

# Marshall University

## SCORES

### 2025



# Handbook & Contest Listings

## April 4, 2025

Dear Counselor/Principal:

Thank you for your continued support of the Marshall University SCORES Academic Festival. Please take a few minutes to read the handbook and the course descriptions and share the information with your students.

Some contest requirements have changed, so please pay close attention to deadlines and contest descriptions to ensure the correct information is disseminated to the students. We want every student to be eligible to participate on Friday, April 4, 2025. The awards ceremony will occur this year at 3:00 p.m. in the Henderson Center Arena.

Registration for SCORES will open in December, and the registration deadline is Friday, March 7th, 2025. Please ensure all students are registered by the deadline, as no exceptions will be made. Remember, to register your students, you must log onto the website. It is a pleasure to invite you and your students to join us in April to celebrate your student's academic achievements and become more familiar with the opportunities available at Marshall University. If you have any questions or need assistance, please let me know.

We look forward to working with each of you to make this another successful SCORES Academic Festival.

Sincerely,

The SCORES Festival Team

[scores@marshall.edu](mailto:scores@marshall.edu)

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# SCORES ACADEMIC FESTIVAL POLICY STATEMENTS

- All participating schools and students must be registered in the SCORES database. SCORES supervisors can access the database at Scores (marshall.edu) <http://scores.marshall.edu/>. Once the SCORES page appears, supervisors must follow the main page's instructions along with all subsequent pages.
- The SCORES office will not register schools or individual students. The individual school SCORES supervisor must register students.

**Please note: No changes to registration can be made on the event day.**

- High school students enrolled in Marshall University classes may participate in the Academic Festival contests, provided they test at the proper level. For example, a student taking Chemistry at Marshall must enroll in advanced Chemistry or a fourth-level Spanish class at Marshall and register for a fourth-level or advanced Spanish contest. **When signing your students up for the appropriate Chemistry or Spanish exam, you verify they are in the proper level. No additional forms need to be sent in to verify.**
- The high schools participating in the Academic Festival will be divided into groups of comparable size based on their student body enrollment. High school principals must complete and submit the enrollment verification form stating the enrollment of each grade level: Seniors, Juniors, Sophomores, and Freshmen.
  - This statement must be submitted with student registrations no later than March 7th, 2025, and should be consistent with the numbers submitted by the school to their State Department of Education. It will be emailed to [scores@marshall.edu](mailto:scores@marshall.edu).
- The schools placing first, second, and third within their groups will be awarded trophies.
- **The student receiving the highest point total in the Outstanding Student competition and planning to attend Marshall will receive a \$1500 scholarship.** This scholarship is a one-time payment of \$1500 and can only be used for a graduating high school senior who intends to enroll at Marshall University in Fall 2025.
- **The student who receives the second highest points in the Outstanding Student competition and plans to attend Marshall will receive a \$1000 scholarship.** This scholarship is also a one-time payment of \$1000. The following top four students participating in the Outstanding Student competition and planning to attend **Marshall will be awarded a one-time scholarship of \$500.**
- The winners of the Outstanding Student competition will be selected by considering the students' showing in the individual contests in which they compete, academic excellence, extracurricular and community involvement, teacher recommendation, and a personal statement. Team contests are excluded from the selection of contests for competition. **Nomination forms must be submitted by Friday, March 7th, 2025, and uploaded to the online portal.** The following criteria should be used in selecting the Outstanding Student nominees:

- The student must be a graduating senior who intends to enroll at Marshall University in Fall 2025.
- Students should exhibit excellence in academics, extracurricular involvement, and community service.
- The student should be seen as representing the best the school has to offer.
- Nominees must be admitted to Marshall University by Monday, March 24, 2025, to be eligible for the nomination.
- Outstanding Student Nominations will be evaluated by a committee of university faculty, staff, and administrators using the following scale:

Academic excellence: 20%

Extracurricular involvement: 5%

Community service: 5%

Recommendation: 10%

Personal statement: 25% Showing in SCORES events: 35%

- Schools may nominate a MAXIMUM of three students for the Outstanding Student Award. Any school that submits more than three students for consideration will have ALL students disqualified from consideration.

