

CHINA STUDENT CONVENTION GUIDELINES

(Summary of ISC guidelines, available at www.aceministries.com)

HOW TO PREPARE

- 1. Select Your Event:** Choose those events that will best develop your talents and gifts for Christian service. (Read Guidelines very carefully for proper selection.) Your parents and supervisors may also suggest areas where they see potential in your life. **Note: All vocal and written entries must be in the English language.**
- 2. Plan and Schedule:** Consider using a Goal Card to track your preparation. "Those who fail to plan, plan to fail."
- 3. Get Input:** When you have selected your event(s), seek the advice of Godly adults in your family and church who have expertise in your area. Also, consider contacting professionals in this area for input (photographer, music teacher, etc).
- 4. Practice:** It is best to practice in a setting similar to actual competition. Ask for permission to practice before a group. Not only will this accustom you to performing before a group, it will help you test the effectiveness of your entry.
- 5. Pray:** Pray that your performance will bring glory to the Lord. Also, pray that the Student Convention will be a blessing to you and the others who attend. Pray that lives will be transformed and that many will commit their lives to service.
- 6. Do Your Best:** "Good, better, best, let's never rest, until our good is better, and our better is best." The results will never exceed the investment.
- 7. Have Confidence:** Don't think that you can't do well in competition. What counts is your commitment to practice. Some of the best winners have come from home schools or small schools of only a few high school-age students.

NATIONAL STUDENT CONVENTION - CHINA 2011

March 30 -April 2, Guangzhou, China

EVENTS LIST

Max. No entrants	ACADEMICS	No of entrants	ATHLETICS (15 events)
	General (17 events)	4/school	(401jr) Male 100-Meter Junior (9-12 yrs)
	(201c) Bible Memory (from PACEs)		(402jr) Male 200-Meter Junior (9-12 yrs)
	(202) Checkers	3/school	(401sr) Male 100-Meter Senior (13+)
3/school	(203 jr) Chess (9-12 yrs)		(402sr) Male 200-Meter Senior (13+)
	(203 sr) Chess (13+)	1/school	(406c) Male 400m relay team
	(204) Spelling		(411jr) Female 100-Meter Dash Junior
	(210) Science Exhibit – Collection		(411sr) Female 100-Meter Dash Senior
	(213) Science Exhibit – Theoretical		(412) Female 200-Meter Dash
	(212) Science Exhibit – Engineering	1/school	(416c) Female 400m relay team
	(214) Social Studies – Collection		(424) Soccer Kick
	(217) Bible Bowl (1 team from each school)	1/school	(424c) Mini Soccer (5-a-side) (Male only)
	Creative Composition		(426) Physical Fitness (male)
	(220) Essay Writing (English)	2/school	(427) Basketball (male team of 3)
	(221) Poetry Writing (English)		(428jr) Table Tennis (Singles) (M/F) (9-12 yrs)
	(221c) Poetry Writing (Chinese)		(428sr) Table Tennis (Singles) (M/F) (13+)
	(222) Short Story Writing (English)	4/school	(428c) Badminton jr
	(222c) Short Story Writing (Chinese)	4/school	(428c) Badminton sr
	(223) Web Site Design		<i>Provisional</i> (454) Tennis (singles)
	(224/5) PowerPoint Presentation		<i>Provisional</i> Mini Volleyball (Girls team of 4)
	(231+) Golden Apple, Lamb, Harp Award (may be done in Chinese)		MUSIC (9 events)
			Vocal
			(501) Solo (male/female)
			(505) Duet (male/female/mixed)
			(508) Trio (male/female/mixed)
		1/school	(512) Small Vocal Ensemble (5-15)
	ART (5 events)		Instrumental
	(301/2) Any Brush Art (Oil/ Watercolor)	4/school	(520) Solo Piano
	(304) Sketching (only Black & White-		(524) Solo Instrumental

