

Eleventh Episcopal District
YOUNG PEOPLE'S AND CHILDREN'S DIVISION
of the
Women's Missionary Society
African Methodist Episcopal Church



CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES

Theme: Living My Best Life

#Protecting Our Brand

Scripture: John 10:10

February 15-17, 2019

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MOST FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BLACK HERITAGE WEEKEND

1. What is the Black Heritage Weekend?

The Black Heritage Weekend is an activity sponsored by the 11th Episcopal District Young People's and Children's Division (YPD) of the Women's Missionary Society of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. It is a weekend of activities designed to promote high self-esteem, academic achievement, and spiritual growth, while focusing on our African-American and Bahamian heritage.

Under the leadership of Episcopal YPD Director, Sanjena Clay, this event was initiated in 1987 with 600 young people participating. Since that time the number of participants has increased to over 3,000, and the event has been held in many places across the state of Florida.

Traditionally, during a weekend in February, young people exhibit their talents in poetry, monologue, spelling, visual art/poster, oration, vocal/instrumental/dance performances, chess and essay writing. Competitive events are divided into age categories with first, second, and third place winners selected from each event and age category. Conference team competitions include drama, cheerleading, brain bowl, basketball, volleyball and kickball.

The weekend culminates with Sankofa (service of praise and thanksgiving).

The service is planned and carried out by members of the YPD.

2. Who is eligible to participate?

Any YPDer between the ages of 2 and 26 is eligible to participate in the Black Heritage Weekend competitive events. **The competitor's age category is based on his or her age on the competition day.**

3. When and where will the Black Heritage weekend convene?

This year's activities will be held on Friday, February 15, 2019 through Sunday, February 17, 2019, on the campuses of Edward Waters College and James Weldon Johnson Preparatory Middle School in Jacksonville, FL.

4. What must I do to register for participation?

The local YPD Director must register ALL competitors, chaperones and observers during the **registration period : November 30, 2018 through December 31, 2018.**

- a. Visit www.blackheritageweekend.com and click on the "Black Heritage Weekend" link to see the Criteria and Guidelines, Hotel Accommodations, Spelling Bee Words, Brain Bowl Questions, Medical Authorization form and the Registration form.
- b. **Remit NON-REFUNDABLE payment of \$30.00 for each competitor, chaperon, observer and volunteer through the online registration process. Provide the completed and notarized medical authorization form for each person age 2-26 to the Conference YPD Director by January 5, 2019.**
- c. **Three (3) copies** of the poems, monologues, orations, and/or instrumental music your competitors will use in their respective events. **Competitor's copies MUST be submitted in a manila folder labeled with the Competitor's name and age, Church name and city and Pastor's name, Conference and Conference YPD Director's name.**

5. **How many events may I compete?**

No one should sign up for more than 3 events (at least ONE must be academic).

You will not be allowed to compete in team sporting events if you do not participate in one of the academic events. The Conference Director must approve your participation in the conference/team sporting events, Brain Bowl, Drama and/or Step Team.

When selecting events, PLEASE be mindful of time conflicts.

6. **Where should I make hotel reservations?**

Hotel Accommodations will be listed on the website. When making your reservation, please call the hotel's direct number, and identify yourself as a participant with the Eleventh Episcopal District Black Heritage Weekend. **Be sure to ask the hotel about their policy of accepting checks and/or tax exempt certificates.**

7. **What should I wear?**

Remember, this is a church event and clothing should be appropriate for young Christian males and females. Please do not wear back outs, short shorts, sagging pants, daisy dukes, or doo rags.

On Friday, February 15, 2019, you are encouraged to wear casual clothing with your Episcopal District, or Church T-shirt. On Saturday, February 16, 2019, you are encouraged to wear casual clothing. The YPD colors (forest green and white or black and white) are strongly encouraged to show our unity; however, Conferences may use alternate colors for the Conference competitions. Please consider weather conditions. On Sunday, February 17, 2019, African or Bahamian garb should be worn for the Sankofa Service.

8. **What does the registration fee include?**

The registration fee includes a Black Heritage Weekend souvenir and your Black Heritage Weekend Name Badge. Participants are responsible for all of their meals. NO meals will be provided, however, food concessions will be available.

9. **Will I receive an award if I win?**

All participants will receive a certificate of participation. The First, Second, and Third place winners from each room, based on age category will receive award medallions. Award medallions will be given to Conference Team winners.

Awards will be given immediately following the Sunday, Sankofa service.

IMPORTANT!!!

Youth are expected to conduct themselves in a disciplined manner. NO profanity or disrespectful behavior or comments will be tolerated. This event is sponsored by our youth organization and we expect all young people in attendance to represent the AME Church in a positive, disciplined and Christian manner. Remember, we do not limit the number of youth who attend, but we do encourage and prefer **QUALITY AS OPPOSED TO QUANTITY.**

**BLACK HERITAGE WEEKEND
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 2019 -- 10:00 a.m. – Final Planning Meeting

11th District Headquarters--Working Meeting for Coordinators and Conference YPD Directors

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2019

Time	Activity	Place
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Registration	Adams/Jenkins Sports & Music Center – Front Desk
7:00 p.m.	Contemporary Worship featuring our Episcopal Leadership, the EWC Marching Band, EWC Purple Thunder, and much more... and dancing	Adams/Jenkins Sports & Music Center (EWC Gym)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2019

