



# Catholic Arts & Academic Competition Handbook

*5<sup>th</sup> Edition*

2017-2018

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# Catholic Arts and Academic Competition

## Contest Handbook

Fall 2017 - Spring 2018

*5th Edition*



Archdiocese of San Antonio

*With God, all things are possible. ~Matthew 19:26*



# Message from the Superintendent



Archdiocese of San Antonio

Welcome to CAAC!

Whether this is your first time to participate in the Catholic Arts and Academic Competition or if you have been with CAAC from the beginning, WELCOME! I am confident that you will be inspired by what you experience through your students as they study, practice, engage and collaborate with others in preparation for competition. What a unique opportunity to demonstrate Catholic Identity, foster school pride, and celebrate our talents!

We continue to offer organized, rigorous, and enjoyable programs for all our students. As we reflect on the connection students experienced with our Holy Father, Pope Francis, and his charge to become missionary disciples, we make an intentional move to fully live our lives in “solidarity.” I challenge you to continue the conversations that surround the Catholic Social Justice teachings and expound on how we can continue to grow in love and bear the fruits of mercy with understanding and forgiveness.

The Catholic Arts and Academic Competition offers schools an opportunity to showcase the gifts and talents of our amazing students in communal competition providing witness to the teachings and principles of our Catholic faith. I invite you and encourage you to embark on this journey of faith with the Department of Catholic Schools and with your sister schools as we allow the light of Christ to shine through our students.

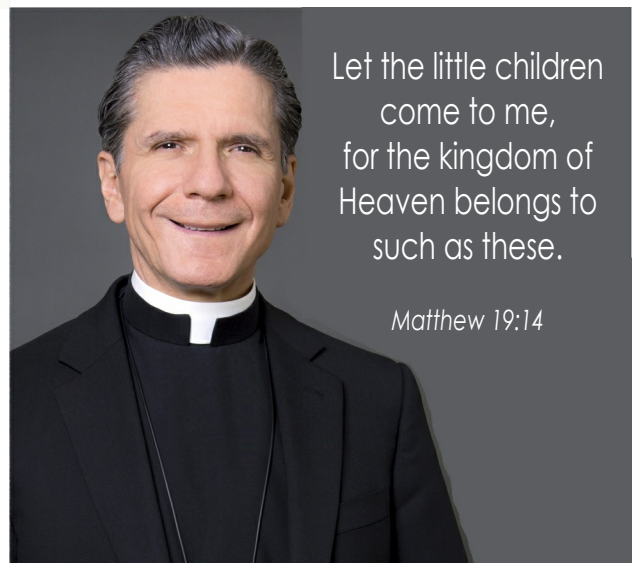
May God continue to bless you and work through you as you touch the lives of our students and their families.

*Marti West*

Mrs. Marti West  
Superintendent of Catholic Schools  
Archdiocese of San Antonio

*“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.” ~John 14:26*

DEAR YOUNG  
**PEOPLE,**  
DO NOT BURY YOUR  
**TALENTS,**  
THE GIFTS THAT  
**GOD**  
HAS GIVEN YOU!  
DO NOT BE AFRAID  
TO DREAM OF  
**GREAT**  
**THINGS!**  
POPE FRANCIS



Let the little children  
come to me,  
for the kingdom of  
Heaven belongs to  
such as these.

Matthew 19:14

*Encountering Christ, United as Church, Sent by the Spirit*

For further information, write to:

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# The Four Pillars of C.A.A.C.

## CATHOLIC IDENTITY

C.A.A.C. teaches students to proclaim the Catholic faith, to demonstrate Catholic attitudes and principles, to gain knowledge of Roman Catholic Church teachings and to make Christian choices.

## ARTS & HUMANITIES

C.A.A.C. is designed for students to become engaged in exploring social justice issues, delve into biblical and religious studies, research faith-based literature, and discover their God-given talents.

## ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

C.A.A.C. supports and celebrates student academic achievement through various assessment and performance-based categories.

## COMPETITION COMMUNITY

C.A.A.C. encourages students to honor God as they express their uniqueness as Catholic students, enhance social and personal skills, and foster community among Catholic schools.

## Membership

As brothers and sisters in Christ, we are called to be in communion with each other. Let us stay true to Archbishop Gustavo's Pastoral Vision of: *Encountering Christ, United as Church, Sent by the Spirit*. Through communal participation in CAAC events, we are able to proclaim the Good News with joy, zeal and renewed spirit. We have the platform to grow in our faith and knowledge of Jesus Christ and encounter the opportunity to emerge as disciples of Christ. The challenge is before you to answer the call and recruit, prepare, and produce a strong team of skilled and talented individuals that honor and glorify the Lord through their work.

