team will be allowed to buzz in to attempt an answer. If a team answers a question correctly, then they will be able to select another question. An incorrect answer will result in a penalty as in Round 2. Following an incorrect response, the floor will be open for answers immediately after the judge says "incorrect." If no team is able to answer the question after 10 seconds, the same team will be able to choose another question. Note: in Round 3, a board or display showing the category-value matrix will be necessary. An assistant who is keeping score will cross off each box on the matrix when that question has been asked. Scores will not be released to the competitors after the end of any round.
5. Judges will not announce the winner of the final competition. This will occur during the award ceremony

Finals Competition Point Summary:

[OFFICIAL MIST RULEBOOK 2021]

Round #	Initial Point Value	Second Attempt	Penalty	Time to Answer
1	100 points	Yes, ½ initial point value	No	10 seconds per attempt
2	200 points	Yes, ½ initial point value	Yes	10 seconds per attempt
3	Jeopardy Style	Yes, ½ initial point value. Last team to answer a question correctly gets to choose next question.	Yes	10 seconds per attempt

Improv

Rules and Regulations

The following is a list of rules and procedures for this category. Failure to fulfill these obligations and/or any violation of them may result in point loss or disqualification from the tournament.

1. Each school may bring a brothers' team (consisting of 4-6 brothers) as well as a sisters' team (consisting of 4-6 sisters).
2. Competitors will play individually. A maximum of 2 players from each team can play each game (the score being averaged).
 - a. This competition is still a team effort even though it is played separately in the virtual setting. Points will go toward the individual's teams.
3. There will be three (3) Preliminary games, two (2) Semi-Final games, and two (2) Final games. Some games may repeat.
4. Competitors should ONLY use their MIST-IDs to represent themselves.
5. Teams will be provided a designated time slot.
6. The format will be Jackbox Games and Discord.
7. A MIST volunteer will host the stream via Discord. The stream will be recorded to be shared with the judges.
8. All competitors must adhere to Islamic principles and appropriate language. Points will be deducted, or the team disqualified (upon judges' consideration) for inappropriate actions or comments that do not follow the Competition Guidelines. Games will be stopped immediately if there is anything questionable, and that player will be disqualified. After which, the game will resume.
9. Audience members may also join and play - depending on the games selected (ex. Trivia Murder Party, Civic Doodle).
10. Judging will be based upon the creativity and success in the game, however the winner of the Jackbox game may not be the winner of that competition round.

Debate

Competition Guidelines:

In this bracket competition, MIST competitors will be involved in a one on one, extemporaneous style discussion against one another. The competitors will debate with one another over one of the selected “debate topics,” which consists of a definitive statement (ex. “Affirmative Action provides a fair chance for students applying to colleges”). One of the competitors assumes the role of Affirmative, who argues in support of the debate topic, and the other competitor assumes the role of Negative, who argues against the debate topic. Both competitors are allowed structured timed slots to state their arguments, question one another, offer rebuttals, and then express their final thoughts on the topic. Competitors may use notes to the competition, which should be used to provide factual data and information that will enhance one's argument.

Procedures:

1. This is an individual based competition. A maximum of four (4) competitors may register for this competition and must compete independently.
2. This competition requires live cameras throughout the entire competition
3. Debaters will speak only when called upon by the Judges
4. Debaters shall not use profane or offensive language.
5. During the final rebuttal speeches, debaters may not bring up any new arguments or new evidence except in direct refutation of material which has already been presented.
6. Competitors are allowed to bring in notes and outlines on the topic and may refer to them at any point during the debate.
7. Although competitors are allowed to take notes during the debate, **they are not allowed to search the internet for any form of information during the round.**
8. The debate topics will be available at www.getmistified.com

Round Structure:

1. In the **1st Preliminary Round**, all of the debaters are matched up with one another, one-on-one. *[In the event that an odd number of debaters are present at the very first preliminary round of the Debate Tournament, even-numbered pairs will be made, with a randomized odd competitor given an automatic advancement to the 2nd preliminary round.]* All debaters regardless of round results advance to Round 2.
2. The **2nd Preliminary Round** will also include all of the same debaters, with no eliminations being made. Debaters will be paired up with different opponents, and offered a new debate topic. Organizers are recommended to combine the total scores of each competitor from the results of the 1st and 2nd Preliminary Rounds and average them to determine the top 8 highest scoring competitors, however it is under regional discretion for top 8 selection
3. The **Quarter Finals Round** will consist of 4 simultaneous debates between the top 8 scoring competitors who advanced from the previous round. A new debate topic will

be given. Upon the conclusion of this round, the winners of each debate will advance to the Semifinals.

4. The **Semifinals Round** is held between the advancing competitors from the previous round, and will consist of 2 simultaneous debates between the 4 semifinalists. Similarly, a new debate topic will be given for this round, and the 2 winners from this round will advance to the Final Round.
5. The **Final Round** is held between the final two competitors from the previous round and set apart from the previous rounds in that it is the only round of Debate that is showcased to a general audience.