\*\*Scholarships are awarded and divided over the Academic Year (Fall 2025/Spring 2025 semesters)

- **Gold, Silver, and Bronze Medals** will be awarded to students placing first, second, and third in all contests unless the contest supervisor determines the number and/or quality of entrants does not merit that number of awards. Plaques are awarded to the following winners in place of individual medals: Dance Group, Television News Package, and Television Entertainment TV Show.
- Trophies will be awarded to the top three winners in each of the school divisions.
- Medals and trophies must be picked up by the student or a representative from each school; no medals or trophies will be delivered.

**Disclaimer: Team trophies will be awarded based on the results received at the beginning of the awards ceremony.**

- Students disrupting the awards ceremony will forfeit any award they may have won and ban their school's participation from the SCORES Academic Festival for one year. We also reserve the right to disqualify students or high school representatives based on their behavior.
- Please notify the SCORES office if you have students who may need assistance negotiating the campus or buildings. We will be glad to provide a host for the day.
- Marshall University is an institution committed to Intercultural and Social Justice. ALL students with a (3.0) G.P.A. or better are welcome and encouraged to participate in the SCORES Academic Festival.

- Any student participating in SCORES who commits academic dishonesty such as plagiarism or cheating on any pre-submitted contest or contests the day of the event will be disqualified from the competition. That student will forfeit any medals earned throughout the competition and be removed as an Outstanding Student Scholarship finalist, should the student qualify and be nominated for the award. This also includes using artificial intelligence to create work that is not their own unless the contest states using AI is appropriate.
- Each school will receive a registration packet at check-in on the morning of the SCORES Academic Festival. The packet will include a campus map, lunch tickets, and a listing of the contests and times. Each school is responsible for printing your list of registered students/events. If the number of registered students fluctuates or changes for any reason, the school supervisor should contact the SCORES Coordinator and notify him/her of the change so the appropriate changes can be made.

### **DISCLAIMER**

**Final rules are subject to interpretation and alteration by the contest supervisor.**

## **SPECIAL NOTES AND CRITERIA FOR THE REGISTRATION OF STUDENTS REGISTRATION DEADLINE**

All registrations should be received by Friday, March 7th, 2025. Please remember that some contests limit the number of students who may participate and will close early. \*\*\*\*\* Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis\*\*\*\*\*

You may use the online database to register your students until March 7th, 2025.

### **PARTICIPATION CRITERIA**

Seniors  
Juniors  
Sophomores  
Freshmen

**High School students only.** Students must have a 3.0 G.P.A. in the test area. If the high school offers no coursework equivalent to the test area, the student must have a 3.0 G.P.A. overall.

## NUMBER OF STUDENTS PER CONTEST

Entry limits are noted at the top of each contest sheet in the handbook.

## NUMBER OF ENTRIES

Students may enter up to four contests. They are limited to three individual competitions, and the fourth event must be a group event.

## PRESUBMISSION CONTESTS

Several contests require entries to be submitted before the day of the festival. The deadline for all pre-submitted materials is March 7th, 2025. Please read each submission on how to submit materials.

## TEAM CONTESTS

All team contests require a list of team members' names to be sent to the SCORES coordinator by the deadline. Alternate team members must also be identified. Any team that does not identify its members will be allowed to participate but will not be eligible for trophies. Team lists must be submitted to the SCORES Coordinator by Friday, March 7th, 2025.

## DEADLINES

Please note that NO EXCEPTIONS will be made regarding deadlines. Students must be registered by Friday, March 7th, 2025, and all pre-submitted contest materials must be received on the Marshall University Campus by Friday, March 7th, 2025. All entries received after March 7th will not be considered.

NOTE: Writing Contests: Some pre-submitted contests require attendance at a workshop on the day of the Festival. Therefore, these contests are treated as regular contests, and a student is limited to registering for one other regular contest and one other pre-submitted contest. Students who register for pre-submitted contests are not required to attend the Festival but are encouraged to visit with the other participants during the Festival.

DROPPED-OFF ENTRIES: Those left with judges on the morning of the festival include costumes and scenery design. These contests will be treated as pre-submitted to determine the number of contests a student may enter.

## OUTSTANDING STUDENT NOMINATION

To be considered, the high school must upload an OUTSTANDING STUDENT NOMINATION form to the SCORES database and the student's registration by March 7th, 2025. Schools may submit up to three students for consideration.

