

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



VIRTUAL CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES

Theme: Ain't No Stoppin' Us Now

#We'reOnTheMove

Philippians 3:14 ESV

February 18-20, 2022

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Table of Contents

Most Frequently Asked Questions		3
Schedule of Events		5
Creative Drawing	Ages 2-6	6
Scavenger Hunt	Ages 2-6	6
Poster Contest	Ages 2-12	6
Fine Arts Photography	Ages 11-26	7
Black Poetry	Ages 2-26	8
Black Monologue	Ages 2-26	9
Oratorical Contest	Ages 7-26	9
Essay Writing	Ages 7-26	11
Brain Bowl (study questions and answers are on the website)	Ages 7-26	12

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT BLACK HERITAGEWEEKEND

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.

This event was initiated in 1987, under the leadership of Ms. Sanjena V. Clay 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, kickball, and flag football.

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 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 Black Heritage weekend convene?**

As a result, Covid 19, this year's activities will be held virtually on Friday, February 18, 2022 through Sunday, February 20, 2022.

4. **What must I do to register for participation?**

The local YPD Director must register ALL competitors and observers during the registration period of **December 22, 2021 through January 12, 2022.**

- a. Visit www.blackheritageweekend.com and click on the "Black Heritage Weekend" link to see the Criteria and Guidelines, Brain Bowl Questions and the Registration form.
- b. Remit **NON-REFUNDABLE** payment of \$20.00 for each competitor and observer through the online registration process.

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

No one should sign up for more than 2 events. The Conference Director must approve your participation in the conference/team sporting events.

6. **What should I wear?**

Remember, this is a church event and clothing should be appropriate for young Christian males and females.

On Friday, February 18, 2022, you are encouraged to wear casual clothing with your Episcopal District or Conference T-shirt. On Saturday, February 19, 2022, you are encouraged to wear Conference T-shirt. 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. On Sunday, February 20, 2022, African or Bahamian garb should be worn for the Sankofa Service.

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

Competitors receive their Black Heritage Weekend your competition schedule and access to the Friday night service, Brain Bowl competition, Saturday night event, and Sunday service. Observers receive access to the Friday night service, Brain Bowl competition, Saturday night event, and Sunday service.

8. **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 list will be posted on the Black Heritage Weekend website www.blackheritageweekend.com by February 21, 2022.

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 youths who attend, but we do encourage and prefer **QUALITY AS OPPOSED TO QUANTITY.**

**BLACK HERITAGE WEEKEND
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2022 - 10:00 a.m. – Final Planning Meeting

Virtual-- Meeting for Coordinators, Episcopal YPD Officers and Conference YPD Officers

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2022 - Supporting Documents Due (Poems, Monologues, Photography, Pictures of Posters and Orations)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2022

Time	Activity	Place	Suggested Attire
7:00 p.m.	Black Heritage Weekend Pep-Rally	Virtual	Casual clothing with your Episcopal District or Conference T-shirt

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2022

Time	Activity	Place	Suggested Attire
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Morning inspirations and review of schedule	Virtual	Casual clothing
COMPETITIONS			
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Black Poetry	Virtual	Theme appropriate clothing
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Black Monologue	Virtual	Theme appropriate clothing
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Oratorical	Virtual	Theme appropriate clothing
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Essay Writing	Virtual	Casual or event appropriate clothing
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Creative Drawing and Scavenger Hunt	Virtual	Casual or event appropriate clothing
12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Brain Bowl	Virtual	Conference T-shirt or event appropriate clothing

BHW CHRISTIAN BLOCK PARTY AND MORE			
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Pep and Praise Christian Block Party and more	Virtual	Conference T-shirt or Casual clothing

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2022

Time	Activity	Place	Suggested Attire
10:00 a.m.	Sankofa (Worship Experience)	Virtual	African or Bahamian garb

NON-COMPETITIVE EVENTS

CREATIVE DRAWING CONTEST

(Ages 2-6)

A coordinator will read a story about a black person(s) to young people. 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.

SCAVENGER HUNT

(Ages 2-6)

Youth will participate in a series of challenging exercises. The exercises may include gathering or locating items, running, walking, jumping, pulling, pushing, and balancing, with the aim of testing creativity and listening skills. After completing the course, ALL participants will receive a prize medal.

INDIVIDUAL COMPETITIVE EVENTS

POSTER CONTEST

(Ages 2-6 and 7-12)

Theme: Ain't No Stoppin' Us Now

#We'reOnTheMove

Philippians 3:14 ESV

Participants will upload their posters for judging by **February 12, 2022** via registration website. All posters will be received in PDF/JPEG/PNG format. It is the participant's responsibility to ensure that his or her poster is received on time.

Posters will be judged on:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| • Adherence to the theme | 40 points |
| • Color contrast | 25 points |
| • Form and space | 25 points |
| • Neatness | <u>10 points</u> |
| Total | 100 points |

FINE ART PHOTOGRAPHY
(Ages 11-26)
Age Categories 11-13, 14-17 and 18-26

Theme: Ain't No Stoppin' Us Now

#We'reOnTheMove

Philippians 3:14 ESV

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 upload their photographs for judging by **February 12, 2022** via registration website. All photographs will be received in PDF/JPEG/PNG format. It is the participant's responsibility to ensure that his or her photograph is received on time. Size limits are strictly enforced.