	pencil/charcoal)		
	(305/6/7) Other (Pen & Ink, Colored Pencils, Pastels)		(531) Instrumental Duet
	(308) Wood Construction (<i>see guidelines</i>)		(532) Instrumental Trío
	(312) Clay Sculpture (<i>must be fired clay</i>)		(542) Small Inst. ensemble (5-10 musicians)
			PLATFORM-SPEECH DRAMA (10 events)
	PHOTOGRAPHY (C/B&W) (3 events)		(603) Dramatic Monologue (f) /dialogue (m/f)
	(331) Scenic		(604) Expressive Reading (M/f)
	(333) Plants (NO ANIMALS)	3/school	(607) Poetry Recitation (M/F)
	(335) Character Trait Picture		(609) Preaching (M) 13+
	NEEDLE/THREAD (3 events)		(609c) Preaching (Chinese) 13+
	(351) Dresses	2/school	(620) One-Act Play (only 5 actors) (2+ scenes)
	(355) Counted Cross Stitch (not printed)		(621) Illustrated Storytelling (M/F)
	(359/360) Knitting (or crochet)	3/school	(623) Puppets (M/F)
	<i>No other needlework can be considered</i>	1/school	(627) Radio Program
			(628) Scripture Video

REMINDERS NATIONAL STUDENT CONVENTION, CHINA 2011

APPEARANCE & DRESS STANDARDS

APPEARANCE CHECK Appearance will be checked prior to all rallies and events. To avoid **embarrassment, please abide by the dress code.**

DRESS SCHEDULE

Rallies	ACE dress code or School Uniform (including <i>dress/skirt for girls, dress pants/trousers for boys, button shirt/blouse</i> for everyone) Dress shoes (no tennis shoes).
Wednesday	School Uniform or ACE dress code (no tie is required unless it is part of your uniform)
Thursday	School Uniform or ACE dress code
Friday	(School PE uniform) No tight or form fitting clothing will be permitted. Shorts should touch the knee.
Saturday	School Uniform or ACE dress code

Hair – boys’ hair should be off the ears and above the collar.

OTHER SPECIFIC REMINDERS

1. Minimum age: 9 years old by December 31, 2009 (13 to qualify for International Convention)
2. **Deadline for registration: Feb 5, 2010**
3. Maximum entries per student: 12 (Please note that students may only compete once in any event)
4. For 2010 every student must supply judge’s forms. Read the ISC manual to make sure your entry meets the requirements for the category you have entered. www.aceministries.com/conventions/ISC.aspx
5. Photographs must be 20cm by 25 cm (approximately) and mounted on card (not framed). The student’s name and details should be on THE BACK.
6. Any backing music (whether live or recorded) for instrumental and vocal accompaniment must be ONLY PIANO. No other instruments or arrangements are allowed.
7. All art must be framed and ready to hang. The student’s name and details should be on THE BACK.
8. All exhibits should have the student’s name, school, entry category, and title on a card on THE BACK.
9. All creative entries must be the original work of the student and a Creative Composition Affidavit must be submitted.
10. All entries must have been begun no earlier than the end of last year's NSC (30 March 2009).
11. No repeat entries are permitted. That is, entries that have been used in NSC before.
12. Chess & checkers contestants should bring their own sets if possible.
13. Please pay close attention to the time limits for platform and music events.
14. **Bible Bowl books:**

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Genesis	Exodus	Leviticus	Numbers	Deuteronomy	Ezekiel
Joshua	Judges	Ruth	Ezra	Nehemiah	Esther
Job	Psalms	Proverbs	Ecclesiastes	Song of Solomon	Lamentations
I Samuel	II Samuel	I Kings	II Kings	I Chronicles	II Chronicles
Nahum	Zephaniah	Jeremiah	Habakkuk	Malachi	Zechariah
Obadiah	Jonah	Amos	Hosea	Isaiah	Micah
Joel	Haggai				Daniel
New Testament					
Matthew	Mark	Luke	John	Acts	Revelation
Galatians	I Thessalonians	II Thessalonians	I Corinthians	II Corinthians	Romans
Ephesians	Philippians	Colossians	Philemon	I Timothy	Titus
II Timothy	Hebrews	James	I Peter	II Peter	I John
		II John	III John	Jude	

ACADEMICS

SPELLING: Each contestant is given a piece of paper and is assigned a desk. The words will be chosen from the ACE list by the Spelling judge and must be spelled exactly as they appear on the official A.C.E. list. Alternate or British spellings will not be allowed. The judge will pronounce each word twice and give a definition for the word. Contestants will then write the word. Each contestant will write all words. Winners will be selected according to accuracy.

