

Number	Entry	Category	Registration Requirements
501	Song Writing	Early Entry, Display	Sign up on student registration form. Submit for pre-judging. Dates on website.

OFFICIAL STATEMENT OF ACCEPTABLE MUSIC FOR EXCEL CONVENTION COMPETITION

The intent of music competition is to encourage students to develop their musical ability and apply their musical talents to Christian values. Competition arrangements are to be Christian, patriotic, or classical rather than secular. Music must be appropriate for a typical Pentecostal church service. EXCEL recognizes the wide spectrum of “acceptable” music among Pentecostals and strives to accommodate distinctive styles from different churches represented. EXCEL does not necessarily endorse music performed during competition. Judges will evaluate contestant compliance to criteria on the judge’s form without prejudice for or against any particular style of Christian music.

SONG WRITING RULES

Time Limit: 8 minutes

Format: Song must have at least one chorus and one verse. Other verses and bridges add depth to the song. The song must have text with notes of a melody written on a musical staff.

Required Materials: Sheet Music, Recording

- Contestant writes an original song with a Christian, evangelistic, or biblical theme.
- The contestant should keep in mind his purpose for the song-why it is written and what effect is being achieved.
- Either actual accompaniment or chord notations are required but the former can receive higher scoring.
- Contestant must submit a recording of the song to aid the judges, but the song writing is to be judged, not the performance.

JUDGING CRITERIA

POSSIBLE POINTS

I. Theme

A. Evangelistic, Biblical, Christian 25

II. Quality of Words

A. Original, fresh use of words; avoids triteness. 10

B. Meter is regular, without jolting variations. Rhythm is smooth. Rhyme, if used, is generally good. 10

C. Creativity and individuality of expression 5

III. Musicianship

A. Melody creative and “catchy” 10

B. Good use of Chord Progressions 10

C. Quality of accompaniment (preferably on musical staff) 10

IV. Technique

A. Neatness, general appearance 10

B. Spelling, punctuation, and correct use of musical notation. 10

Total Points 100