Debate Structure

Speaker	Speech Type	Time (minutes)
Both	Prep Time	0-5
Affirmative	Constructive Speech (AC)	6
Negative	Cross - Examination (CX)	3
Negative	Constructive Speech (NC)	7
Affirmative	Cross - Examination (CX)	3
Affirmative	Rebuttal (AR)	4
Negative	Rebuttal (NR)	6
Affirmative	Rebuttal (2AR)	3

5 Minute Prep: Competitors will have up to **5 minutes** of silent preparation time for the entirety of the round. Debaters may not speak out loud or discuss anything with one another during this time. If both competitors state that they are ready before the conclusion of the 5 minutes, the debate will proceed. **Between each of the speeches listed above, competitors may ask for 2-3 minutes of prep time in-between if needed.**

Affirmative Constructive (6 minutes): Affirmative will be given **6 minutes** to present their primary arguments in support of the debate topic. Be sure to mark down each argument on your Debate Ballot, and make special note of the evidence that Affirmative uses to back up his/her statements.

Negative Cross-Examination (3 minutes): Negative will be given **3 minutes** to direct questions to Affirmative. The questions may be to clarify Affirmative's statements or arguments if they seem confusing, or the questions may be to elicit answers that are contrary to Affirmative's prior statements and expose flaws in the argument (known as trapping your

opponent), or questions may be for more information, just to get added insight into particular evidence. **Rhetorical questions, questions that are direct attacks on the opponent rather than the arguments, and questions that are just statements (those that can't be answered normally), are NOT allowed.** Affirmative may only speak in response to a question, and has the right to refuse to answer any question. Affirmative may **NOT** ask any questions during this part.

Negative Constructive (7 minutes): Negative will be given **7 minutes** to present their primary arguments against the debate topic, as well as offer rebuttals against Affirmative's arguments. Be sure to mark down each argument and rebuttal on your Debate Ballot, and make special note of the evidence that Negative uses to back up his/her statements. If any prior arguments made by Affirmative are NOT addressed by Negative, make special note of that, too.

Affirmative Cross-Examination (3 minutes): Affirmative will be given **3 minutes** to direct questions to Negative. The questions may be to clarify Negative's statements or arguments if they seem confusing, or the questions may be to elicit answers that are contrary to Negative's prior statements (known as trapping your opponent), or questions may be for more information, just to get added insight into particular evidence. **Rhetorical questions, questions that are direct attacks on the opponent rather than the arguments, and questions that are just statements (those that can't be answered normally), are NOT allowed.** Negative may only speak in response to a question, and has the right to refuse to answer any question. Negative may **NOT** ask any questions during this part of the debate.

Affirmative Rebuttal (4 minutes): Affirmative is given **4 minutes** to offer a rebuttal to Negative's arguments and to defend his/her own argument. Be sure to mark down each rebuttal on your Debate Ballot, and make special note of the evidence that Affirmative uses to back up his/her rebuttals. If any prior arguments made by Negative are NOT addressed by Affirmative, make special note of that, too.

Negative Rebuttal (6 minutes): Negative is given **6 minutes** to offer a rebuttal to Affirmative's arguments and to defend his/her own. Be sure to mark down each rebuttal on your Debate Ballot, and make special note of the evidence that Negative uses to back up his/her rebuttals. If any arguments made by Affirmative are NOT addressed by Negative, make special note of that, too. This is Negative's final word in the debate- **no NEW constructive arguments may be offered** during this part of the debate- only rebuttals and summarizations.

Affirmative 2nd Rebuttal (3 minutes): Affirmative is given **3 minutes** to offer a rebuttal to Negative's arguments once again. Be sure to mark down each rebuttal on your Debate Ballot, and make special note of the evidence that Affirmative uses to back up his/her rebuttals. If any arguments made by Negative are NOT addressed by Affirmative, make special note of that, too. Usually, Affirmative sums up his/her own argument with specific attention to key points and refutes Negative's claims. This is Affirmative's final word in the debate- **no NEW constructive arguments may be offered** during this part of the debate- only rebuttals and

summarizations.

Judging Criteria

Organization: The speech should be well structured, logical & coherent, containing an effective introduction and conclusion.

Evidence/Logic: Facts, statistics & authorities offered in support of contentions must be sound. Credit should be given for thorough and relevant research.

Delivery: Poise quality & use of voice, combined with emphasis, variety and enunciation. Effectiveness and ease of gestures, and eye contact should be assessed.

Refutation/Clash: The ability to apply logic and evidence in refuting the opponents' contentions while defending your own.

Format: Does each debater demonstrate an understanding of procedures & adhere to the rules of the debate?