Time	Activity	Place
8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Registration	Adams/Jenkins Sports & Music Center – Front Desk
8:45 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	Drop Off Posters Drop Off Photographs	Adams/Jenkins Sports & Music Center Lobby
8:00 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.	Judges' Orientation	TBA
8:00 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.	Volunteers' Briefing	TBA
9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	Morning Inspirations, YPD Elections Introduction of Special Guests Review of Schedule	Adams/Jenkins Sports & Music Center (EWC Gym)
COMPETITIONS		
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Drama	JWJ Classroom
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Spelling Bee	EWC Milne Auditorium
10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Black Monologue	Classroom
10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Black Poetry	JWJ Classroom
10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.	Vocal Solo	EWC Classroom
10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.	Vocal Ensemble	EWC Chorus Room
10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Instrumental Solo	EWC Band Room
10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.	Instrumental Ensemble	EWC Chorus room
10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.	Dance/Pantomime Solo	EWC Warming Rooms
10:00a.m.— 5:00 p.m.	Dance/Pantomime Ensemble	EWC Gym
10:00 a.m. – 5:00p.m.	Oratorical	JWJ Classroom
10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Essay Writing	JWJ Cafeteria & JWJ Classrooms
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Creative Drawing	Classroom

12:00 p.m.—3:00p.m.	Chess Tournament	Classroom
10:00 a.m.—12:00p.m.	Poster Judging Fine Arts Photography Judging	Adams/Jenkins Sports & Music Center Lobby
1:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.	Brain Bowl	TBD

ATHLETIC EVENTS AND STEP SHOW AND MORE

11:30 a.m.	Conference Team Coaches and/or Conference Representative meet to draw for competition times	Basketball – JWJ Gym Cheerleading – JWJ Gym Field events – EWC/JWJ Field
12:00 noon	Basketball – Male and Female	James Weldon Johnson Gym
12:00 noon	Co-Ed Volleyball	EWC/JWJ Field
12:00 noon	Co-Ed Kickball	EWC/JWJ Field
12:00 noon	Obstacle Course	EWC/JWJ Field
12:00 noon	Cheerleading Competitions	James Weldon Johnson Gym
	Volleyball Championship Game	EWC/JWJ Field
	Female Basketball Championship Game	James Weldon Johnson Gym
	Male Basketball Championship Game	James Weldon Johnson Gym
6:30 p.m.—6:55 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Pep and Praise Christian Step Show and more...	Adams/Jenkins Sports & Music Center (EWC Gym)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2019

Time	Activity	Place
10:00 a.m.	Sankofa (Worship Experience)	Adams/Jenkins Sports & Music Center (EWC Gym)
12:00 noon	Awards Presentation	Adams/Jenkins Sports & Music Center (EWC Gym)

CHAPERONES MUST PROVIDE STRICT SUPERVISION OF THEIR YOUTH AT ALL TIMES.

INDIVIDUAL AND ENSEMBLE COMPETITIVE EVENTS

CREATIVE DRAWING CONTEST

(Ages 2-6)

Young people will be read a story about a Black person(s). After hearing the story, each child will be asked to draw and color a picture which pictorially relates to the story they have heard.

The creative drawings will not be judged. Each participant will receive a special award medal.

POSTER CONTEST

(Ages 2-6 and 7-12)

Theme: Living My Best Life

#Protecting Our Brand

Scripture: John 10:10

FINISHED PRODUCTS MUST BE AGE APPROPRIATE.

Participants will bring their posters with them. All posters will be received in the designated area of the EWC Gym lobby area, Saturday morning, February 16, 2019 (8:45 a.m.—9:30 a.m.). It is the participant's responsibility to ensure that his or her poster is received on time by the coordinator or her designee.

Posters must have the participant's name, age, church, name of pastor and conference director listed on THE BACK OF THE POSTER. The participants will be given a number to affix to his or her poster.

The posters will be displayed for judging in the area designated for the Poster Contest. Posters will be judged on:

• Adherence to the theme	40 points
• Color contrast	25 points
• Form and space	25 points
• Neatness	10 points
Total	100 points

FINE ART PHOTOGRAPHY

(Ages 11-26)

Age Categories 11-13, 14-17 and 18-26

Theme: Living My Best Life

#Protecting Our Brand

Scripture: John 10:10

Fine Art Photography is defined as photographic compositions created solely to express the aesthetic vision of the artist. Photographs will be judged for their beauty, composition, meaningfulness and technical skill.

Participants will bring their pictures with them. All framed photographs will be received in the designated area of the EWC Gym area, Saturday morning, February 16, 2019 (8:45 a.m.—9:30 a.m.). It is the participant's responsibility to ensure that his or her photograph is received on time by the coordinator or her designee.

Pictures must have the participant's name, age, church, name of pastor and conference director listed on THE BACK OF THE FRAMED PHOTOGRAPH. The participants will be given a number to affix to his or her picture.

All photo entries must be framed. Framing choice is one criteria considered by judges in the award judging process. Black frames with white mates are **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**. Simple framing is required for this competition. The pictures will be displayed for judging in the area designated for the Fine Art Photography.

Due to space limitations, size limits are strictly enforced.