## Code of Ethics

The Department of Catholic Schools believes that ethical contests serve our shared goal: to connect students with the Catholic arts and academic community. We believe that intent to act ethically, clarity of guidelines, and transparency of process form the foundation of an ethical contest. To that end, we agree to 1) conduct our contests in a respectful, ethical manner and to address any unethical behavior on the part of our staff, volunteers, judges, or other constituents; 2) to provide clear and specific contest guidelines; and 3) to make accurate calculations and determine fair conclusions. This code recognizes that different contest models produce different results, but that each model can be run ethically. We have adopted this Code to reinforce our integrity and dedication to our education community and to ensure that our contests contribute to a vibrant Catholic heritage.

**Note:** Judges may not critique the same student in an advancing round of any contest. Contest Director will make every effort to avoid assigning judges to contest rooms that may present a conflict of interest.

*Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance. ~Proverbs 1:5*



# Cup of the Spirit

As illustrated on the CAAC logo, we are led by the Holy Spirit. God blesses us with the Gifts of the Holy Spirit: Knowledge, Understanding, Wisdom, Counsel, Piety, Fortitude and Fear of the Lord, and while we strive to continually grow closer in our relationship with Jesus, we also strive to become who He created us to be.

Through participation in CAAC events, schools will earn points based on individual and group competitive outcomes. Students will prepare and use their God-given skills and talents in a competitive setting to demonstrate the level of mastery in their respective category.

We will lift up our brothers and sisters by presenting the *Cup of the Spirit* to the school receiving the honor of excellence at the end of the competitive season . *Cup of the Spirit* will be awarded to Elementary (grades K-5) Red and Blue Zone and Middle (grades 6-8) Red and Blue Zone.



## Awards

All contestants will receive a certificate of participation for each contest.

Individual students ranking 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> will receive medals and 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> will receive ribbons.

Student groups ranking 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> place will receive trophies (one per team.)

*Point accumulation will be as follows:*

<b>INDIVIDUAL CATEGORIES:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Place- 6 points	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place - 5 points	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place - 4 point
	4 <sup>th</sup> Place- 3 points	5 <sup>th</sup> Place - 2 points	6 <sup>th</sup> Place - 1 point
<b>CHEER RANKINGS:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Place- 12 points	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place- 10 points	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place - 8 points
<b>ICD RANKINGS:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Place- 12 points	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place- 10 points	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place - 8 points
<b>MUSIC RANKINGS:</b>	Superior- 30 points	Excellent- 22 points	Good - 14 points

The Cup of the Spirit will be presented to schools based on highest point accumulation per division group RED Zone and BLUE Zone. Please see page 4 regarding contest zones.

## Required Contest Attire

Catholic schools place an emphasis on the school as community-an educational community of persons and a genuine community of faith. In order to sustain a Catholic Identity, students are required to wear the appropriate attire for each of the following contests:

**Cheer4Christ Cheerleading:** Squads must wear the approved school cheer uniform.

**STREAM Challenge:** Students participating in testing categories must wear school uniform. Students in speech/performance categories must wear “Sunday Best” for grades 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>, and “Business Professional” for grades 5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>. “Sunday Best” for BOYS is dress trousers, collared button down shirt, shoes, optional tie. “Sunday Best” for GIRLS is appropriate and modestly fitting dress, knee length or longer skirts, or slacks with shoes. “Business Professional” includes suits, ties, dresses, skirts. Students in an Innovate, Create, Discover team may wear a lab coat.

**Sing@theCross:** Students in the ensemble must wear school choral uniforms or “full dress” Mass school uniform.

*\*Street clothes are NOT allowed at any scheduled CAAC contest.*

## Fees and Registration

The number of students available to register per event will depend on the structure of the contest and whether the entries are individual or group. The STANDARD FEE per CATEGORY is \$5.00. Group contests may have multiple categories. (*Please see contest event descriptions for more details.*)

Student registrations must be received by the Director of Enrichment Programs 15 business days prior to the tournament. **LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** All registrations will be done through an online program called Constant Contact. You will receive an invitation to the contest thirty (30) business days prior to the contest via email and the message will include a link to the registration site. \*Please note that only one (1) email address can be submitted per entry. Multiple entries will require a different email address. Each participating school agrees to secure and maintain on file a liability release and media form, and a release for medical treatment and waiver of legal responsibility signed by a parent or legal guardian when applicable.

## Volunteers

Each school is **REQUIRED** to recruit and submit volunteers to assist during the CAAC contests. ALL adult volunteers taking an active role involving school age children at a scheduled CAAC contest must be SAFE ENVIRONMENT (Virtus) trained, and have undergone and cleared a criminal background check. It is the responsibility of the school to ensure compliance and the appropriate documentation on file for volunteers. These volunteers must be available to judge, proctor, and/or grade a test. Performance categories will require one judge in each contest room. Additional volunteers will be needed to grade the testing categories. CAAC Campus Coordinators may be included in the volunteer list for judging or grading. Judges will be pre-assigned to contest rounds and sections. A copy of the contest sections will be emailed to the CCC a few days prior to the contest for planning purposes. Catholic high school students may volunteer and do not require Virtus certification.