Except for team contests, contestants may participate in four competitions, but only the scores of the individual contests will be used to evaluate the Outstanding Student Recognition.

### VERIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY

All students registering for Chemistry 1, 2, or any Modern Language contest must be verified to ensure participation at the proper level. When signing your students up for the specific event, you are verifying they are at the proper level.

### CONTEST TIMES

Most contests are given at 9:00, 10:00, 11:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m., and 1:00 p.m., but several contests require different sign-in times, particularly team or group contests. Please check each contest description sheet carefully.

# The Honors College

# A Reflective Essay: Sponsored by the Honors College

Contest Supervisor: Brian A. Hoey, PhD

Email: [honorscollege@marshall.edu](mailto:honorscollege@marshall.edu)

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**Limit:** 3 Students per school

**Eligibility:** Minimum 3.0 GPA

**Type of Contest:** Essay

**Materials Needed:** None

**Entry Information:** Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

## Description:

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The Honors College at Marshall University invites high-achieving students to participate in this unique essay contest, which encourages deep reflection on the ideas presented in a powerful poem by Mary Oliver, "What I Have Learned So Far." This poem, taken from *New and Selected Poems, Volume 2*, explores important life themes like taking action, staying committed, and the consequences of inaction. Oliver's thoughts about the choices we face each day resonate with a century-old conversation started by Robert Frost's "The Road Not Taken."

### What I have Learned So Far

Meditation is old and honorable, so why should I not sit every morning of my life, on the hillside, looking into the shining world? Because, properly attended to, delight, as well as havoc is suggestion.

Can one be passionate about the just, the ideal, the sublime, and the holy, and yet commit to no labor in its cause? I don't think so.

All summations have a beginning, all effect has a story, all kindness begins with the sown seeds.

Thought buds toward radiance. The gospel of light is the crossroads of—indolence, or action.

Be ignited or be gone.

In her poem, Oliver asks: Can one be passionate about ideals like justice, kindness, and the sublime, without acting? She urges us to make a choice: "Be ignited, or be gone."

**Essay Prompt: Apply the themes from Oliver's poem to your personal goals as you prepare for college and develop as a future leader. Think about how you plan to engage with your community, lead others, and make meaningful contributions, whether through action or thoughtful decisions. Compare Oliver's perspective with your own expectations for your journey ahead.**

**Criteria for judging the event:**

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Entries will be assessed on four equally weighted components:

- **Clarity of Argument:** How clearly you address the poem's themes and develop a strong, thoughtful argument.
- **Supportive Evidence:** How well you use examples or experiences to support your ideas.
- **Critical Thinking:** Your ability to present fresh, insightful perspectives in your reflection.
- **Writing Style:** The quality of your writing—its organization, coherence, and readability.

Each essay will be read and scored by multiple faculty readers. Students who submit the top essays will be considered for admission to the Honors College at Marshall University. As a member of the Honors College, you'll be part of a vibrant academic community. This competition offers you an opportunity to showcase the qualities we seek in honors students. Your participation in this contest could be the first step toward joining a community dedicated to academic excellence and lifelong learning.

# College of Arts and Media

# Acting: Comic Monologue

Contest Supervisor: Jack Cirillo  
Email: colclough@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 3 Students per school -15 students total per time period

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Audition

**Materials Needed:** See description.

**Entry Information:**

Beginning Times: 10:00 & 11:00

**Description:**

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This contest consists of the acting of a memorized comic monologue of two minutes maximum in length from a well-known play.

The monologue may be a soliloquy or a long speech from a play in which another person or other people are supposed to be on stage; however, the contestants will deliver the lines of only one character. Makeup, costumes, lighting, props, and music will not be permitted. Ordinary school clothing should be worn. If needed, one chair will be provided. The only introduction permitted will be the play's name and author, the character portrayed, and the act and scene numbers from which the selection is taken.