Ballot:

Judge's Name: _____

Affirmative MIST ID: _____

Negative MIST ID: _____

Round: Preliminary 1st / Preliminary 2nd / Preliminary 3rd / Semifinals / Finals**Category Points:**

Analysis and Organization [20 points] How well are the arguments structured for each debater? How smooth is the flow of constructive arguments for each? Do presented arguments/evidence seem disjointed or weakly connected to the debate topic?	/20	/20
Logic and Evidence [25 points] Do the arguments present rational explanations for the debate topic, or are they opinionated and superficial? Are arguments based on solid evidence or opinion? Do statistics/documents/historical references connect successfully with the arguments presented?	/25	/25
Debate Skills [20 points] Are arguments able to be fully expressed within the time limits? Are there any minor violations of rules/regulations? How well is the debater able to adapt to his/her opponent's arguments and the flow of the debate? How well does the debater utilize each section of the debate?	/20	/20
Style, Oration, Tone, Speech [10 points] How well does the debater carry him/herself? Does the debater stutter, pause for too long in the middle of the argument, or repeat words or phrases often? Does the debater appear confident and well versed in the debate topic?	/10	/10
Refutation [25 points] How well is the debater able to counter his/her opponent's arguments? Are rebuttals backed by statistics, evidence, or historical references? Do rebuttals fully address the opponent's claims? Are	/25	/25

opponent's refutations dodged or not addressed at all?		
TOTAL SCORE:	/100	/100

CATEGORY V: GROUP PROJECTS

Business Venture:

This competition encourages you to think about the business world, become a philanthropist, and market your own products. Familiarize yourself with modern trends and market values, while developing your own fantastic product or service!

Humanitarian Service:

A new competition in partnership with Islamic Relief USA.

Conduct a crowdfunding campaign for a global cause from scratch - how do you plan to reach ideal funders?

Nasheed/Rap:

Calling all aspiring singers! The nasheed/rap category is ideal for anyone who desires to write unique lyrics and use their singing skills to capture people's attention about topics they are passionate about.

Science Fair:

Are you an aspiring scientist? Do you love research? Then this competition is for you! Design, conduct and share the results of your own study to a panel of esteemed judges. Don't forget to use the scientific method!

Short Film:

Showcase your editing, directing, and acting skills! Make a documentary, drama, comedy, thriller or animation to convey a particular message to the audience while relating your film to the MIST theme.

Changes/Updates:

1. Up to two (2) SEPARATE groups per team may register for a group project competition.
2. Teams will be expected to submit:
 - a. Their written submission in PDF format AND/OR their recorded submissions as an unlisted Youtube link depending on the competition.
3. Competitors will be expected to submit by the deadline. No submissions after the deadline will be accepted.
4. While preparing for or making your group projects, you MUST abide by any local, state, or national guidelines for pandemic safety, such as social distancing, facemasks, or gathering size limitations. Teams which break any such rules or guidelines will automatically be disqualified and referred to the relevant public health authorities.

Business Venture

The Business Venture competition allows individuals to work together on a specific business project. It allows competitors to develop and enhance their business ideas, and ultimately put their business to the test. This competition is also commonly known as a Business Plan competition or a Business Case competition.

Procedures:

1. A minimum of one (1) and a maximum of six (6) people can register for this competition. Up to two (2) SEPARATE submissions are allowed per MIST team.
2. Each participating team must prepare a business venture project that reflects this year's theme.
3. This competition consists of
 - a) a short 2-minute pitch video to be submitted with outline
 - b) written Business Venture outline
 - c) Up to a seven (7) minute presentation.
4. Each team must have a student leader, but all team members should be involved in developing the written outline as well as the presentation of the project.
5. Competitors must submit their outline and pitch video (2) weeks prior to the date of the MIST tournament for approval by your Regional Competitions Headquarters. Your region may have different deadlines for this competition. Contact them for more information.
6. Each team must present to a panel of judges for up to seven(7) minutes. The presentation will be followed by a three (3) minute question and answer session. The focus of the presentation will be to pitch your idea with the goal of convincing judges to invest in your venture.
7. Project ideas must be original and innovative. Submissions must be the entrepreneur's original idea - proof of origination should be available if requested by the judges. The business idea may be new or already implemented.
8. Judging criteria will be based on the official MIST ballot for the Business Venture competition.
9. The primary criterion the judges will use in evaluating the business venture will be: "Would I invest in this company?"

Outline Details:

The following is a list of requirements for the Business Venture Outline:

- Typed, double-spaced, Times New Roman 12 point font.
- Cover page with the title of the project and MIST IDs only, stapled on the left side.
- The project outline should include visual aids, such as pictures, charts and graphs. Do not include any physical samples.
- Executive Summary: A summary of your business venture project, description of your project, market analysis, marketing plan and financial plan. No more than a few paragraphs long.
- Introduction: Describe your product/service in detail. What is the business? How does it work and how does it make money? What is the value of your product/service in the industry? What is the industry like?
- Market Analysis: Who are your customers (i.e. the targeted market) and what are they like? Who are your competitors and what are they doing? What are the market characteristics and size? Is it a growing market? Is there a demand for your product/service?
- Marketing Plan: How can you reach this market? What is your overall strategy? What competitive advantage(s) do you have over your competitors? How will you test your product/service against your targeted market? Ensure that you detail the specifics of your marketing plan, including timelines, and specific marketing strategies.
- Financial Plan: What does your budget look like and how will you monitor costs? How much startup funding would you need and what would you do with the money? What is your profit potential? What key financial considerations do you need to take into account?
- Project Viability: What are the biggest threats to your business venture and how will you address them? Is the venture stable and growth oriented or speculative and risky? What are your risk factors and how will you address them?
- Discussion: How will the project contribute to the Muslim community and the community at large? How does it relate to this year's MIST theme? What are some ways you can expand this project in the future?
- Please note that the questions above are simply a guide. Teams do not need to answer all of the questions, however all topics (market analysis, marketing plan, financial plan...etc.) must be addressed.