Photographs will be judged on:

Technical criteria

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

Visual and aesthetic criteria

- 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 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
2. Each contestant must respect and acknowledge the judges.
3. 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

The contestant's poem must be submitted via the registration website by **February 12, 2022**. Failure to upload a 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 at the bottom of the poem.** There are no exceptions to this 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 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

The contestant's monologue must be submitted via the registration website by **February 12, 2022**. Failure to upload a 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 at the bottom of the monologue.** There are no exceptions to this rule.

ORATORICAL CONTEST (Ages 7-26)

Philippians 3:14 ESV



Theme: "Ain't No Stopping Us Now, #We'reOnTheMove"

Greetings to our Participants, parents, YPD directors, Missionaries, and Pastors. We are very excited to have the opportunity to enjoy an AMEC activity that has withstood the test of time. Some of the participants are talking about selecting a different event to participate in. I am reaching out to invite them to write an Oration this year. It will give them a chance to practice their writing skills and get the experience of standing before at least three judges, that will listen to what they have to say. The atmosphere in the room will be very pleasant. Please go over the guidelines below with your child(ren). The Oration Coordinator and the Oration officials will be in the event room waiting to greet your child with a smile.

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 “I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 3:14 ESV
2. ALL ORATIONS MUST BE MEMORIZED. No notes are allowed (20 points will be deducted if notes are utilized).
3. Contestants will deliver a speech in a formal and dignified manner. The contestant must start and complete the oration within three minutes.
4. Orations will be judged by at least three judges on the following areas (100 points total):
 - Content (30 points)
 - Clarity (20 points)
 - Expression (10 points)
 - Adherence to Time Limit (5 points)
 - Memorization (20 points)
 - Poise (10 points)
 - Eye Contact (5 points)

Total (100 points)

The contestant’s oration must be submitted via the registration website by **February 12, 2022**. Failure to upload a 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 at the bottom of the oration.** There are no exceptions to this rule.

ORATORICAL CONTEST PROMPT FOR AGES 7 - 10 YEARS OLD

Our theme is “Ain’t No Stopping Us Now, #We’reOn the Move.” When you looked at the Theme, what did you think? Have you ever been determined to do something or get something that was special, but an obstacle got in the way? It could have been learning to ride a bike, using a computer, or you name it. Give at least two details that got in your way and give an example to explain what you did to keep “moving,” so you would not stop. Use a scripture, that encouraged you to achieve your goal. How did it make you feel when you finally reached your goal?

ORATORICAL CONTEST PROMPT FOR AGES 11 - 12 YEARS OLD

Hello Eleven and Twelve year old girls and boys!

You are almost teenagers. A lot of changes are taking place in your life during these stages. Do you understand the new you? “Don’t put limits on our God!” Remember, whatever you need God’s got it! In your oration, share with the listeners when you knew that God had given you the power to be bold, to stand, and do your best. Use at least 2 scriptures to show that your Oration is bible based. Explain how the experience made you feel.

ORATORICAL CONTEST PROMPT FOR AGES 13 - 17 YEARS OLD

How do you limit your distractions, so that nothing can deter you from what you want to achieve? Share with the listeners what you have achieved because you wouldn’t let anything stop you. As you answer this question, give at least two details that you used to keep you from stopping. Explain one of the details, by giving an example of what you did and why you did it to keep it moving. Remember, use at least two scriptures as a base.

ORATORICAL CONTEST PROMPT FOR AGES 18 - 26 YEARS OLD

How do you keep it moving, when you might have to pivot as one door of a possible opportunity closes, and another closes? Explain to the listener the opportunity you are seeking. Write details to describe the steps to your solution. If it has not happened to you, what plan will you use if it does happen to you? Use at least two scriptures as a base, that will encourage you to keep moving.

SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES:

Philippians 3:14– I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. (ESV)

Philippians 4:13 – I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. (NKJV)

Proverbs 3:6 – In all thy ways acknowledge him, and He shall direct thy path. (KJV)

Psalms 31:24 – O love the Lord, all ye his saints: For the Lord preserveth the faithful, and plentifully rewardeth the proud doer. (KJV)

Mark 9:23 – If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believe. (NKJV)

ESSAY WRITING CONTEST (Ages 7-26)

Competitors, ages 7-26, will write an interpretive, literary composition. The competitor will write an essay with expectations appropriate to the age/grade.

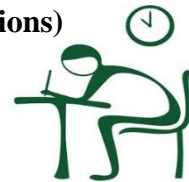
Age Categories (basic essay length recommendations)

Ages 7-10: 3-5 paragraphs

Ages 11-13: 4-5 paragraphs

Ages 14-17: 5 paragraphs

Ages 18-26: 5 paragraphs



Essays must be submitted to the specific email address by the pre-determined deadline (For example: Submit your completed essay in Word, PDF or a scanned/photographed hand-written document on Saturday, February 19, 2022, between 11:00 AM and 12:00 PM. Essay prompts will be made available to competitors on Saturday, February 19, 2022 at 10:45 AM.)