## General Information

All materials needed for testing categories will be provided by the Department of Catholic Schools CAAC Director. Performance critique ballots will be returned to each respective school. Tests will also be returned to the students. Verification of accurate grading will occur during the grading process and under the supervision of a designated staff member. Students must remain in the holding area when not competing in rounds. Earphones must be used when listening to music or video games. When applicable, schools must sit in an assigned area. CONCESSIONS will be available. Schools may bring snacks. Make sure to pick up trash and place it in the appropriate receptacle. Always leave the hosting site better than you found it! Students are encouraged to cheer and support all their brothers and sisters in competitive spirit during the awards presentation.

## Request for Accommodations / Modifications

A request for an accommodation or a modification must be submitted via email to the CAAC Director for approval **15 days** prior to the contest. Any equipment for reading, listening, or writing must be provided by the student and **MUST** be used often enough during classroom instruction, presentations and testing that he or she is able to use it independently. Allowances may be made as long as the integrity of the test or procedure for the event is not changed.

## Disqualifications

*A contestant in ANY event may be disqualified for the following infractions:*

1. Possession of the following items are **not allowed** in the contest room: Cell phones, cameras, all electronic devices, except those approved for individuals with disabilities.
2. Writing on any body part, on erasers, or any materials, other than those specified for the contest.
3. Talking without permission during testing time.
4. Viewing another person's test paper.
5. Using profanity in speech or writing.
6. Failing to adhere to start or stop signal in contest.
7. Disrupting noise/actions during contest or verification.

# Participation Eligibility

A student enrolled in a Catholic School in good academic, behavioral, and financial standing is permitted to participate in any CAAC contest. He/she may not be failing any subject nor receive less than a 70% overall grade point average during the quarter in which the competition is being held.

## School Competitive Zones

We believe that every child has the potential for greatness, and the Catholic Arts & Academic Competition acts as an instrument to draw out specific qualities from students that are innate to the competitive realm. To facilitate these unique opportunities, we are providing a platform for greater achievement. This is to be accomplished through the establishment of zones. The RED and BLUE school zones have been created based on student enrollment (*excluding Pre-Kinder*). At each contest, students will be competing against students from the same zone. Medals and ribbons ranging from 1<sup>st</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> place, and trophies ranging from 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> will be awarded in each zone. Accumulation of *Spirit of the Cup* points will be designated to each zone as well. Schools are eligible to receive the Spirit of the Cup in each zone.

School Zone designation is as follows: (*subject to change once official numbers are received.*)

### ELEMENTARY (K-5<sup>th</sup>)

#### RED ZONE

Blessed Sacrament  
Holy Name  
Little Flower  
Notre Dame  
Our Lady of Grace  
Rolling Hills  
Sacred Heart – Del Rio  
Sacred Heart – Floresville  
Sacred Heart – Uvalde  
St. James - Seguin  
St. John Berchmans  
St. Leo the Great  
St. Louis-Castroville  
St. Paul  
St. Peter, Prince  
St. Thomas More

#### BLUE ZONE

Holy Spirit  
Mount Sacred Heart  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
St. Anthony  
St. Gregory the Great  
St. James the Apostle  
St. John Bosco  
St. Luke  
St. Mary Magdalen  
St. Mary-Fredericksburg  
St. Matthew  
St. Monica  
St. Peter & Paul  
St. Pius X

### MIDDLE SCHOOL (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>)

#### RED ZONE

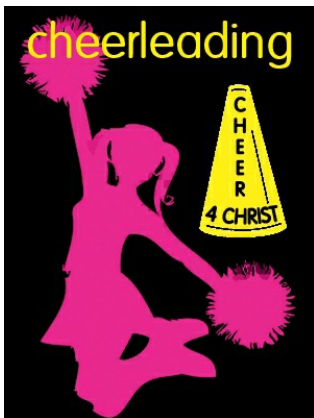
Antonian MS  
Blessed Sacrament  
Holy Name  
Little Flower  
Notre Dame  
Providence  
Sacred Heart – Del Rio  
Sacred Heart – Uvalde  
St. Gerard RMS  
St. James - Seguin  
St. John Berchmans  
St. Leo the Great  
St. Paul  
St. Peter, Prince  
St. Thomas More

#### BLUE ZONE

Holy Cross of San Antonio  
Holy Spirit  
Mount Sacred Heart  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
St. Anthony Elem  
St. Gregory the Great  
St. James the Apostle  
St. John Bosco  
St. Luke  
St. Mary Magdalen  
St. Mary-Fredericksburg  
St. Matthew  
St. Monica  
St. Peter & Paul  
St. Pius X

*For where two or three gather in my name,  
there am I with them. ~ Matthew 18:20*

# CAAC At A Glance



Cheer 4 Christ Cheerleading inspires students to demonstrate their school spirit and positive attitudes through uplifting chants, team cheers, and Christian competition.