SCIENCE: Science projects may be done by one or two contestants. Exhibits must occupy an area no wider than 1.2 metres. No entry creating a safety hazard will be allowed. Dangerous chemicals; offensive odors; explosives; open flames; or live animals must not be exhibited. Exhibits requiring running water are not permitted.

1. **Collection**—classification and display. Examples: rocks, insects, and leaves. Man-made objects are not allowed. **Only the portion of work that has been accomplished after the completion of the previous ISC may be submitted.**
2. **Engineering**—Build electronic equipment, optical devices, solar energy converter, etc., using scientific principles to perform a task. Exhibit should include plans, diagrams, schematics, parts list, etc., so that another person could take your plans and duplicate your project. Do not use commercial kits.
3. **Theoretical**—An exhibit displaying a discussion of a scientific principle, concept, technique, or theory using charts, graphs, diagrams, photographs, audio-visual, or other visual aids.

HINTS FROM THE SCIENCE JUDGES: Your library may have books on science projects or Science Fairs. These books will give the student many helpful ideas, but the student still must be creative in his project. Labels that are neatly lettered and attached will enhance the project.

SOCIAL STUDIES: Social studies projects of the following types may be done by one or two contestants. Only the portion of work that has been done after the completion of the previous International Student Convention may be submitted.

Collection—classification and display. Examples: aboriginal artifacts (arrowheads, spear heads, tools, etc.), coins, stamps, battlefield artifacts (bullets, buttons, canteens, etc.), and flags.

ESSAY WRITING: A contestant chooses a topic and writes a paper on an evangelistic, inspirational, Biblical, Christian growth, patriotic, or historical theme. (Suggested topics are listed in Manual.) An essay is a written composition (500-700 words) governed by one controlling idea called the thesis. This thesis should be supported by at least three main points. In order to make the essay interesting and persuasive, each main point should be explained with specific examples, illustrations, facts, quotations, etc. Give careful attention that the essay includes an interesting introduction, with the thesis given in the last sentence of that introduction. The essay should end with a clear note of finality, with the conclusion reiterating the main points covered in the composition. All sides of the argument must be handled, not just the writer's opinion. For tips on Essay Writing, see English PACE 1126, pages 25-26.

HINTS FROM THE ESSAY WRITING JUDGES: Read over the Judge's Form before writing. Judges look for organization and persuasiveness in essays. Begin your entry with a strong thesis clearly stated in the first paragraph, then follow through logically, smoothly, and persuasively to support that thesis. Use your own idea and **avoid clichés or generalizations that are not supported by examples or illustrations.** Quotes are a good way to support a thesis but should be used sparingly; the judges are interested in what you have to say. Careful attention should be given to organization, and your outline will be a valuable tool to keep ideas flowing in the proper order. Judges also look at the technical merits of the piece. Writing should be in the **third** person unless you have a specific reason for using first or second person. **PROOF YOUR WORK!** The essay should be neat and free of typing, spelling, grammatical, and punctuation errors. Watch for pronoun/antecedent agreement, wordiness and redundancies, parallelism, and point-of-view shifts. Finish with a strong, closing statement. Refer to English PACEs 1126 and 1127 for suggestions.

POETRY WRITING: The contestant writes an original poetry composition with a Christian, patriotic, Biblical, evangelistic, or historical theme. The contestant should keep in mind his purpose for the poem—why it is being written and what effect is being achieved. The poem may be narrative or discursive with an assumed or personal point of view. All poems are lyrical, though usually not written to be sung. You may, however, specifically choose to craft your poem as lyrics to be set to music. Plagiarism of any kind will automatically disqualify the entry.