Business Venture Detailed Ballot

Section A: Technical Points: 10

- Presenter(s) are on time for the competition.
- Presentation is a maximum of 7 minutes. 3 minutes are allotted for Q&A.
- There are no identifiers on the submission aside from their MIST ID.
- The presenter(s) look credible and are dressed for an interview
- Presenter submitted early submission 2-minute video pitch

Section B: Presentation Components Points: 15

Visual Aid:

- Did the presenters use a visual aid?
- Was the visual presentation neat and clearly comprehensible?
- Did the presenters clearly tie their project with the visual aid used?

Introduction, Body, & Conclusion

- Did the presenters grab your attention with their introduction?
- Was the business venture clearly stated in the introduction? Was the introduction brief and concise? Did the presenter preview and give focus to the key ideas?
- Did the presenter make effective use of signposting, internal summaries, and transitions? Was there a logical progression of ideas?
- Was adequate time devoted to each section of the presentation within the seven (7) minute time limit?
- Did the presenters conclusively tie the presentation together? Was there a note of finality?

Section C: Presentation Delivery Points: 20

Delivery:

- Was the delivery natural, lively, and spontaneous? Was the presenters' enunciation clear and the volume appropriate?
- Did their delivery reinforce the ideas of the project?
- Were their gestures varied, movement motivated, and eye contact direct?
- Was there sufficient variety in rate, pause, and pitch?

Language Style:

- Did the presenters exhibit command of conversational style?
- Was the language suitable for informing the audience?
- Was the language precise, grammatically correct, and vivid?

Section D: Presentation Analysis & Content Points: 20

- Did the presenters answer the questions clearly?

- Was the content informative? Was the information pertinent to their project idea? Was the information adequately documented?
- Was there sufficient use of logic, facts, examples, visual aids, and/or expert opinion?
- Is the business venture within the scope of the competitors' ability?
- Did the competitors approach the business venture in an original manner? Was the venture well thought out and did it show initiative in thought and design

Section E: Business Venture Outline Points: 35

- Does the Executive Summary identify the problem and the business proposition for solving the problem? Does it identify customers and competitors and illustrate the viability of the business idea?
- Does the venture have sound value proposition? Have the competitors developed the product concept clearly? • Are key features and benefits of the product/service clearly described?
- Does the venture demonstrate a need/want for the product/service by customers?
- Does the Market Analysis show evidence of research and is well thought out?
- Are descriptions of target market segments and competitors clearly established and are their attributes clearly illustrated?
- Is the product/service feasibly marketable? Is there a demand? Is there sustainable competitive advantage?
- Is the Marketing Plan clear and is it appropriate for the chosen product/service? Are marketing strategies likely to be effective?
- What is the likelihood of the business plan becoming a viable business? Could the venture be profitable?
- Have key financial considerations been taken into account adequately? Does the return clearly justify the investment and the risk involved in the project?
- Is the Financial Plan reasonable and does it make sense based on the rest of the business plan?
- Is the venture stable and growth oriented or speculative and risky?
- Does the venture have high sensitivity to the actions of competitors, technology, the industry... etc.?
- Does the venture exemplify creativity and innovation?

Business Venture Ballot

Student ID: _____

Judge Name _____

		Subtotal
Section A	Technical	/10
Section B	Visual Aid	/5
Section B	Introduction, Body, Conclusion	/10
Section C	Delivery	/10
Section C	Language Style	/10
Section D	Presentation analysis and content	/20
Section E	Business Venture Outline	/35 points

TOTAL: _____ / 100

Overall Judges Comments and Feedback

Humanitarian Service

1. Refer to General Group Project Competition Changes.
2. All submitted pieces will be judged and presented for live interviews and presentations.