Date: November 18, 2017 Location: St. Luke Catholic School Time: 8:00 a.m.

Student Entry Fee per category: \$5.00 Attire: Official School Cheer Uniform

Divisions: K-5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, Novice & Intermediate Skill Level

High School "Show off" (grades 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>)

Entry Limit: one squad per category/grade level



Students meet testing and performing challenges in the areas of Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, the Arts, and Math.

### RED ZONE

Date: January 20, 2018 Location: Providence Catholic School

### BLUE ZONE

Date: February 10, 2018 Location: Incarnate Word High School

Student Entry Fee per category: \$5.00

Attire: Sunday Best and Business Professional

Divisions: Individual grade level and combined grades

Entry Limit: three for individual categories; one per ICD team



Students will use lively imagination and freedom of thought as they apply their talent to creative outlets based on a Catholic theme.

Categories: Art, Creative Writing, Poetry, Photography

Date: Campus Level (November 2-January 26); Archdiocesan Level (February 2018)

Student Entry Fee: none

Divisions: Individual Grade Levels

Award: Commemorative bound book featuring all 1<sup>st</sup> Place ranking pieces



Students will praise and worship through song in choral ensembles.

Date: April 7, 2018 Location: Antonian College Prep Time: 8:00 a.m.

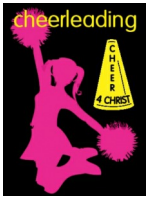
Student Entry Fee per category: \$5.00

Attire: Choral uniforms or "full dress" school uniform.

Divisions: Lower Elementary (K-2), Upper Elementary (3-5), Middle School (6-8)

Entry Limit: one ensemble per category/division

## Brief Contest Description



Cheer 4 Christ Cheerleading inspires students to demonstrate their school spirit and positive attitudes through uplifting chants, team cheers, and Christian competition. The contest divisions are Grades K-5 and Grades 6-8 for Elementary school. The contest categories will include: **Time Out Cheer**, **Time Out Dance**, and **Performance Routine**. High Schools are invited to perform in a “Show-Off” prior to the awards presentation. Trophies will be awarded to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in each category and grade division. We fervently encourage and support sportsmanship, integrity and fairness among participants and coaches in all facets of cheerleading including, but not limited to, team/squad practice and performance. We strive to uphold the highest Christian standards and promote this to the best of our abilities, and believe that coaches are instrumental in promoting and instilling this among their respective team members.



The STREAM Challenge provides an opportunity for students to engage in tests and performances in the area of Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, the Arts, and Math. The InnovateCreateDiscover category incorporates challenges that tap into students’ imagination and creativity while practicing 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills. Students will be given a task-oriented challenge and must complete the task using the materials provided while working as a team. Students will complete the same challenge within the division group. The entry limit is four (4) students in each challenge team.



Students will praise and worship through song in choral ensembles in this contest. Each entering chorus will have the opportunity to perform their music selections and receive an evaluation for their overall presentation. Liturgical musical selections must be appropriate for a Catholic mass. Contemporary selections must be faith-based. All music must be memorized.

### Categories:

- A. **Liturgical: A capella:** performance without musical instruments; may be in language other than English;  
Time limit: 5:00 minutes
- B. **Liturgical: Accompaniment:** performance with one (1) live musical instrument for accompaniment;  
Approved acoustic instruments: piano, guitar; Time limit: 5:00 minutes
- C. **Religious: Contemporary:** Christian music performance selected from a variety of genres;  
May include choreography; Time limit: 5:00 minutes



Student will use lively imagination and freedom of thought as they apply their talent to creative outlets. The Catholic Creative Arts contest offers students an opportunity to design their own expressions of understanding and living of the Gospel Values and Catholic Social Teachings. With the guidance of classroom teachers, students are able to draw upon their skills in the areas of art, writing, poetry, and photography. Schools are encouraged to incorporate the contest as a school-wide event. This is a great opportunity to showcase original work at a special mass, parent’s night, open house, gala, sporting events, or other many events. 1<sup>st</sup> place winning entries are then sent to the Pastoral Center for Archdiocesan-wide judging. Top winner recipients are published in a commemorative book that can be purchased for your campus.

*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.*

*~Colossians 3:16*

# Category Descriptions



## ART MEMORY

Division (grades 5/6 & 7/8): **PART 1:** Contestants learn about the artist and the art work through their study of the *Art Smart Bulletin*. Contestants take a 30-item multiple choice and true/false test over Art Elements and Art History information found in the bulletin about each painting. Contestants will have 15 minutes. **PART 2:** Contestants will recognize and writing the last name of the artist and the title of the artwork of 15 of the 40 paintings. Contestants will have approximately 10 minutes.



## BIBLE STORYTELLING

Division (grades 1/2 & 3/4): In this category, students will select and prepare a re-telling of a story from the Bible using creative expression. The performance may be dramatic or humorous. For practice, teachers can use stories from children's books of literary merit. Students must say an introduction that includes their name, title of story, and author or section of the bible the story is found. No costumes, props or chairs are allowed. Five (5) minutes maximum time.