HINTS FROM THE POETRY WRITING JUDGES: Judges look for poems that are neat in appearance, complete in thought, and effective in message and impact. The true purpose of a poem is to transmit in words a complete thought and, at the same time, to move emotions. A poem must have a reason for existence; the emotional impact and a resultant change in attitude is that reason. If your poem is correct in form, yet is not logically correct or emotionally stimulating, the poem will not score well. A poem must DO something, not merely talk about something. The theme, then, becomes of utmost importance; for, if the poem is to do something, it must do something worthwhile. Second, but still important, is the form of the work. If the form is weak or inconsistent, it will not fall correctly on the ear, causing the message to be lost to the reader. Poems should also have a lyric quality, though they may not be intended for music. Remember, a poem can only do ONE thing, not several. Strive for unity of purpose and skill of execution. Technical errors of any sort, especially those that might be thought of as minor, such as a misplaced comma or misspelled word, often represent major weaknesses in aspects that are less obvious to the trained eye and ear. A scrupulous writer always attends carefully to the smallest and most obvious detail. What is said is always at the mercy of how it is said. When this principle is ignored, the reader will not be guided by the writer's thoughts but by his own. These thoughts may be counterproductive to the writer's subject and intention and become an unconscious use of stock responses, formulaic phrases, hackneyed expressions, irrelevant associations, and sentimentality rather than honesty. A poem that effectively treats a subject moves the reader to a place where he has never been before. Refer to Third Edition English PACEs 1105 and 1106 for ideas.

SHORT STORY WRITING: The contestant writes and submits a fiction composition of 600-1,000 words. The story may be based on real experience; it may be purely imaginary; or it may be a fictionalized report of an historical happening. The story **MUST** have an evangelistic, Biblical, Christian growth, patriotic, or historical theme.

HINTS FROM THE SHORT STORY JUDGES: Judges look for stories that are original and imaginative yet believable. It is important that your Short Story contain a balance of all the elements of narrative fiction: plot, setting, characterization, conflict, and resolution. It should not overemphasize one to the detriment of the others. Because of space limitations, it is important that you develop each facet of your story carefully and thoughtfully, paying particular attention to your choice of words. Use words economically, that is, do not use several trite, colorless words when one strong, imaginative word could replace them and enhance the tone of your story. Neither should you waste good words. Make each one count. Consider it carefully. Is it there for a reason? Is it used accurately? Does it tell the reader exactly what you want him to know, or does he have to guess at your meaning? When you are satisfied that your story says what you want it to say, check it carefully to eliminate errors in grammar, punctuation, and spelling. Also check the word count, since judges will subtract points if you exceed the limits.

WEB SITE DESIGN GUIDELINES: The Web site will be judged real-time over the Internet, so it is more than an academic exercise. It is to be a fully functioning site that must have a clear, practical purpose, which it pursues with creativity and skill. Students are free to use any platform, tools, programs, computer languages, other available resources, or their own development tools. Remember, however, there are a variety of browsers that may attempt to access the site. Site must consist of more than a home page (navigate). No more than two students may participate in the design and development of the site.

Possible project areas (These are not limits.): **Informational**—Offer or provide information; **Promotional**—Promote school and/or church; **Service**—Offer a service to meet the needs of individuals or groups.

HINTS FROM THE JUDGES: Size is not part of the judging criteria! More is not necessarily better. However, there must be some navigation in the site. It is important that a site distinguish itself through quality and value to the user as compared to other sites competing for the same audience. The point values in judging are weighted in favor of the structural organization because that is essential to site functionality and usefulness. Poor content is changeable, but poor design is the death of a site.

POWERPOINT PRESENTATION: The PowerPoint competition entry is to be a user-directed, stand alone presentation using no live Internet links. The student is free to use any element that PowerPoint will support, as long as the presentation does not violate the A.C.E. standards of dress, appearance, and conduct as presented in these guidelines. No more than two students may participate in the design and development of the presentation.

TYPES OF ENTRIES: 1. **Linear**—Presentation begins and runs through to an end. In a linear presentation there is a set sequence to the presentation, starting at the beginning and continuing to the conclusion. No navigation is required.
2. **Nonlinear**—User is given navigational control and can wander through the content at will. In a nonlinear presentation the user can pick and choose, using a random route through the presentation.

HINTS FROM THE JUDGES: Size is not part of the judging criteria! More is not necessarily better. Balance good content and a visually attractive presentation. For help with graphic design there are a number of helpful sites on the Web. Be sure that all elements in your presentation meet the A.C.E. standards (music, video clips, photos, etc.).