Rectangular Images:

Minimum Size: 11 inches X 14 inches

Maximum Size: 24 inches X 28 inches Square

Images:

Minimum Size: 9 inches X 9 inches

Maximum Size: 24 inches X 24 inches

Panorama Images:

Minimum Size: 9 inches X 9 inches

Maximum Size: 24 inches X 24 inches

Framing with plastic or Plexiglas is preferred. Artists framing their entry with glass assume responsibility for damage to their own artwork and the artwork of others should the glass break. The Black Heritage Weekend coordinators and judges will use extreme care in handling artwork but assumes no responsibility for damage.

Any entry not meeting framing requirements will not be accepted.

Photographs will be judged on:

Technical criteria

- Exposure Focus/sharpness
- Depth of field
- Color and/or tonal rendition
- Contrast
- Lighting

Visual and aesthetic criteria

- Framing and choice of viewpoint
- Background
- Design elements and principles
- Appropriate application of photographic and/or manipulative techniques
- Visual impact

Content

- Information
- Emotion
- Mood
- Feeling
- Denotative and connotative content, symbolism, metaphor
- Meaning
- Communication through the language of photography and visual art
- The moment
- Relevance
- Subject impact

Viewer's response

- Visual
- Aesthetic
- Intellectual
- Emotional
- Excitement
- Interest

General characteristics

- Originality
- Style
- Context
- Photographic vision
- Empathy
- Insight

BLACK POETRY CONTEST
(Ages 2-26)

Contestants **will memorize and recite a poem** written by a **Black or Bahamian author**. Contestants may also write, memorize and recite their own poems. The recitation should not exceed three (3) minutes.

Some suggested authors:	Paul Lawrence Dunbar	Maya Angelou
	Countee Cullen	Mona Lake Jones
	Langston Hughes	Gwendolyn Brooks
	Arna Bontemps	James Weldon Johnson

Age Categories

Ages 2-4 Ages 5-7 Ages 8-10 Ages 11-13 Ages 14-17 Ages 18-26

Guidelines

1. Each contestant will be given a number and will be called by his or her number.
2. Each contestant will be judged on the following:

• Voice Delivery	30 points
• Speaker audience contact	20 points
• Enunciation	20 points
• Pronunciation	10 points
• Originality of delivery	10 points
• Poise	5 points
• Overall appearance	<u>5 points</u>
Total	100 points
3. Each contestant must respect and acknowledge the judges.
4. An automatic 5 points will be deducted if:
 - a. The contestant recites the poem over or starts over.
 - b. The contestant exceeds the time limit.

Three (3) copies of the contestant's poem must be submitted to the Conference YPD Director no later than January 5, 2019. Failure to send copies of the poem will result in a penalty (i.e., 20 points deducted from total score). **The contestant's name, age, church, pastor's name, and Conference YPD Director's name must be located on the back of each copy of the poem, be placed in a manila folder and labeled contestant's name and age, church and pastor's name, conference and conference YPD Director's name.** NO COPIES OF THE POEM WILL BE ACCEPTED ON BLACK HERITAGE WEEKEND DAY. There are no exceptions to the rule.

Props may be used to enhance the delivery, such as an old woman's dress, walking cane, baby dolls, brooms, dishes, shawl, head tie, scarves, or whatever it takes to get your poem over to the judges.

BLACK MONOLOGUE CONTEST

(Ages 2-26)

Description

Contestants **will memorize and recite an excerpt from a literary composition written by a Black or Bahamian author.** Contestants may also write, memorize and recite their own work. The recitation should not exceed three (3) minutes. **All monologues performed by contestants ages 2-10 are must recite a monologue that is up to 3 minutes in length. Contestants ages 11-26 must recite a monologue that is between 2-3 minutes in length.**

Please note the difference between a monologue and a poem and classify the contestant accordingly.

A Monologue is a prolonged talk or discourse by a single speaker. In other words, a monologue is a speech presented by a single character set within the context of a play.

Age Categories - Ages 2-4 Ages 5-7 Ages 8-10 Ages 11-13 Ages 14-17 Ages 18-26

Guidelines

Each contestant will be given a number and will be called by his or her number.

Each contestant will be judged on the following:

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------|
| • Voice Delivery | 30 points |
| • Speaker audience contact | 20 points |
| • Enunciation | 20 points |
| • Pronunciation | 10 points |
| • Originality of delivery | 10 points |
| • Poise | 5 points |
| • Overall appearance | 5 points |
| Total | 100 points |

Each contestant must respect and acknowledge the judges.

An automatic 5 points will be deducted if:

The contestant recites the monologue over or starts over.

The contestant exceeds the time limit.

The contestant fail to recite a monologue in the minimum time stipulated.

Three (3) copies of the contestant's monologue must be submitted to the Conference YPD Director no later than January 5, 2019. Failure to send copies of the monologue will result in a penalty (i.e., 20 points deducted from total score). **The contestant's name, age, church, pastor's name, and Conference YPD Director's name must be located on back of each copy of the monologue, be placed in a manila folder and labeled contestant's name and age, church and pastor's name, conference and conference YPD Director's name.** NO COPIES OF THE MONOLOGUE WILL BE ACCEPTED ON BLACK HERITAGE WEEKEND DAY. There are no exceptions to the rule.

Props may be used to enhance the delivery, such as an old woman's dress, walking cane, baby dolls, brooms, dishes, shawl, head tie, scarves, or whatever it takes to get your monologue over to the judges.