Procedures:

1. A minimum of one (1) and a maximum of six (6) people can register for this competition. Up to two (2) groups per MIST team are allowed.
2. After registering, each student is given a MIST ID Number, which must be used to identify each registered student on their submissions. Names and other identifying information should not be included anywhere on the final submissions (presentation and report).
3. Students will create a campaign and crowdfunding site through “www.irusa.org/mist” to raise funds, support, and awareness for Islamic Relief USA projects to be released on the IRUSA website as well as the getmistified website.
4. The plan should be typed with 12-point Times New Roman font, double-spaced, with 1” margins, including a Title Page with an abstract (max. 250 words), Table of Contents, and Bibliography.
5. The content of the site should identify the problem, Islamic Relief’s solution, an explanation of the crowdfunding campaign, and any giving incentives they plan to implement.
6. Competitors should include how their cause has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic in their presentation, and how, if their fundraising was also impacted as a cause.
7. Visit <https://secure.qgiv.com/event/mist2021/> for submission instructions
8. An implementation strategy should be utilized for the campaign that includes a social media and community engagement plan. No paid social media promotions may be used.
9. Students will be expected to create a sophisticated marketing campaign to include the following (and not to be limited to):
 - a. Mandatory:
 - i. Campaign goals (clear, realistic SMART goals)•
 - ii. Campaign Plan and Calendar
 - iii. Ideal Funder Profile/ Funder Personas•
 - iv. Marketing Methods: direct mail, email campaigns, affiliate marketing, sponsorship, word of mouth, audience participation
 - b. Optional:
 - i. Digital and Physical Collateral (ie. pamphlets, stickers, infographics)
 - ii. Screenshots of digital campaigns and engagement
 - iii. Marketing Mediums ex. social media (TikTok, Instagram, Facebook), email, contest

*There is no expectation that students must use all the methods or types of collateral to complete their fundraising goal, however for the purposes of the marketing campaign a minimum of 2 should be included.

10. Optional: Students are encouraged to use marketing analytics to supplement their presentation. Any analytics students include that provide valuable inferences will be given 1 bonus point. Examples: Conversion Rate, Marketing ROI (if applicable), Average Lead Close Rate and Impression/Reach Rates.
11. Students are required to create a “Lessons Learned” presentation. This should include what they have learned about the issue at hand, Islamic Relief’s intervention, and also what they learned about

crowdfunding and community engagement. They may present recommendations to Islamic Relief for how they may better engage in humanitarian digital crowdfunding efforts based on their findings.

12. Students will be allotted 5-7 minutes to present their project and approximately 3 minutes to field questions from the judges. Not all students are required to participate in speaking during the presentation, but all registered students must be present in order to answer questions about their participation in the project.

Humanitarian Service Detailed Ballot

Section A: Technical General Rules Points: 5

- The competitors created a crowdfunding campaign on time with complete marketing plan
- Participants are all present and on time for the competition.
- The submissions include no identifiers aside from MIST ID Numbers.
- The presenters appear professionally credible and appropriately dressed for an interview.
- The presentation is 5-7 minutes. Q&A is 3 minutes.

Presentation Points: 25

- The presentation explains lessons learned from the campaign.
- The format can be a verbal presentation, video, PowerPoint or a combination.
- The presentation should include recommendations from IRUSA based on what the team learned.
- The presenters speak clearly, with a confidence that demonstrates adequate practice and mastery of the subject.
- The presentation flows smoothly and logically.
- The topic is presented in a relevant and engaging manner for other high school students without compromising professionalism in front of the judges.

Section B: Crowdfunding Campaign General Content Points: 20

- The crowdfunding campaign properly summarizes the entire project and employs an engaging writing style.
- The problem is well defined and supported by facts and statistics.
- Islamic Relief's intervention is explained as well as how the donations will be used to solve the problem.
- Marketing best practices are used.

Creative Content Points: 20

- The campaign includes a thorough, complete and sophisticated marketing plan.
- Marketing collateral is diverse and appealing (includes over 5 pieces of high quality physical and digital collateral)
- The collateral and plan created are suitable for the articulated Ideal Customer Profile

Section C: Implementation & Results Implementation Points: 25

- The implementation of the campaign was conducted over an extended period of time (in terms of weeks, not days).
- The implementation plan includes a strategic roll out plan for social media promotion and community outreach.
- The project was accomplished by teamwork of all registered members fairly.
- Implementation plan is clear and visible through a campaign calendar that achieves the outlined campaign goals.
- Variety of marketing methods were used to achieve their campaign goals.
- Adequate explanation was given for difference in physical and digital donations

****Bonus point (1) for additional analytics formulas used correctly to build inferences***

Results Points: 5

The campaign met its fundraising goal.

Minimum fundraising goal guidelines::

- Teams of 1-5 students: \$100
- Teams of 6-10 students: \$250
- Teams of 11-25 students:\$500
- Teams of 26-50 students: \$750
- Teams of 51-100 students: \$1,000
- Teams over 100 students: \$2,000

****Teams who raise double or more their goal amount will receive 5 bonus points***

Humanitarian Service Ballot

Student ID: _____

		Subtotal
Section A	General Rules	/5
Section A	Presentation	/25
Section B	General Content	/20
Section B	Creative Content	/25
Section C	Implementation	/25
Section C	Results	/5

TOTAL: _____ / 100

Overall Judges Comments and Feedback

Nasheed & Rap

1. Refer to General Group Project Competition Changes.
2. Up to 2 separate groups may compete per team
3. Group must submit for an EARLY SUBMISSION:
 - a. Their performance through an unlisted YouTube link
 - b. 250-word artist statement OR a 2 minute video(MP4) answering, “What inspired you to make this piece?”
 - c. PDF of lyrics
4. All submitted pieces will be judged and ALL teams will be brought in for live interviews.