Platform Division

HINTS FROM PUBLIC SPEAKING JUDGES

In public speaking, the key word is **CONVINCING!** Whether you present a dramatic monologue, a famous speech, or a recitation, your task is to convince the listener that these are your words, your thoughts, and your feelings. If you are portraying a specific character, you should make the audience believe you really are that person. Many factors contribute to a convincing performance: costuming (if allowed), gestures, posture, voice inflection, and emotion. Match each carefully to your script and character. Perhaps the most frequent comments from the judges deal with "emotion." Emotion should be carefully balanced. If you portray too little emotion, your performance will appear bland and colorless. If you portray too much emotion, you will appear harsh, phony, and overbearing. Also be careful that your emotion does not detract from clear, crisp, easily understood diction. The key—preparation and practice! Practice in front of a mirror and use every opportunity to perform before others. The Speech PACes (1-6) are a wonderful resource.

DRAMATIC MONOLOGUE: A contestant **characterizes** an individual, expressing that individual's thoughts, emotions, and reactions in a particular set of circumstances or events relevant to that individual. The presentation must be in the first person. Contestants must **write & perform** this original dramatic presentation. The monologue must be memorized and last 4 - 6 minutes. The contestant may choose a Historical, Biblical or Fictional/imaginary character and setting. The intent is to convey dramatic skills in which the contestant demonstrates ability and training in **acting** and **script writing**. Contestant should wear a costume or garment that helps create a mood. They are allowed **ONE** hand-held prop.

EXPRESSIVE READING: An expressive reading is a **memorized** interpretation by a contestant of a reading which consists of a dialogue between two or more people or a reading in the first person. The reading must have a moral and/or Scriptural value, or must highlight Christian heritage or patriotism. (Poetry or stories with a plot, climax, and ending **CANNOT** be included.) Examples: (a) Song

of Moses (Exodus 15:1-19), (b) Naomi and Ruth (Ruth 1), (c) Paul before Agrippa (Acts 26). The script may be self-written. Create an atmosphere by using tone of voice, inflections, pauses, gestures, and movement (utilize space available). No costumes, props, sets, or singing allowed. Time limit is four (4) minutes minimum, six (6) minutes maximum.

POETRY RECITATION: The contestant chooses a poem (4 to 6 minutes) to recite by memory, using all the skills of a good dramatic presentation. The poem may be: (a) Biblical, (b) patriotic, (c) of high moral content, (d) about our Christian heritage. No costumes, props, or singing allowed. Hint: Contestants should avoid choppy presentations. Deliver complete thoughts, not necessarily "line."

PREACHING: A contestant must prepare and deliver an **original** sermon not to exceed 8 minutes. The sermon may be evangelistic or follow one of the suggested topics for oratory and essay. Each sermon will be judged on Biblical content, outline, and effective delivery, as well as on the general guidelines given under "Platform Division"

HINTS FROM THE PREACHING JUDGES: Your first task in preparing to preach is to develop a good outline. This will be the heart of your sermon. Since you must adhere to your outline carefully, you will want to make it do its best work for you. Your outline should flow naturally from the Scripture text and should be detailed and clearly organized with an introduction and conclusion. Be sure to include fitting illustrations and supporting Scriptures that lead logically to your conclusion. While notes are permissible, it should not be obvious that you are using them. Have someone evaluate your delivery to be sure it includes variety in gesture, voice inflection, and volume. Variety is important as it attracts your listeners' attention more than sheer volume or speed can; loud and fast are not always best! Above all, be sure your message is scriptural, is theologically correct, and leads the listener to an appropriate decision about his Christian life.

ONE-ACT PLAY: Contestants must present an **original** play of 6-10 minutes (written by students and/or sponsor) or an adaptation of a play (having given proper credit to the original author). The play should depict or illustrate: (a) soulwinning, (b) scriptural truths, (c) our Christian heritage, (d) defense of the Christian faith. The play must include at least two scenes and scripts are to be memorized. The play may NOT be: (a) musical, (b) Reader's Theater, (c) choral speaking.

Minimum of 3 and maximum of 5 players (this includes technicians, musicians, and all others needed for production), though each player may be used to portray more than one character. Females must play female roles; males must play male roles.

HINTS FROM THE DRAMA JUDGES: Drama is the way characters relate to one another. Therefore, the most important thing in your One-Act Play will be the convincing portrayal of characters. This is the essence of acting. All the elements of other speaking events apply to the actors in your one-act play: movement, gesture, voice inflection, diction, and variety. Perhaps the hardest thing to master in acting is that appearance of spontaneity that makes the audience believe the scene is happening for the first time. To create spontaneity, study the way people react to things they hear, and then try to build those natural reactions in your characters.