ORATORICAL CONTEST

(Ages 7-26)



*This competition will be judged by A.M. E. celebrity guest judges.
Register for this completion and find out who they are.*

GUIDELINES

1. Contestants will write and recite an oration in response to the question posed in the appropriate age category. Our theme this year is "Living my best life." #Protecting our brand. John 10:10. Our focused words from the theme are "Life" and "Brand".

Merriam Webster dictionary states that Life is the period during which a person or thing is alive or exist.

Brand is a name, term, design, symbol or other feature that distinguished an organization or product. "Living your best life does not come from the outside. It comes from within.

2. ALL ORATIONS MUST BE MEMORIZED. No notes are allowed in the competition area.
3. Contestants will deliver a speech in a formal and dignified manner. The contestant must start and complete the oration on or within three (3) minutes.
4. Orations will be judged on the following (100 points total):
 - Content (30 points)
 - Clarity (20 points)
 - Expression (10points)
 - Adherence to Time Limit (5 points)
 - Memorization (20 points)
 - Poise (10 points)
 - Eye contact (5 points)

Prompt for Ages 7-10

Hi Allenites, you may be young, but you know what makes you happy. How do you know when you are living your best life? Explain to the listener of a time when you felt you had done things that helped you to be at your best. Use at least one scripture to support your feelings. What makes you different from some others in your everyday life? How would you protect your brand (who are you)?

Prompt for Ages 11-13

You have been around for a while. You have been guided through one situation to another, by parents, guardians, or friends of the village. Now you have been given more freedom. You are allowed to make choices that help you to live your best life. Since you are in middle school and near or at the beginning of becoming a teenager, what brand will you protect as you make transitions to the next level in your life? Don't forget to be yourself— quit wishing you were like someone else. Let the listeners hear about what choices you have made, that helps you live your best life. What brand will you be protecting when others see you? What contributes to your best life? Use at least two scriptures to assist you with your feelings.

Prompts for Ages 14-17

During the ages of 14-17, many people think that you are peer followers. The Bible says "Train up a child in the way he/she should go and when he/she is old, they will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6. Others say, you will remember how they were raised, and return back to your foundation. Share about the path that you have taken to "Live your best Life." How are you protecting, what you have been branded as? Use at least two scriptures to

assist you in your thoughts about yourself at this time in your life. How does it make you feel? When you look back, what difference has it made? How do you feel about the new YOU?

Prompt for Ages 18-26

Young Adults, WELCOME! The world needs you. You have got to believe beyond a shadow of a doubt that you have what it takes. Black lives matter! Do you value what you do? As you live your best life does it make a positive impact on others. Give an example of a positive impact that you've made on others. You hear season adults, sharing that their parents were hard on them when they were younger, but they don't know where they would be now. They say, "now I understand what they meant when then they said, _____" Share at least two things that you have found worked. How are those things contributing to you, "Living your best Life?" #Protecting our Brand." Give examples of all two things, and use two scriptures to back up how you are feeling about them.

HELPFUL SCRIPTURES - YOU MAY USE OTHERS

- And when He brings out His own sheep, He goes before them and the sheep follow Him, for they know His voice. John 10:4 (NKJV)

- "Yet they by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him for they do not know the voice of strangers. John 10:5 (NKJV)
- The thief comes to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life and have it to the full. John 10:10 (N KJV)
- A man's heart plans his way but, the Lord directs his steps. Proverbs 16:9 (NKJV)

- I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you. Psalm 32:8

- I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. "Philippians 4:13
- Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not unto your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge, Him and He will direct your path." Proverbs 3:6
- Hear counsel, and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in the latter end. Proverbs 19:20 ● If you put away the sin that is in your hand and allow no evil to dwell in your tent, then you will lift up your face without shame; you will stand firm and without fear. Job 11:14-15
- A good man/woman obtains favor from the Lord, but the Lord condemns a crafty man. Proverbs 12:2

You must have: Three (3) typed copies of the contestant's oration must be submitted along with proper registration to the Conference YPD Director no later than December 2018. Failure to send copies of the orations will result in a penalty (i.e. 20 points deducted from total score). The contestant's name, age church, pastor's name, and conference YPD Director's name must be located on the back of each page of the oration, and be placed in a manila folder. **NO COPIES OF THE ORATION WILL BE ACCEPTED ON BLACK HERITAGE WEEKEND DAY.** There are NO exceptions.

ESSAY WRITING CONTEST (Ages 7-26)

Competitors, ages 7-26, will write an interpretive, literary composition. The competitor will write essays with no fewer words than their category stipulates.

Age Categories

Ages 7-10
Ages 11-13
Ages 14-17
Ages 18-26

All competitors will be given 45 minutes to write their essay

Guidelines

Each competitor will be awarded points in the following areas:



1. Understanding of the topic: To what extent did the writer demonstrate a clear understand of the question and respond with details about his/her experience?
2. Original thinking relative to the topic: To what extent was the original thinking relative to the subject?
3. Effectiveness in presenting a point of view: To what extent did the writer present his/her point of view?
4. Literary style, grammar and spelling

For each criterion listed above, judges will score the essay on a scale of 1-5, with 5 being the best score.