Procedures:

1. A minimum of one (1) and a maximum of six (6) people can register for this competition. Up to two groups/submissions are allowed to enter per MIST team.
2. There will be a separate competition for brothers and for sisters. Hence, each team must either be all male or all female.
3. The performance should not exceed more than five (5) minutes. Points will be deducted from the total score if the performance exceeds the allotted time.
4. The Nasheed/Rap competition is different from the Spoken Word competition. Therefore, if a competitor registers for both competitions, they may not use the same piece.
5. The only instrument that can be used for the performance is a drum with an open end (daf). Full drum kits, floor drums, etc. will not be allowed. Drums will not be supplied by MIST. Each group is responsible for bringing their own drums. Other methods used for rhythm may be explored such as vocal percussion (beatboxing), etc. Groups cannot use digitally enhanced sounds for their performance.
6. The competitors must submit a PDF copy of their Nasheed lyrics to the MIST Nasheed judges before they perform.
8. Judging Criteria will be based upon the official MIST Nasheed/Rap Ballot.

Nasheed & Rap Detailed Ballot

Section A: Administrative Points: 5

- Presenters(s) are on time for the competition
- Nasheed/Rap is under five (5) minutes
- There are no identifiers on the submission aside from the MIST ID
- The presenter(s) look credible and are dressed for an interview

Section B: Content/Structure Points: 15

- Is the Nasheed free from any inappropriate content? If it contains profanity, sexual innuendo, etc. do not score the rest of the section; competitor receives 0/15. If so, continue scoring.
- Is the Nasheed well written, (ie Are rhyme, metaphors, and figurative language present in the lyrics?)
- Does the Nasheed show originality and creativity?
- Intro: does it establish a melodic, harmonic, and/ or rhythmic pattern related to the piece? Does it establish a basic connection with the listener?
- Verse: how well does it tie into the main purpose? Are the verses well defined? Is there a story/message to easily follow throughout each verse?
- Chorus: is the chorus easy to follow? Is it catchy? How does the chorus embody the message of the song?
- Bridge: 1 bonus point

Section C: Technical Points: 25

- Intonation: Tone quality, pitch, accuracy, blend and balance
- Vocal Technique: Articulation, rhythmic accuracy, fluency, flexibility, breath control, etc.
- Tone: sound or timbre pleasing to the ear, blend, evenness
- Is there a unique texture to the performer's voice/s? Is it a soft or gentle sound? A hoarse or gravely sound?
- Does/do the performer/s display a unique wide range of vocal tones? Is it just monotone? Can performer/s move from a low to medium to high note effectively? Can high notes be articulated without cracking or straining their voice? Do the low notes contain power/strength
- Rhythmic Integrity and interpretation: Style, tempo, phrasing, dynamic contract, etc.
- Musical effect and diction. Phrasing and melodic sensitivity, artistry, expressive and musical feeling, etc. • Musicianship: Sensitivity to all aspects of execution in order to make an effective musical result: phrasing, dynamics (good sense of loud and soft singing), vocal attack.

Section D: Delivery Points: 20

- Is there connection between the piece and the performer's emotions? Does the performer embody the piece? Body language?
- Are the members of the group in time with one another (rhythm)? If it is one member are they maintaining tempo?
- Are the members of the group in tune with one another? If the group consists of one member, do they have good tone?
- Are the lyrics clear and easy to understand? (In their presentation, not interpretation)

- Video presence - group appearance, music memorized, facial expressions, staging, accompaniment, entertainment value. Do the competitors establish eye contact? Do the performers own the “stage”?

Section E: Complexity Points: 10

- Wide range, complex or varied rhythms, incorporation of several creative elements, complex harmonies

Section F: Judge’s Discretion Points: 10

After the perusing of the Nasheed content, performance, and interview, rate the entire experience from 1 to 10.

- 1 being very poor (no organization, unity, intonation, relation to the theme)
- 5 to 6 being average
- 10 being exceptional (memorable performance, sound understanding of the theme, exceptional Nasheed content).

Section G: Application of Theme Points: 10

Please ask the following questions to gauge their understanding of the theme and how it was expressed in their work. Then proceed to scoring.

1. How did you aim to convey this year’s theme in your work?
2. What do you hope to teach people about the theme with this work?
3. What element of the work is the most important towards conveying your understanding of the theme?
 - There is a strong, clearly evident relevance to the theme.
 - The theme is expressed in a unique or outstanding way.
 - Purpose of the project is clearly articulated and shows evidence of reflection and/or research.
 - Elements and principles of the project are clearly articulated and student shows evidence of careful selection and organization of these elements and principles.