ILLUSTRATED STORYTELLING: The contestant tells, from memory, a Bible-based story (missionary adventure, "Jungle Doctor," Danny Orlis, etc.) of 4- 6 minutes. The script must have the basic elements of a story—beginning, plot, climax, and conclusion. It must also have an appropriate moral or Christian application. The storyteller may use such items as flannelgraph, visual aids, costume, sound effects, accompaniment, or any "prop" that enhances story material. Contestant must use at least two hand-held illustrations (picture, tools, books, etc.), but **NO** puppets can be used. Note: Costumes add impact. The contestant must indicate to judges to which age group he/she is speaking.

HINTS FROM THE ILLUSTRATED STORYTELLING JUDGES: Since contestants in Illustrated Storytelling use some kind of visual aids, one of the keys to an effective presentation is the ability to control those visual aids easily, smoothly, and attractively without interrupting the flow of the story. If you are using story cards, practice turning them without looking down. If you are using flannelgraph, make sure your pieces will stick without distracting pats and pokes. Practice placing the pieces accurately and quickly without turning your back to the audience or stopping the story. Be sure your visuals are in good repair. If they are old, have them re-drawn or repaired. In addition to improving their use of visual aids, storytellers should follow the suggestions given for other speaking categories. **THE JUDGES** look for exciting narrative, effective dialogue, props, smooth flow of ideas, and a dramatic climax.

PUPPETS: The student should prepare a script for a live puppet presentation of 5 - 8 minutes. Scripts must be tastefully presented, avoiding slang insinuation of questionable language. Also avoid references to television or worldly practices such as movies, dancing, or mixed swimming. No more than two puppeteers may be involved in the act and scripts must be memorized. Homemade and/or professionally made puppets may be used. Recorded background music or sound effects may be used, but contestants must perform **LIVE** all verbal communication.

HINTS FROM THE PUPPET JUDGES: Puppeteers should remember that their primary objective is to minister, not just to entertain. Occasional jokes, in good taste, will help keep your audience interested in your message, but don't waste your time on too many jokes. The message comes first! Here are some practical hints to build your puppet-handling skills. To make your puppet appear more realistic, manipulate his mouth by moving your thumb, not your fingers. When a human opens his mouth to talk, he drops his bottom jaw. He does not raise his whole head. Similarly, real people rarely stand completely still, neither should puppets. Keep them alive and moving without overdoing it. Finally, look for creative, realistic ways to get your puppet on stage. Avoid what one judge called the "pop-up toaster" entrance. You will also be judged on your stage. It should be sturdy and neat. A wrinkled, wobbly stage is very distracting to the audience.

RADIO PROGRAM: Contestants present an **original** radio program of 4 – 8 minutes written or adapted by students or sponsor. The **drama** (for presentation over a Christian radio station) must convey a Christian moral or character-building theme. Specify audience to whom the program is being presented. The contestants' taped recording will be judged.

No more than five (5) players and/or student technicians may be involved, though contestants may portray more than five characters (males doing male roles and females doing female roles). Adults may give technical guidance and advice, but the preparation and production must be done by the students.

HINTS FROM THE RADIO PROGRAM JUDGES: Prepare your script carefully, giving attention to introduction, body, and conclusion so the intended "message" is conveyed. Make a presentation with a specific audience in mind (children, teens, or adults) Practice until you are thoroughly familiar with your script before making a recording in order to avoid monotones and mechanical expressions. Remember when presenting your program:

1. The audience can only hear you, not see your face. (Gestures & facial expressions are of no value, so stress voice inflections.) Present your radio drama so that it comes alive for the listening audience.
2. Speak into the microphone at the appropriate distance to avoid crackling, distortion, or breathing sounds and avoid background distractions such as crackling or shuffling papers, scraping chairs, or clearing throat.
3. Avoid long pauses or "dead time," pronounce words clearly, and don't mumble.