CHESS TOURNAMENT (AGES 8-26)

Chess board set and chessboard will be provided at the tournament. If you bring your own **chess set, your chessboard** can be made from wood, cardboard or vinyl. The board should be at least 14 1/8 inches wide. The chess pieces should be made of wood or plaster. The king should stand at least 2 3/4 inches.

You will play three games. Each game will be twenty minutes.

If you do not finish the game in twenty minutes, the winner is the player who has the most **points** left on the board when the time expires. Example of **points**:

King = 0
Queen = 9
Rook = 5
Bishop = 3
Knight = 3
Pawn = 1



A draw will be determined if you and your opponent make the same move on your respected squares at the same time during the course of the game. The third move is a draw if you capture all of your OPPONENT'S PIECES on the board. You have to checkmate your opponent in fifty moves or less. If you do not the game is a draw.

Before each game, shake your opponent's hand and wish him or her good luck. After the game is over, shake your opponent's hand and acknowledge their win.

There is no talking during the games.

Think before you move your chess piece. Once you touch a chess piece, you will have to move it.

If you have a question, raise your hand a T.D. (Tournament director) will come to your aid.

You will compete against players within your age group.

Group # 1: Ages 8-10

Group #2: Ages 11-13

Group #3: Ages 14-16

Group # 4: Ages 17-18

Group #5: Ages 19-26

Must have at least four (4) players or this group will play

SPELLING BEE COMPETITION (Ages 8-10 and 11-12)

1. Participants must meet two basic requirements to qualify: (a) they must be a member or an affiliated member of an A.M.E. Church at the time of the Spelling Bee; (b) they must be in the age category of 8-12.
2. The BLACK HERITAGE WEEKEND Spelling Bee will be oral and is a single elimination contest.
3. In competition, after the announcer gives the contestant a word, the contestant is encouraged to pronounce the word before spelling it and after spelling it. The judges may not disqualify a contestant for failing to pronounce the word either before or after spelling it.
4. The contestant may ask the announcer to say the word again. The announcer shall grant the request. In the case of a homonym the announcer will use the word in a complete sentence prior to the contestant's turn to give the spelling. The contestant may also ask for the definition of the word.
5. The role of the announcer is to correctly pronounce the word and repeat the word at the speller's request. The role of the judges is to determine whether the contestant has spelled the word correctly. The role of the contestant is to spell the word correctly.
6. Having started to spell a word, a contestant may stop and start over; retracing the spelling from the beginning, but in retracing there can be no change of letters or their sequence. If changed in the respelling, the contestant will be eliminated.
7. The contest shall be conducted in rounds. Each contestant remaining in the Spelling Bee at the start of a round shall spell one word in the round, except as provided in Rule 9.

8. Upon missing the spelling of a word, a contestant immediately drops out of the contest, except as provided in Rule 9. The next word on the announcer's list is given to the next contestant.
9. When the contestants are reduced to two, the elimination procedure changes. At that point, when one contestant misspells a word, the other contestant shall be given an opportunity to spell that same word. If the second contestant spells the word correctly, plus the next word on the announcer's list, then the second contestant shall be declared the champion.
10. If one of the last two spellers misses and the other, after correcting the error, misspells a new word submitted to him/her, then the misspelled new word shall be referred to the first speller. If the first speller then succeeds in correcting the error and correctly spells the next word on the announcer's list, then he/she shall be declared the champion. If both spellers misspell the same word, both shall continue in the contest, and the one who first misspelled the word shall be given a new word to spell.
11. The judges are in complete control of the Spelling Bee. Their decision shall be final on all questions.
12. The winners will be comprised of 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place winners.
13. NO CELL PHONES will be allowed in the Spelling Bee Competition.

MUSIC COMPETITIONS

(Ages 2-26)

Dance routines, song selections and costumes should be in good taste and in keeping with our overall Christian theme. Competitors will exhibit their musical talent by performing (individually or in an ensemble) in the following areas of competition:

Dance:

- **Liturgical Dance – dance incorporated into liturgies or worship services as an expression of worship**
- **Mime/ Pantomime – performance in which a story is told without words by using body movement and facial expressions**
- **Expressive Dance – dance which stresses versatility and improvisation (includes: Tap and Jazz, Lyrical, Modern, Hip-hop, Musical Theatre and Swing)**

Musical Performance:

- **Instrumental Performance**
- **Vocal Performance**

Guidelines

1. Competition in each category is limited to a maximum of four (4) minutes. A designated timekeeper will signal to inform the contestant when one (1) minute remains.
2. Solo and ensemble competition will be categorized as follows: 2-6; 7-12; 13-17; 18-26. The age group is determined by the oldest member of the group. Each contestant is responsible for providing his or her own accompaniment. A piano will be located in the classroom where the competition will take place.
3. **Ensembles (dance OR musical) are limited to ONE GROUP PER CHURCH and NO MORE**

THAN SIX (6) members. Points will be deducted for (1) lack of proper equipment (i.e., music player); (2) lack of a music track/CD; (3) chewing gum during performance; and (4) large or dangling earrings, necklaces or other types of jewelry (for dancers' safety).