## CATHOLIC HEROES

Division (grades 3/4, 5/6): Students will have thirty (30) minutes to complete thirty (30) multiple choice questions. In order to prepare students for the "CATHOLIC HEROES" test, refer to the 2017-18 People from the Bible Study List which contains a listing of individuals that will be used to develop the test.



## INNOVATE, CREATE, DISCOVER

Division (grades 1/2, 3/4, 5/6, 7/8): Students in each grade division will be competing simultaneously in different rooms. Each contest room will have at least two (2) judges. Students will be given a "Challenge" and must complete the task using the materials provided while working as a team. Students will be completing the same challenge within the division.



## KNOWING MY FAITH

Division (grades 7/8): Contestant's ability to recall or find information quickly in Catholic resource literature, specifically the Catechism of the Catholic Church and the Compendium. Students will have thirty (30) minute to complete thirty (30) multiple choice questions.



## MATHEMATICS

Divisions (grades 5, 6, 7, 8) This category tests the contestant's ability to solve a variety of mathematical problems studied at and above grade level. The students will have thirty (30) minutes to complete a fifty (50) question multiple choice test. The test will consist of basic math, algebraic equations, and geometry (no calculators).



## MUSIC MEMORY *Pilot - Listening Part only!*

Divisions (grades 3/4, 5/6 & 7/8) The focus of the Music Memory contest is an in-depth study of fine pieces of music literature taken from a wide spectrum of music genres to expose students to great composers, their lives and their music. In the course of preparing for the contest, students should be given the opportunity to describe and analyze the music, relate the music to history, to society and to culture, and to evaluate musical performance. 20 multiple choice over composer and music. 16-20 identification of music.



## SPELLING

Divisions: (grades 1) The students will be given a multiple choice test and select the correct spelling. (30) words. (Grades 2 & 3) The students will be given a multiple choice test and select the correct spelling of a word from a list. (40) words. (Grade 4) Students will be given an answer sheet which they are to write in cursive or print the spelling word. (60) words.



## WITNESS TO THE WORD

Division (grades 5/6 & 7/8): In this category, students will memorize a monologue/literary selection and perform with expression. The performance may be dramatic or humorous and may be based on a person from the Bible or contemporary characters/individuals whose story/account adheres to theme. Three (3) minutes minimum and eight (8) minutes maximum time.

# Creative Arts

## 2017-2018 Catholic Creative Arts Contest

<u>Divisions</u>	<u>Categories</u>
Grades 1 - 5	Art, Poetry
Grades 6 - 8	Art, Poetry, Photography, Writing
Grades 9 -12	Art, Poetry, Photography, Writing

**RULES:** All entries must be of contestant's own inspiration, imagination and creation

### ART: Class I: 2-D

- 2-D works must be matted or mounted on sturdy white or black frame/or paper with no liners or additional inner mats. Canvas paintings do not require mats. All should have protective covering.
- Cannot exceed 24" x 36" including the mat, No Lettering
- All artworks must be dry or fixed.

### Class II: 3-D

- 3-D work must be sturdy and able to stand alone without support (base must be attached.)
- 3-D work must be in a sturdy box: **label and include photo on the side of box.**

**PHOTOGRAPHY:** 8" X 10" photo in an 11" X 14" black or white mat. Picture must have been taken by contestant. Can be color or black & white. May not be a computer downloaded image. Lettering is NOT allowed. Cannot be a collage.

**\*\*Must be printed on high quality photo paper.**

**POETRY:** Any style of poetry, neatly typed, not to exceed eight (8) lines

**WRITING:** Neatly typed, not to exceed 500 words

**GENERAL RULES** Contestants may select only ONE (1) theme and enter a category only once, however, contestants may submit entries in multiple categories. Entries not conforming to the rules will be disqualified.

- 1) All contest material becomes the property of the Archdiocese of San Antonio Department of Catholic Schools with the right to display/and or publish any or all material.
- 2) Decisions of the judges will be final. Judges reserve the right to make no award in a Division or Category.
- 3) Each entry must be accompanied by the Entry Form properly signed and completed. Names must be legible. Forms are to be glued or taped to back of entry.
- 4) Work should be created solely and exclusively by the student.

**DEADLINE:** Archdiocese Entry Deadline is FEBRUARY 7, 2018.

**AWARDS:** Awards at the local school level will be determined by representatives of the school (or as deemed appropriate by the school.) First place winning entry in each category per grade level must be forwarded to the Archdiocese Dept. of Catholic Schools office for advanced judging.