Art Division

GENERAL GUIDELINES: Entries must be the sole work of the student (**cannot have ANY help from teacher or parents**) and must have been started after the completion of the previous Student Convention. Draw from **your own ideas** for subject matter and composition. **Copying of other artwork should not be presented as the original work of the student.**

TYPES OF ENTRIES

- ✓ **Brush:** Oil, Watercolor
- ✓ **Sketching**—any single colour sketching medium (charcoal, pencil, etc),
- ✓ **Other** Colored pencils, Pen and Ink, Pastels
- ✓ **Woodwork:** Wood Construction
- ✓ **Clay modeling:** Sculpture: Entries in this category must be entirely hand built and can be made out of any **CLAY OR POLYMER CLAY**. The use of molds or greenware available from craft houses **is not allowed**. Slip molds may be used if the mold is made by the student, in which case, the mold must be submitted as part of the project. [NOTE: some clay sculptures may require kiln-firing.] The entry may not exceed 60 cm in any direction (length, width, or height).

Needle and Thread Division

NEEDLECRAFT No Needle/Thread entry should attempt to portray the face or image of Christ.

1. **Counted Cross Stitch**—**No stamped** cross stitch will be accepted. Pictures must be framed without glass. The back of all work must be accessible for judging. Example: tablecloths, place mats, pictures, samplers.
2. **Dresses**—church dresses, casual dresses, tailored dresses one piece only. **All fashions must meet A.C.E. dress requirements.** Do not submit miniskirts, slacks, pantsuits, shorts, bathing suits, sleepwear, or garments with low necklines. Slits in skirts/dresses must meet the A.C.E. dress standard—slit no higher than the bottom of the knee. These rules also apply to the subjects used in **Needlework** entries. Thin or "see-through" fabrics must be fully lined **WITH OPAQUE MATERIAL; LACE MATERIAL IS SEE-THROUGH.**
- 3 **Crochet**—Examples: baby afghans (no dimension smaller than 90 cm and no dimension larger than 120 cm), shawls, tablecloths, bedspreads, dresses, sweaters, baby garment sets (sweater, cap, mittens, or booties).
- 3b. **Knitting**—**Machine knitting not allowed.** Examples: baby afghans, shawls, tablecloths, bedspreads, dresses, sweaters, baby garment sets (sweater, cap, mittens, or booties).

HINTS FROM THE NEEDLE/THREAD JUDGES: The qualities the judges look for are originality and careful attention to details. High points are given for neatness, cleanliness, uniformity, and precision (finishing for presentation).

GARMENTS: Be creative. Fit your pattern to meet your body shape and size, and the color should be appropriate for your personal color palette. It is very important to be modest. Pay close attention to where seams, buttons, decorations, necklines, and hemlines are positioned.

NEEDLEWORK: It is best not to have any knots or loose ends. When working with an even number of threads, you may cut your thread twice the length needed, fold in half, thread loose ends through eye of needle, bring needle up from back side of fabric, go down and catch loop end of thread with needle. Now you have started your work without knots or loose ends. To tie off without knots, simply hide ends in same color thread as previous stitches. When framing your needlework picture, **DO NOT PUT GLASS** in the frame. The glass distorts stitches and makes judging difficult.

Photography Division

GENERAL GUIDELINES

Contestants may use any camera. In China, entries may be colour or black & white. They will compete in the same category. Computer software may be used for red eye, cropping, rotating, color balance and tonal adjustment (lightness, darkness, and contrast—not enhancement), and printing only. No other enhancement allowed in these categories. Entries must have been taken within 15 months of the previous ISC and must not have been entered in any other contest, and must be the sole work of the student. Entries should be approximately 20 x 25 cm mounted with a mat approximately 28 x 35 cm (no frames).

TYPES OF ENTRIES

1. Scenic—A picturesque outdoor setting.
2. Plants OR Animals – A picture of living animals, birds, flowers, plants, insects, etc., taken in their natural or unnatural habitat (zoo pictures permitted). Alternate years for this category: Even-numbered years (2012 etc) are for **Animals**. Odd-numbered years (2011 etc) are for **Plants**.
3. Character Trait Picture—A picture that portrays one of the sixty character traits. **The Character Trait must be listed on the 3 x 5 card attached to your entry.**

HINTS FROM THE PHOTOGRAPHY JUDGES

Judges will pay close attention to the technical qualities of your work. Next to content comes composition. This includes the number of subjects, their arrangements, and the background of the picture. When composing, keep your photography simple. Too much symbolism or clutter is distracting to the viewer. Avoid placing the main subject “dead center.” This produces a dull, static effect, which does not please the eye. Check the background for distracting, objectionable elements - ugly telephone wires or distracting blotches of color can detract from the main subject. Nothing in the photo, even though in the background and out of focus, should violate the A.C.E. standard of dress, behavior, etc. Finally, pay close attention to the finishing touches. Your photo should be clean and free of scratches, dust specks, or wrinkles, and should be matted attractively. Often these are the factors that are used to break ties.