DANCE-----SOLO AND ENSEMBLE will be rated on the following criteria:

Physical characteristics (body alignment, strength, endurance)	10 points
Movement (sense of rhythm, ease of movement, flexibility)	10 points
Precision/Rhythmic Accuracy (level of difficulty)	10 points
Creativity	10 points
Appearance (points deducted for large and dangling earring or necklaces)	10 points
Expression	10 points
Adherence to Time Limit	10 points
Level of Preparation (x3)	30 points
9-10 High level of preparation	
7-8 Above average level of preparation	
5-6 Average level of preparation	
2-4 Below average level of preparation	
0-1 Not prepared	
	Total 100 points

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE -----SOLO AND ENSEMBLE will be rated on the following criteria:

Pitch Accuracy	10 points
Rhythmic Accuracy	10 points
Tone Quality (Characteristic for instrument)	10 points
Expressiveness (dynamics, phrasing, tempo, articulation)	10 points
Technique (fluency, fingering)	10 points
Musical Effect (interpretation, artistry, stage presence, appearance)	10 points
Adherence to time limit	10 points
Levels of preparation (x3) see above	<u>30 points total</u>

Three (3) copies of the instrumental music must be submitted to the Conference YPD Director no later than January 5, 2019. Failure to send copies will result in a penalty (i.e. 20 points deducted from total score). The contestants name, age, church, pastor's name, and Conference YPD director's name must be located on the back of each page of the music, and be placed in a manila folder and labeled contestant's name and age, church and pastor's name, conference and conference YPD director's name. No copies of the music will be accepted on Black Heritage Weekend Day.

VOCAL -----SOLO AND ENSEMBLE will be rated on the following criteria:

Pitch Accuracy	10 points
Rhythmic Accuracy	10 points
Tone Quality	10 points
Expressiveness (dynamics, clear enunciation, phrasing, tempo)	10 points
Technique (posture, breath management)	10 points
Musical Effect (interpretation, artistry, stage presence, appearance)	10 points
Adherence to time limit	10 points
Levels of preparation (x3) see above	30 points
	Total 100 points



CONFERENCE COMPETITIVE EVENTS

The events detailed in this section are only for CONFERENCE COMPETITION. If you are interested in competing in one of the following categories, you must contact your Conference YPD Director.

BRAIN BOWL COMPETITION AGES 7-12 AND 13-26

Black Heritage Weekend Brain Bowl Competition is postponed until 2020.



CHEERLEADING COMPETITION—AGES 2-12 AND 13-26



Participants must be registered as a competitor in at least one of the academic categories in order to perform. Each Conference may have one Junior Team (Ages 2-12) and one Senior Team (Ages 13-26). Judging of the competition will occur during the allotted time ranges given in the schedule. **Teams are limited to a maximum of fifteen (15) participants for each team—points will be deducted if you exceed maximum #.**

The following cheers must be executed within the established time frame of 2 ½ minutes:

Sideline cheer Spirit cheer Floor cheer with changing of formation

Each team will be rated on team Spirit (10 points), Unity (10 points), and Precision (10 points). A routine cannot be lengthened if the opponents are not prepared to participate. Teams will receive a five-point (5) deduction for failure to report to the floor when called by the announcer, a five-point (5) deduction for exceeding the time limit, a ten point (10) deduction for exceeding the maximum # of participants allowed.

All cheers must have a Christian theme. The Conference Director or her designee must attend a dress rehearsal and authorize the performance.

DRAMA COMPETITION
Theme: **Living our Best Life”**

Participants must be registered as a competitor in at least one of the academic categories in order to perform. A Conference Drama Team should not have more than eight (8) members. The dramatic presentation may be an original composition or must be written by an African-American or Bahamian author. Props will be limited to items that can be carried onto the stage in a shoebox. Participants may be dressed appropriately for the character being portrayed.

Each dramatization will be judged on overall presentation (10 points), interpretation (10 points) and audience appeal (10 points).

The Conference Director or her designee must attend a dress rehearsal and authorize the performance. The dramatic presentation must have a Christian theme.

ATHLETIC COMPETITION

In order to participate in any of the sports competitions, the player must have registered online and be in attendance as a competitor in at least one of the academic categories.

Competitors will compete in the athletic events of **Basketball, Volleyball, or Kickball**. These Conference athletes will be obligated to follow the rules and regulations established. This list of rules/regulations is the only notification any team will receive of Black Heritage Weekend rules.

Know these rules. They will be strictly enforced. New Rules & Guidelines are underlined!

BASKETBALL Ages 13-20
Rules and Regulations

1. Prior to the game, the Conference YPD Director or her designee may add (**only if player registered online and has competed in an academic event**) or delete names from the roster. Once rosters are set there will be no additions, except as specified in number 9 below. Coaches, referees, and scorekeepers are asked to be present in the **JWJ gym** at 11:30 a.m. for a pre-game briefing.
2. Each team is required to have a spiritual leader who will be responsible for spiritual directions. Before and after the game, each spiritual leader will read a scripture and lead both teams in devotion and prayer. The spiritual leader who reads the scripture before the game will pray after the game and vice versa.
3. Female Basketball Team (Ages 12-20) *Grades and age requirement may be adjusted as needed– Girls Only
Male Basketball Team (12-20)

Proof of age must be shown for all players over 18 (Driver’s Licenses or Passports)

Middle School Students Grades (6-8th) or ages 12 to 15 year old to play 1st and 3rd quarters and High School Students (9 -12th Grade) or age 16 to 20 year old to play 2nd and 4th quarters.