Guidelines

Each competitor will be awarded points in the following areas:

1. Purpose and Organization: Does your essay have...
 - a an introduction
 - b a conclusion
 - c clearly formed paragraphs
 - d logical order
 - e transitions
2. Focus and Support: Does your essay have...
 - a support for your topic and main ideas

- b mature vocabulary for your age
 - c sentence variety and voice
 - d on topic information
3. Conventions of Standard English: Does your essay...
- a use correct capitalization and punctuation
 - b use correct spelling
 - c make sense when read aloud

For each criterion listed above, judges will score the essay on a scale of 1-6, with 6 being the highest score achievable.

CONFERENCE COMPETITIVE EVENT

BRAIN BOWL COMPETITION AGES 7-12 AND 13-26

Each Conference will sponsor one team ages 7-12 and one team ages 13-26 consisting of not more than five members and three alternates (eight members total). Alternates will be used to replace team members if illness or other emergencies arise prior to or during the competition. At the discretion of the team coach, they may be substituted into the competition between rounds, or they may not be utilized at all.

Each Conference will designate a captain and a co-captain prior to the competition. The tournament schedule will be determined randomly utilizing “The Wheel of Names” before the start of the competition to determine the order in which the teams will compete.

New set-up for Black Heritage Weekend Brain Bowl Competition

Black Heritage Weekend Brain Bowl competition has been reformatted to speed the game up, make it more exciting, and to mimic the types of academic competitions students more closely might encounter if they are/were on a team in their school.

Significant changes for this new format include:

- Simultaneous competition in multiple (2) rooms in a round-robin format.
 - This makes the overall competition go a lot faster while also allowing more games to be played since an issue in the past was the prospects of a team only playing one game despite their level of practice and amount of team members. This means every team gets four games which also means coaches can play everyone even if they have a large number of participants.

Match Format

- Each Match will consist of three rounds:
 - Round One – Team Questions – Any team member can answer questions in round one. Each team will have 5 minutes each to answer questions in this round. The team will be able to pass and move to the next question in round one. This will be a 10-minute round.
 - Round Two – Tossup Questions – Any team member can answer questions in this round but must **wait** to be **recognized** by the host. Each team member will be able to answer tossups by “raising

their hand” through the Zoom application. Five (5) seconds will be given as the allotted time to respond/answer a question in round two. This round will last for 10 minutes.

- Round Three - Team (Collaborative) Question – Teams will collaborate through technology (i.e. group text, GroupMe, etc.). ALL Team Captains will submit their final answer directly to the host through the Zoom private chat. This will be a 5-minute round.

Basic Scoring

- Team Questions in Round One will be worth 5 points each.
- Tossups Questions in Round Two will be worth 10 points each.
- Team Bonus Question in Round three will be worth 15 points each.
- In Round One – Questions will only be read once. The team member must begin his/her answer within 5 seconds after the reading of the question.
 - A team captain can request to pass and move to the next question during their allotted time of 5 minutes in round one.
- In Round Two - After the moderator has finished reading a tossup question, players from both teams will have 5 seconds to answer. The player who “raises their hand” to answer must wait until the host/moderator has called their name before saying their answer.
 - If one team gives an incorrect answer at this point, the other team has another 5 seconds in which to answer. The 5 seconds will be timed mentally by the moderator/timekeeper and he/she will use their discretion on when to call “time”.
- A player may signal to answer a tossup at any point after the moderator has begun reading the question. The moderator will stop reading the question as soon as a player has signaled.
- Only the player who signaled and is recognized by the moderator/host may give an answer. The recognized player must begin answering within 5 seconds after having been recognized. The moderator/timekeeper will use their discretion for how long 5 seconds is before calling “time”.
- If a player’s answer to a tossup is incorrect, or the 5-second period has expired, the moderator will, if necessary, finish reading the question for the other team.
 - If a player on the second team signals and answers correctly, the second team earns the points.
 - If the second team’s player gives an incorrect answer, or no player on the second team answers, the tossup goes dead AND the moderator will provide the correct answer and move on to the next tossup.
- The moderator will ask for additional information (also called a “prompt”) if an answer is correct but less complete than what is required, except for titles of works, which must usually be exact. Generally, last names of persons, or other commonly used names (“Obama,” “Beyoncé”) are sufficient.

Cellphones are only allowed to be used during the Round 3 collaboration bonus question.

Tournament Schedule

Round 1

Game #1
Team 1 VS Team 4
Team 2 VS Team 5
Team 3 VS Team 6

Game #2
Team 1 VS Team 5
Team 2 VS Team 6
Team 3 VS Team 4

Game #3
Team 1 VS Team 6
Team 2 VS Team 4
Team 3 VS Team 5

Round 2

Game #1
Team 1 VS Team 3
Team 2 VS Team 4

Game #2
Team 1 VS Team 4
Team 2 VS Team 3

Game #3
Team 1 VS Team 2
Team 3 VS Team 4

Round 3

Game #1
Team 1 VS Team 2