# School Participation Agreement

The Principal agrees to comply with the following:

- Read, abide by, and share with all participants (including parents) the *Official Rules for All Participants* found in the CAAC handbook and on the Catholic Schools website.
- Each participating school agrees to secure and maintain on file, a release for medical treatment and waiver of legal responsibility signed by a parent or legal guardian.
- Provide adequate supervision of your students at all times at the contest site.
- Ensure that ALL adult volunteers taking an active role involving school age children at a scheduled CAAC contest are SAFE ENVIRONMENT (VIRTUS) trained and have undergone a **criminal background check** and maintain current records of each.
- Submit CAAC student entry fees **10 business days prior** to the competition payable to the Department of Catholic Schools (DCS.)
- Promote CAAC events before and/or after on your newsletters, website, or other communication outlets.

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal: \_\_\_\_\_ (Print Name)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

# Campus Coordinator Responsibilities

The CAAC Campus Coordinator agrees to comply with the following responsibilities:

- Coordinate and collaborate with the DCS in preparation for the CAAC contest.
- Communicate appropriate and accurate information is shared with school Principal concerning the CAAC program.
- With the support of the school Principal, build a coaching team to help prepare students for individual categories within the CAAC contest or CAAC group events.
- Enroll students in their appropriate division and category within the online registration window.
- Provide an approved volunteer to fill a position (judge, test proctor, grader, or other position) for applicable contests. Ensure that each volunteer has a current SAFE ENVIRONMENT (VIRTUS) training certificate on file and has undergone a **criminal background check**.
- Have current knowledge of parental consent for using child's image in Archdiocesan media use.
- Recruit students who will prepare and dedicate their talents to representing the school to the best of their ability and meet eligibility requirements.
- Attend CAAC Campus Coordinator meetings and ensure that the appropriate personnel receive the provided training for individual CAAC categories.

CAAC Campus Coordinator: \_\_\_\_\_ (Print Name)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Return this sheet with signatures by September 1**

Email to [Veronica.Montalvo@archsa.org](mailto:Veronica.Montalvo@archsa.org) OR FAX to (210) 734-9112



# Student Participation Agreement



## Catholic Arts and Academic Competition Student Participation Form



*\*Submit this form to your CAAC Campus Coordinator\**

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian: *(print)* \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Email: \_\_\_\_\_

PARTICIPATION FORMS DUE \_\_\_\_\_

**Submit this form to your CAAC Campus Coordinator:** \_\_\_\_\_

My child \_\_\_\_\_ has permission to participate in the

**2017-2018 Catholic Arts and Academic Competition** for the following weekend contest(s):

- Cheer 4 Christ Cheerleading**
- STREAM Challenge**
- Sing@theCross**

I acknowledge and hold the Archdiocese of San Antonio and the Department of Catholic Schools, its staff and volunteers, harmless from any claim or legal action originated by, or on behalf of, students, parents, or other representatives, for emergency care and treatment, or liability while traveling or participating in any CAAC sanctioned activity.

Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I give consent for my child to be photographed, videotaped, and/or interviewed for possible use in newspapers, television, radio broadcasts, and/or websites in connection with the Archdiocese of San Antonio Department of Catholic Schools. *(Check one)*  YES  NO

Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Return this form to your CAAC Campus Coordinator\**

# Tips for Recruiting Students

The Catholic Arts and Academic Competition program is a reflection and an extension of the Catholic School classroom instruction. What are the pillars of the CAAC Program? CAAC teaches students to proclaim the faith as it emphasizes Catholic Identity. It allows students to become engaged in the Arts and Humanities, supports academic achievement, and encourages students to honor God within their competition community. All that and more! Dollar for dollar, the CAAC program is bound to have a high return on investment!

Good planning, support from administration, academic coaches with high expectations, past participating students who encourage their friends to sign up, and a friendly note to parents explaining the benefits of the CAAC academic and arts competition program are ingredients for a successful recruitment program.

Have a network to identify bright, motivated students. Work through teachers, counselors and siblings. Get good students to recruit their friends.

Build from the ground up. Build a high quality program.

Recruit for CAAC at "parent night" activities.

Mail fancy invitations.

As soon as the contestants are decided, make everyone a locker sign with their event and their name just like athletes get and put it up so that when they walk into school the next day, ta-da!

The next school day after a contest, announce all winners over the PA system during announcements.

Make cookies or buy goldfish or dessert mints and have them at the contest.

Take coloring books and crayons, card games, Pictionary, Guesstures and other board games. It gives students something to do on down time. They aren't bored and they go back to school talking about how fun it was.

Emphasize FUN!

Set aside a few days at the beginning of the school year when all students may register by signing up on one of the event posters in the hallway. Make these posters are very bright, visible and appealing. After three days of intense promotion and registering, remove all posters, and dispense the information to each sponsor, keeping a master copy on file with the CAAC Campus Coordinator.

Holds a "Academic & Arts Competition Fair" in the cafeteria to recruit new students. Coaches and past participants set up booths to promote and encourage students to sign up. "Goodie Bags" help in promoting the event.