4. Rules established by the **Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA)** will be followed with Modifications:
 - a. **Four 7 minute Quarters running time, last minute regulation time. 1st and 3rd Quarters will be played by Middle School Students grades 6th -8th or Ages 13 to 15 years old**
 - b. **All Teams and Coaches must be present five minutes before game or will receive a forfeit.**
 - c. **The tournament is a single elimination tournament, if a team loses they are out of the tournament.**
 - d. **There will be no 45-second clock**
 - e. **Black Heritage Weekend officials will be certified by the FHSAA & reserve the right to change FHSAA Rules.**
5. Black Heritage Weekend officials reserve the right to adjust game times due to availability of the gym, pending notification of the coaches involved.
6. All teams in the league will have one (1) time out per game with one additional time out given in overtime.
7. Five additional minutes (regulation time) will be allotted for overtime.
8. The maximum number of players on your roster for trophies is 12 players. **Teams must be comprised of BHW Registered Middle School and High School Students.**
9. If an eligible player becomes injured and not able to play, the coach may add one player to the roster after the deadline by notifying the athletic director (only if the player has been pre-registered, has competed in an academic event and **age appropriate**).
10. **The coach and team must report five (5) minutes before game time. If the coach and/or players have not reported by game time, the game will be forfeited or player will not be allowed to compete.**
11. Coaches, umpires, referees, individual team scorekeepers, timekeepers, and the announcer must be present in the gym at 11:00 a.m. for a pre-game briefing.
12. Participants are asked to wear non-pocket shirts and trousers when playing. This is for safety reasons to prevent injuries. **All shorts must be worn at the waist and shirts must be tucked.** (FHSAA Regulations)
13. Absolutely no jewelry will be worn when playing. A two (2) shot technical foul will be charged to the team of the player(s) violating this rule.
14. No dunking or grasping the rim during pre-game or half time. A technical foul will be charged to the head coach for this violation.
15. Only the team coach is allowed at the score table during a game to:
 - a. Request a time out, to discuss a rule or scoring discrepancy.
 - b. Request a time out to prevent or rectify timing or a scoring mistake or an alternation Possession mistake. Coaches whose time out results in a non-discrepancy decision will be charged with a time out. The penalty for violating this rule in a two shot technical charge to the coach/team in violation.

- c. All teams should have a scorekeeper at the score table. Official Black Heritage Weekend Scorekeepers cannot answer any coach or player question about the number or fouls, time outs, etc. during a game.
16. Unsportsmanlike conduct fouls receive two (2) technical foul shots. Examples are:
 - a. Using profanity, physical contact or violence (results in automatic ejection from all games).
 - b. Baiting an opponent
 - c. Disrespect or physical contact with an official or players (contact is an automatic ejection). Two (2) technical fouls automatically disqualify a player or coach.
 17. PROFANE language and vulgar/obscene gesturing are not permitted. This violation also constitutes an automatic two (2) technical fouls. Any person ejected for such a violation shall not be allowed to play for the remainder of the game or of the tournament.
 18. No smoking or alcoholic beverages are allowed in the gym or on the grounds at any time.
 19. There is to be no unnecessary carousing outside the gym during a game.
 20. All coaches are responsible for the conduct of their players, players' families, and friends.
 21. Any violation of a rule is subject to forfeiture of games in which the violation occurs.
 22. Any player or spectator who does not submit to authority with regards to disobedience, disrespect, rudeness, unbecoming character, etc. will be suspended, dismissed and/or asked to leave the premises.
 23. All teams are responsible for cleaning their bench areas after their game.
 24. Black Heritage Weekend will not be responsible for any lost or stolen basketballs at any given gym site. It is commended that personal basketballs be kept out of the game.

CO-ED VOLLEYBALL AGES 13-26

Rules and Regulations

1. Prior to the game, the Conference YPD Director or her designee may add (**only if player registered online and has competed in an academic event**) or delete names from the roster. Once rosters are set there will be no additions, except as specified in number 9 below. Coaches, referees, and scorekeepers are asked to be present in the JWJ Gym at 11:00 a.m. for a pre-game briefing.
2. Each team is required to have a spiritual leader who will be responsible for spiritual directions, as well as scripture readings. Before and after the game, each spiritual leader will read a scripture and lead both teams in prayer. The spiritual leader who reads the scripture before the game will pray after the game and vice versa.
3. Rules established by the Florida High School FICA with modifications will be followed.
4. Black Heritage Weekend officials reserve the right to adjust game times due to availability of the playing area, pending notification of the coaches involved.
5. Substitutions are to be made only from the middle right position on a nine ((9) member team and the back left on a six (6) member team. Substitutions will only occur during a side out when the serving team is in possession.