Nasheed & Rap Ballot

Student ID: _____

		Subtotal
Section A	Administrative	/10
Section B	Content/Structure	/15
Section C	Technical	/25
Section D	Delivery	/20
Section E	Complexity	/10
Section F	Judges' Discretion	/10
Section G	Application of Theme	/10

TOTAL: _____ / 100

Overall Judges Comments and Feedback

Science Fair

Competition Guidelines:

The Science Fair competition is a team effort. A minimum of one (1) and a maximum of six (6) people can register for this competition. Up to two (2) SEPARATE submissions per MIST team are allowed. The following is a list of rules and procedures for this competition. Failure to fulfill these obligations and/or any violation of them may result in point loss.

1. Competitors must submit their research paper two (2) weeks prior to the competition date. Regional Teams will let you know of specific dates.
2. Science Fair projects may not be used if they were presented at previous MIST tournaments/other competitions.
3. Visual aids are required along with the research paper. They can vary anywhere from a PowerPoint presentation to pictures, video clips etc
5. Each team must turn in a typed research paper with all of their findings:
 - In order for the science fair project to be complete each team must do their own active research. The active research should be comprised of experiments, surveys, questionnaires, etc. and the results must be compiled and analyzed within the research paper. If surveys and questionnaires have been conducted, they must be attached to the research paper and all surveys/questionnaires must be anonymous. The research paper will serve as a typed report of all findings and conclusions.
 - A scientific research question should be presented at the beginning of the paper. The question should then be answered throughout the writing.
 - At least three sources must be cited accurately within the paper and a works cited page must be provided separate from the bibliography page that is required with the speech and visual aids. (Research paper and all citations must adhere to MLA format).
 - The paper must be five pages minimum and seven pages maximum including works cited page (5-7 pages).
6. This science fair project should consist of four components, so each team must prepare the following things:
 - An abstract at the beginning of your research paper
 - Research Paper (with active research included).
 - Visual aids to supplement findings and process
 - Bibliography
7. Judging Criteria will be based upon the official MIST Science Fair ballot.

Special note to students presenting Mentored Projects:

Although mentored projects are allowed to be submitted as a MIST Science Fair project, students should be explicitly aware of the following rules which apply to all science fair submissions:

1. Judging Criteria will be based upon the official MIST Science Fair ballot.
2. The competitor's testable question and the hypothesis must be unique, original and the intellectual property of the competitor not the Mentor.
3. The project must be within the scope and ability of the student presenters.

4. All data and information presented as part of the science fair project must be the original work, ideas, words, and thoughts of the presenters and not the supervising authority at the Mentor Lab or Mentors. If other data must be entered, it has to be clearly cited to avoid plagiarism.
5. All students must clearly differentiate between their own original intellectual property and that of their Mentors.

Science Fair Detailed Ballot

Section A: Technical

General Rules Points: 5

- The competitors submitted their research paper, visual aids and bibliography by the 2-week early submission deadline.
- The submissions include no identifiers aside from MIST ID Numbers.
- Bonus: One (1) bonus point can be given if the topic is relevant to the theme.

Research Paper Rules Points: 5

- The research paper is 1,500 - 2,000 words in length.
- The font is 12-point Times New Roman.
- The paper is double spaced.
- The margins are 1" on each side.
- An abstract of less than 250 words is included on the Title Page.
- The Table of Contents properly includes the various sections of the paper.
- The Bibliography includes all works cited, and at least three sources are cited.
- All citations are made with proper MLA format.

Section B: Presentation Components

Visual Aid Points: 5

- Did the submission include Visual Aids? Was it typed and not written?
- Was the submission neat, uncluttered and clearly comprehensible?
- Did the provided aids enhance the project?

Introduction, Body & Conclusion Points: 15

- Did the competitor grab your attention with their introduction?
- Was the topic clearly stated in the introduction? Was the introduction brief and concise? Did the presenter preview and give focus to the key ideas?
- Did the competitor make effective use of signposting, internal summaries, and transitions? Was there a logical progression of ideas?
- Was adequate detail devoted to each section of the paper
- Did the competitor conclusively tie the paper together? Was there a note of finality?

Section C: Scientific Aspects Scientific Thought Points: 25

- Did the competitor ask his/her own original testable question that can be measured quantitatively?
- Does the competitor have his/her own original hypothesis that can be quantitatively measured and answers the question?
- Is that data quantitative and does it answer the question?
- Are all variables original? Are they all considered and identified?
- Were multiple trials performed if needed?

- Was the data clearly interpreted? Were the conclusions accurately based on this data?

Thoroughness Points: 15

- Was the testable question original and the intellectual property of the competitor?
- Did the competitor individually collect all data available?
- Was the competitor able to explain any problems that arose?
- Did the competitor relate the work to what was reported in the literature?
- Was the study completed or brought to a logical stopping place?

Section D: Analysis and Content Points: 20

- Did the competitor answer the question clearly?
- Was the content informative? Was the information pertinent to their specific topic? Was the information adequately documented?
- Was there sufficient use of logic, facts, examples, and/or expert opinion? Was scientific literature examined?
- Was the study/research within the scope of the competitors' ability?
- Did the competitor approach the problem in an original manner with an original hypothesis?
- Was the study well thought out and did it show the competitor's initiative in thought and design?