Limit the number of events that one kid can enter in any year. This will add a bit of urgency to students as they try to get involved in events. As well, it forces coaches to dig a little deeper into the talent pool, and find kids who are not involved in other things and will dedicate themselves more to their academic events.

Have a pizza lunch at the beginning of school and invited all the students who had been recommended by teachers. Print a pamphlet about all the contests and sponsors as well as information about former competitors and what the contests have done for them. Mention the number of recent National Merit Scholars, valedictorians and salutatorians who had competed in academic events. Also, mention that they had gone to Harvard, Harvard Law, Rice, Duke Medical, UT, A&M, etc., and that many of them had received scholarships that were probably made available to them because of their participation. Start training young!

## More Tips for Recruiting Students

Acknowledge benefits such as visiting other schools, improved academic achievement, learning to manage time, setting goals, becoming your own advocate, working with teachers, taking notes, learning to study, getting along with students from different schools and just having fun.

Emphasize that participation in academic and arts events make them more attractive to schools and scholarship committees. Reiterated that top students need to compete academically because they do not know what is out there until they do. You may be the top students at your school, but that doesn't mean you can compete with the top students from other schools. Create a pamphlet and include pictures of students at the competitions, including students who won. Have current students also submit quotes about what the contests mean to them.

Emphasize the fun aspects of tournaments and practices. Meet in the mornings or afternoons to practice and order breakfast tacos or pizza, so it's also social as well as work-oriented. Also, students like to go to other schools and meet new people-so, that's a great plug for tournaments. The best thing that gets them into it all is for the sponsor or coach to build a team and guide them into having pride in competition.

Set aside a day after the end of the competition season to reward participants with a day-out fun activity in town. Decide on the guidelines for eligibility, but make it such that it's not just for the winners at the contest.

During your Awards Ceremony, specifically honor all academic and arts competition participants with a special certificate and having them all on stage, whereupon the teachers lead in a standing ovation. Students who witness this honoring may be drawn to participate the next year, knowing their own potential strength/interest in one of the CAAC events.

Integrate the skills and knowledge needed for the contest categories into the general curriculum. Have teachers administer shorten versions of a practice test, or have students perform a monologue in class and grade students. Then select your top performers and recruit for the contest. The students see the contest as relevant and feel more confident in competing because of the preparation they have had.

Display awards in your trophy case or a high visible area where parents and students can easily access.

Promote the event on your school marquee wishing your students "good luck" at the contest.

Include a CAAC page on your yearbook with pictures from the contests, participating students, and listing award recipients.

Create pins with CAAC logo to recognize participants or coaches.

Include CAAC information on your school's website with event dates, coaches and meeting times, and other information.

Have a priestly blessing before a contest at your school mass.

Invite parents to volunteer as a judge or grader at a contest. This will allow parents to see first-hand the inner workings of a contest and can therefore offer personal encouragement to other parents.

## Publicity & Recognition

Most people are not aware of the relationship between the schools and CAAC, nor the goals of the activities and programs, especially because of how young the competitive program is. Publicizing academic events is a good opportunity to inform your school community and the community of the faithful at large. One suggestion is to charge the task of getting the information out to your school liaison in charge of public relations. This individual should send press releases to announce the school's participation or announcing the results after the event. Wish the group luck on your school marquee. Post a welcome announcement if you are hosting a CAAC event. Make sure to take interesting photographs as well. For additional support in marketing, reach out to Hope for the Future, or your school community resources. Recognize students, teachers and volunteers at a school function or your church bulletin. The is such a large investment of time and resources into preparing and competing in CAAC, don't let those efforts go unnoticed.

## Use of CAAC Logo

The CAAC logo may not be reproduced on items to be sold. You may use the CAAC logo for any school-related publicity, including social media and school website. To request an electronic version, contact the Office of Enrichment Programs.

## Sponsor Training and Committees

All CAAC Campus Coordinators are urged to attend the initial orientation meeting. This meeting is typically held in August or September and updated handbook and manuals are distributed. After the orientation meeting, all documents are posted online and will be password protected. Easy access to documents is through the [Admin/Teacher Login](#) folders. Log on information can be obtained from your school principal.

Every school in the Archdiocese should have a CAAC Representative. In addition, individual teachers from the schools can volunteer to take a more prominent role as a contest committee member. The purpose of each committee is to review, discuss and recommend dates, locations, sponsorship opportunities, and other logistical elements of each contest event and categories. To learn more and to join a contest committee, please contact the Office of Enrichment Programs.

## Preparing for the Contest

With respect for preparation, there are several activities you might want to consider. Regular practice sessions are a good idea. It is important to keep in mind the fact that many students who might have an interest in your activity are already committed to other activities as well. Flexibility in scheduling is suggested. If too many of your potential participants have after-school activities then you might want to arrange practice sessions before school or during other appropriate times, such as an activity period or during the school day.

When conducting a practice session, try to always have a well-organized agenda for students in order to effectively and efficiently use the time allowed. The time you have with them will be limited so make the best use possible.