6. Teams are to rotate on side out only when the serving team is in possession.
7. Black Heritage Weekend game rules:
 - a. Service is made from the right back position. The server must remain behind the line until the ball is over the net.
 - b. All points are given only to the serving team
 - c. In volleyball, any ball served or volleyed which touches the boundary line is considered in bounds. If the ball touches the net on a serve, a violation results.
 - d. No other teammate may assist the ball over the net on a serve.
 - e. Hands in the net constitute a violation.
 - f. Catching and throwing the ball in volleyball is a violation.
 - g. In volleyball, the ball can be volleyed no more than three times before going over the net.
 - h. All other violations constitute a time out.
8. If an eligible player becomes injured and not able to play, the coach may add one player to the roster after the deadline by notifying the athletic director (only if the player is pre-registered and has competed in an academic event).
9. Teams will consist of no more than twelve (12) players.
10. If a Conference team has less than nine (9) members, the opposing team must adjust its court size to the equivalent number. If a Conference team has five (5) or less members, the game is forfeited.
11. The modified score for Black Heritage Weekend Volleyball is thirteen (13). A team must win by two (2) points.
12. Absolutely no jewelry will be worn when playing. Any person violating this rule will not be allowed to play.
13. Unsportsmanlike conduct will result in disqualification and a side out. Three violations of unsportsmanlike conduct will result in forfeiture of the game.
14. Additional rules to player conduct, safety and decorum are as specified under the rules for BHW basketball.

CO-ED KICKBALL ---AGES 7-12

Rules and Regulations

1. Each Conference may have **ONE ages 7-12 kickball team**. Prior to the game, the Conference YPD Director or her designee may add (**only if player registered online and has competed in academic event**) or delete names from the roster. Once rosters are set there will be no added names, except as specified in number 9 below. Coaches, referees, and scorekeepers are asked to be present on the kickball field at 11:00 a.m. for a pre-game briefing.
2. Each team is required to have a spiritual leader who will be responsible for spiritual directions as well as scripture reading. Before and after the game, each spiritual leader will read a scripture and lead both teams in prayer. The spiritual leader who reads the scripture before the game will pray after the game and vice versa.
3. **Each team is allowed up to twenty (20) members per team**. Each team member is allowed one kick.

4. Each team will have one member to pitch to their team.
5. Pitched balls must be rolled to home base.
6. All pitched balls must be kicked or the batter is out.
7. Any ball kicked in foul territory is considered an out.
8. The pitcher is not allowed to interfere with the kicked or thrown balls. The batter is out when this violation occurs.
9. If an eligible player becomes injured and not able to play, the coach may add (only if the player is preregistered and has competed in an academic event) one player to the roster after the deadline by notifying the athletic director.
10. There is absolutely no exception to the one kick per player per game ruling.
11. Games will be forfeited if there are less than nine (9) players per game ruling.
12. If a Conference team has less than twenty (20) players, the opposing team must adjust its field size to the equivalent number.
13. The pitcher of both teams will be the last kicker. Any player may substitute pitch to the last kicker.
14. No one is allowed to stand on base or in the base line to impede the runner's progress.
15. For safety reasons, no player is to be tagged at any time. Players need only throw the ball ahead of the runner, tag the base, and the player is out.
16. No runner can leave the base before the ball is kicked or the runner is out. Stealing bases is not permissible.
17. The defense cannot throw the ball and hit a runner for an out. The runner will be given an extra base for this penalty.
18. All runs count when a player reaches each base without being tagged or forced out.
19. There is no sliding or the runner is out.
20. All scores made before the defense gets the ball to home plate of the last kicker will count.
21. Absolutely no jewelry will be worn when playing. Any person violating this rule will not be allowed to play.
22. All rules relating to conduct, decorum, and safety as outlined when Black Heritage Weekend Basketball and Volleyball apply, also to kickball.
23. Teams and Coaches or representative are to report to the field at 11:30 a.m. to draw for bracket placement at 11:40 a.m. The first game will begin at 12:00 noon.

24. The competition brackets will be set up as follows:

- a. A coach or representative of each team present for the drawing will draw a blind number that will determine the bracket and game time for his/her team.
- b. In the event there are an odd number of teams, then one team will receive a bye and automatically advance to the next round.
- c. A copy of the brackets will be available in a common area for team coaches and supporters will view.
- d. Games will consist of 3 innings and 3 outs.
- e. The 3rd inning may have additional outs to ensure that every player has a turn to kick.
- f. The bottom half of the bracket will be the home team.
- g. The losing team in each bracket is eliminated from the competition. (Single elimination)
- h. In the event of a tie after three innings, extra innings may be played.
- i. The game ends if the visiting team is ahead and the home team fails to tie or go ahead during their half of the inning.

This process is designed to eliminate forfeits and confusion about playing time and will result in a smoother running event.

NON-COMPETITIVE EVENTS



OBSTACLE COURSE---AGES 2-6 *(Non-Competitive Individual Event)*

Youth will participate in a series of challenging physical obstacles which they must navigate while being timed. The course may include running, walking, jumping, pulling, pushing, and balancing, with the aim of testing speed and endurance.

After completing the course, ALL participants will receive a prize medal.

STEP SHOW

(Non-Competitive Conference Event)

PARTICIPANTS MUST BE REGISTERED AS A COMPETITOR IN AT LEAST ONE OF THE ACADEMIC CATEGORIES IN ORDER TO PERFORM IN THE STEP SHOW.

Conferences are limited to ONE team and must adhere to the following guidelines:

- There is no limit to the number of participants.
- The Step Show is limited to five (5) minutes.
- No vulgar or inappropriate language or dress will be allowed.
- All chants must have a Christian theme.
- All participants MUST practice with their Conference YPD Director or her designee prior to the Black Heritage Weekend
- NO HARD-BOTTOMED SHOES ARE ALLOWED WHEN PERFORMING IN THE SCHOOL GYMNASIUM.
- Canes must have rubber tips on them.