Section E: Research Paper Points: 10

- Is the paper 5 to 7 pages long?
- Does the research paper have at least 3 cited sources?
- Is there a works cited/reference page at the end of the paper? Is the formatting according to the MLA style?
- Has active research been conducted by the team and have the results been compiled and analyzed within the paper?
- Is the research question present answered through the paper?

Science Fair Ballot

Student ID: _____

		Subtotal
Section A	Visual Aid	/10
Section B	Intro, Body & Conclusion	/5
Section B	Technical	/15
Section C	Scientific Thought	/25
Section C	Thoroughness	/15
Section D	Analysis and Content	/20
Section E	Research Paper	/10

TOTAL: _____ / 100

Overall Judges Comments and Feedback

Short Film

1. Refer to General Group Project Competition Changes.
2. EARLY SUBMISSION- Group must submit:
 - a. An unlisted YouTube link to their submission
 - b. 500-word artist statement or four (4) minute video answering, “What inspired you to make this piece?” (look at #6)
3. All submitted pieces will be judged, and the top ten (10) will be interviewed live (top 5 if less than 15 submissions)
4. Films entered may be of any genre, fiction, documentary, animation, art or experimental.
5. A minimum of one (1) and a maximum of six (6) people can register for this competition. Up to TWO SEPARATE groups/submissions are allowed per MIST team.
6. More than six (6) people may work on the project, but only up to six (6) can be registered for it. Each group will submit no more than one typed page explanation of the film. The Film group will be allowed to either make an up to four (4) minute added video explanation with their early submission or a 500 word (no more than 1 page) written explanation to explain: how they made the film, what the purpose behind the film is, and what inspired them.
7. All videos must be in a 4:3 or 16:9 Aspect Ratio. Movies that were shot in widescreen must be letterboxed to fit in the 4:3 Aspect Ratio.
8. An unlisted YouTube link must be submitted to your Regional Competitions Headquarters two (2) weeks prior to the MIST competition. Your region may have different deadlines for this competition. Contact your Regional Competitions Headquarters for more information.
9. The title and the competitors’ MIST ID must be clearly identified on your submission.
10. A complete list of Crew Members, Cast, and Equipment must be submitted with the short film.
11. Competitors MUST submit the region’s entry form. Contestants who do not turn in this form with their submission will lose points towards their final competition score.
12. All films MUST relate to this year’s theme.
13. Films may NOT exceed seven (7) minutes in length (excluding opening and closing credits).
14. Films must NOT contain inappropriate audio or video content.
15. Please note that if there are more than 15 entries for this competition, only the top 10 entries (based on short film and written statement/video) will be interviewed. In this case, a preliminary judging round will take place ahead of the tournament weekend, and all entries will be judged according to the Short Film Ballot. The top ten (10) that advance will have a five (5) to ten (10) minute interview with the Judges’ Panel.
16. Entries MUST be original works that have not been previously distributed/ awarded/recognized or publicly exhibited as of the submission date. Entrant must be the creator of the submitted work, holding the full copyright ownership therein.
17. Judging Criteria will be based upon the official MIST National Short Film ballot.

Short Film Detailed Ballot

Section A: Technical

Points: 4

- Participants are appropriately dressed in any pictures and videos
- Length of video is within 5- 7 minutes.
- Submission meets all competition criteria

Section B: Production Quality

Points: 20

Production Quality - Sound

- Clear, crisp audio
- Used external microphones when necessary
- Sound effects were used appropriately
- Balance between music and dialogue when necessary

Production Quality - Video

Points: 30

- Proper transitions used (i.e dissolves used mainly to establish change in time, not between every scene)
- Proper Headroom
- Used tripod when available
- Quality is consistent
- Variation in shot selection
- Scenes edited/cropped tightly

Section C: Narrative

Points: 10

Theme

- Story addressed the theme thoroughly
- Theme was consistent throughout
- Written statement answers the following questions:
 - How did you aim to convey this year's theme in your work?
 - What do you hope to teach people about the theme with this work?
 - What element of the work is the most important towards conveying your understanding of the theme?

Acting

Points: 10

- Props/makeup used appropriately
- Casting is believable

Story

Points: 26

- Film duration within 5 to 7 minutes
- Cohesive narrative from beginning to end
- Narrative is shown through visual storytelling, not explained through text graphics
- Film does not contain profanity, sexual innuendo, or excessively vulgar content
- Events of the story are believable given the context of the film

Short Film Ballot

MIST ID: _____

Judge's Name: _____

		Subtotal
Section A	Technical	/4
Section B	Sound	/20
Section B	Video	/30
Section C	Theme	/10
Section C	Acting	/10
Section D	Story	/26

TOTAL:

_____/ 100

Overall Judges Comments and Feedback

WOWZA.

Looks like you've reached the end. If you have any questions about the competitions that are not answered within this packet, please contact us at info@getmistified.com.

All the best this year at MIST!

The 2021 MIST Team
(you can stop reading now)