Music Division

OFFICIAL A.C.E. STATEMENT OF ACCEPTABLE MUSIC FOR STUDENT CONVENTION

Competition arrangements are to be **Christian or patriotic** rather than secular. Classical instrumental music is allowed as long as it is non-offensive to Christian values or good taste. Music sung or played with a jumpy, sensual, or worldly style is not acceptable. Contemporary Christian, jazz, gospel rock, or gospel country music are not acceptable. Here, "Contemporary" refers to a style of music, not the date in which a piece was written. Music must be appropriate for a typical **conservative** fundamental church service (musical arrangement, text and presentation). **Narration and/or dramatic dialogue are not allowed.**

PERFORMANCE TECHNIQUES

Presentation—Give careful attention that the musical presentation does not reflect secular styles (breathy, sensual, and so on). “Crooning,” “sliding,” “sagging,” or other such terms are vocal crutches and should be avoided. Use caution that the presentation is not done in an “**entertainment**” attitude or style.

Movement—No choreography, planned or unnecessary bodily movement (including hand clapping, foot stomping, signing, finger snapping, etc.), will be permitted. Occasional movement of the hands/arms for dramatic affect (i.e. placing hand to heart, raising hand toward Heaven) is permitted but should be used sparingly. Competitors should stand erect; bend knees slightly to relax rigid leg muscles, with arms and shoulders relaxed and thumbs resting at the side-seam of clothing.

GENERAL PERFORMANCE GUIDELINES

If you do not follow these guidelines you will not place in competition. You may sing a cappella; be accompanied by an adult or student (of convention age) **playing a piano**; or use an accompaniment tape/CD (**piano only**). All vocal music is to be memorized. In instrumental categories, the musical score may be used. There should be a preselected spokesperson for each group who will introduce the group, the school represented, and the title of the song to be performed.

CATEGORIES

- **VOCAL: Solo, Duet, Trio, Small Vocal ensemble** Time limit: 5 minutes
- **INSTRUMENTAL: Solo, Duet, Piano Solo, Instrumental Trio, Small Instrumental ensemble.** Time limit: 5 minutes
- **Instrumental Duet** - An Instrumental Duet is a combination of **any** two instruments (woodwind, string, brass, etc.) played together with or without accompaniment. Piano accompaniment is permissible and may or may not be counted as one of the two instruments.
- **Instrumental Trio Competition**
An Instrumental Trio is a combination of any **three** instruments (woodwind, string, brass, etc.) played together with or without accompaniment. Piano accompaniment is permissible and may or may not count as one of the three instruments.

HINTS FROM THE MUSIC JUDGES

Most of the music judges' comments deal with intonation (the ability to sing and play in tune) and rhythmic accuracy. In many musical traditions, and especially in gospel music, it is important for the performer to be able to improvise and make various changes to the composition as it is performed. In this competition, however, the judges are requiring the music to be performed exactly as it is written.

Often, student performers have lost many points because they performed a piece according to the way they have heard it in the past instead of the way the music indicates.

Both vocalist and instrumentalists need to be aware of the fact that good intonation is often made easier by obtaining a qualified instructor who can teach the basic of breathing, posture, and other items that are the foundation of good musical performance.

The accompaniment is a vitally important part of a musical entry. If the accompanist does not play well, it will cause the score to be lowered. The judges will allow improvisation in the piano accompaniment; but not in the actual entry performance. Do not choose music that is not overly difficult in an effort to impress the judges. It is better to choose simpler music that you can perform well.

Athletic Division

BADMINTON: Rally Scoring. Serve across the court from alternate sides. Service changes every 2 points. Play to 11 points with a lead of 2 required to win. Semi finals and finals will be played to the best of 3 games.

TABLE TENNIS: similar to badminton rules above.

PHYSICAL FITNESS: SIT UPS - Arms crossed flat against chest with elbows tight to body. **PUSH UPS.** Chest must be down with straight body. **PULL UPS:** Student may hang between pull ups but count stops when their feet touch the floor.