Review the contest rules and procedures, create or purchase sample tests, find recommended sites, hold mock contests, and bring in guest judges or clinicians to provide constructive critiques. Make sure students know exactly what to expect when they attend the contest.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## ELIGIBILITY

A student enrolled in a Catholic School in good academic and behavioral standing is permitted to participate in any CAAC contest. He/she may not be failing any subject nor receive less than a **70% overall grade point average** during the quarter in which the competition is being held. Each student entered in the online registration site must be **confirmed as eligible** 15 days before the contest.

## RECRUITMENT

The key to student involvement is **TEACHER INVOLVEMENT**. If you have an enthusiastic teacher and coach he or she will recruit enthusiastic students. Make academic competition a “high profile” activity. Recognize students for their efforts and successes. Show other students that adults value and appreciate their hard work and courage.

## COACHING POOL

An academic, cheer, or choir coach/director need to be an employee of the school. CAAC certainly encourages schools to use their employees as coaches and sponsors. However, the CAAC Campus Coordinator **MUST** be an employee of the school.

## CAAC RULE CHANGES AND UPDATES

If there are inconsistencies in the handbook or contest manuals, or changes need to be made to any category, an updated handbook or manual will be uploaded to the CAAC website and ADMIN DOCS CAAC file. The revised date will be indicated on the file name to ensure you have the most recent version.

## LATE REGISTRATION

Online registration will be “open” 30 days prior to the closing deadline. That is ample time to finalize your team and submit your names online. Late entries **WILL NOT** be accepted. Please plan ahead.

## REGISTRATION MISTAKES

The deadline to submit your school registration is 15 days prior to the contest. You will receive a registration confirmation via email. Please review your submission and notify the CAAC office of anything that needs to be changed within 24 hours. If the date falls on a weekend, you will have until 5:00 p.m. of the next business day to call or email your information.

## DROP & SUBSTITUTE

Take advantage of the substitution option in case any student drops after registration has been submitted. This will ensure you fill that paid contestant spot. On a 4-member team, you can drop one and substitute one. A 3-member team will also be eligible to compete if you do not have a sub. Teams of 2 or less will be disqualified. For cheer or sing contests, drops do not need to be reported. Do verify that you have sufficient participation certificates for all the students that do show up and compete.

## ANSWER KEY ERROR

In the case of an error on the answer key of an objectively-scored test, the graders must notify the contest director of the nature of the error to seek clarification. Papers should be graded on correctness rather than an incorrect answer key.

# Contest Calendar

*Dates subject to change - Always check the most recent DCS Newsletter and the CAAC website*

## 2017

August 10	CAAC Campus Coordinator Meeting
October 9	Online registration for <u>CHEER4CHRIST CHEERLEADING CONTEST</u> is OPEN
October 30	Online registration for <u>CHEER4CHRIST CHEERLEADING CONTEST</u> is CLOSED
November 8	Deadline to submit all student entry fees to the DCS
November 18	Cheer4Christ Cheerleading Contest
November 27	Online registration for <u>STREAM CHALLENGE (RED ZONE)</u> is OPEN
December 15	Online registration for <u>STREAM CHALLENGE (RED ZONE)</u> is CLOSED

## 2018

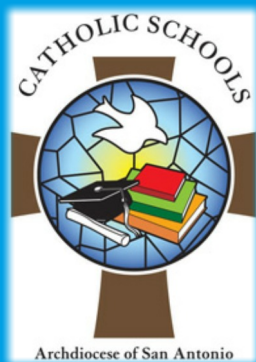
January 2	Online registration for <u>STREAM CHALLENGE (BLUE ZONE)</u> is OPEN
January 10	Deadline to submit all student entry fees to the DCS
January 20	<b>STREAM Challenge - RED ZONE Contest</b>
January 22	Online registration for <u>STREAM CHALLENGE (BLUE ZONE)</u> is CLOSED
January 31	Deadline to submit all student entry fees to the DCS
February 7	Deadline to submit all <u>CREATIVE ARTS</u> top entries to the DCS
February 10	<b>STREAM Challenge - BLUE ZONE Contest</b>
February 16	Online registration for <u>SING@THECROSS</u> is OPEN
March 9	Online registration for <u>SING@THECROSS</u> is CLOSED
March 28	Deadline to submit all student entry fees to the DCS
April 7	<b>sing@thecross Contest</b>
May	Cup of the Spirit Award



# Contest Prayer



Heavenly Father,  
Let us be witnesses to Your love through our activities.  
Help us put the same effort into You as we will into our competitions.  
Remind us that we are called to give our best and to participate with fairness and kindness to each other. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to participate in fellowship with our brothers and sisters throughout the Archdiocese. May we always do Your will and in all that we do, may we always give You the glory. We ask this through Your Most Holy Name. Amen.



*Encountering Christ  
United as Church  
Sent by the Spirit*

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