**A one-page analysis of the character is due by Friday, March 7th, 2025: The following should be included in the analysis:**

- Performer's Name
- Classification
- What is the emotional state of the character?
- Title of work
- What is the physical state of the character?
- Author
- Act/Scene where the monologue comes from
- Short description of the situation where the character speaks
- What does the character want in the scene?
- Include a copy of the monologue and attach to the character analysis

**Criteria for Judging the event:**

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**10-point scale for each area (1 being the least and 10 best)**

- Evidence of preparation—memorization, blocking, clarity of plot points
- Clearly defined character goal(s) or objective(s) for the character
- Found variety both vocally and physically
- Clearly articulated/energized vocal and physical performance

# Acting: Dramatic Monologue

Contest Supervisor: Jack Cirillo  
Email: [colclough@marshall.edu](mailto:colclough@marshall.edu)

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**Limit:** 3 Students per school -15 students total per time

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Audition

**Materials Needed:** See description.

**Entry Information:**

**Beginning Times:** 10:00 & 11:00

**Description:**

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This contest consists of the acting of a memorized dramatic monologue of two minutes maximum in length from a well-known play.

The monologue may be a soliloquy or a long speech from a play in which another person or other people are supposed to be on stage; however, the contestants will deliver the lines of only one character. Makeup, costumes, lighting, props, and music will not be permitted. Ordinary school clothing should be worn. If needed, one chair will be provided. The only introduction permitted will be the name of the play and author, the character portrayed, and the act and scene numbers from which the selection is taken.

**A one-page analysis of the character is due by Friday, March 7th, 2025** (Submit via online portal)

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**The following should be included in the analysis:**

- Performer's Name
- Classification
- Title of work
- Author
- Act/Scene where the monologue comes from
- Short description of the situation where the character speaks
- Include a copy of the monologue and attach it to the character analysis

What is the goal or objective of the character in the scene?

What does the character want in the scene?

What is the physical state of the character?

What is the emotional state of the character?

**Criteria for Judging the event:**

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**10-point scale for each area (1 being least and 10 best)**

- Evidence of preparation—memorization, blocking, clarity of plot points
- Clearly defined character goal(s) or objective(s) for the character
- Found variety both vocally and physically
- Clearly articulated/energized vocal and physical performance

# Alumni Profile

Contest Supervisor: Matt James

Email: james65@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** No Limit

**Eligibility:** Open to all

**Type of Contest:** Report Formal

**Materials Needed:** None

**Entry Information:** Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

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## Description:

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Students will select and interview an alumnus of Marshall University and write a personal profile piece in the style of features in Marshall Magazine ([https://mds.marshall.edu/marshall\\_magazine/](https://mds.marshall.edu/marshall_magazine/)). The Alumni Spotlight in each magazine edition is a good reference.

The profile piece should tell the story of the alumnus' experience at Marshall, significant accomplishments since graduating from Marshall, including how Marshall played a role in those achievements, and any personal or unique information gained from the interview experience.

Photographs are not required but may be included.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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- The profile will be evaluated using the following scoring guide.
- Composition/content: 50 points
- Grammar/writing mechanics: 30 points
- Creativity/originality: 10 points
- Overall impression: 10 points

## Special Requirements

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None

# Art & Design

Contest Supervisor: Maribea Barnes-Marsano, Kyle Dyer  
Email: barnesm@marshall.edu, kyle.dyer@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** No Limit

**Eligibility:** High school students with art, design film portfolios, and/or film portfolios. Sophomores-Seniors  
15 students total per period

**Type of Contest:** Individual

**Materials Needed:** Students should bring their portfolios with five to ten artworks/designs/films.

Digital portfolios on a flash drive, tablet, or laptop will be accepted for digitally produced works of art and documentation of three-dimensional artwork.

**Entry Information:**

The contest will take place in the Visual Arts Center located at 927 3rd Avenue, Huntington, WV 25701.

**Beginning Time 9:30**

Please note: The University does not provide transportation to the Visual Arts Center.

## Description:

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Multiple one-on-one portfolio reviews will be conducted with each student. Students will be scored and then ranked for every grade level. Tuition assistance will be awarded to the top three seniors who plan to attend Marshall University

In the BFA or BA in Art & Design, BA in Art Education, or the BFA in Filmmaking degrees. The top seniors will be entered into a pool with the top seniors from the Branding & Logo Design competition for consideration for these scholarships.

First Place, Second Place, and Third Place awards will be given to seniors, juniors, and sophomores. Awards will be presented during the SCORES Academic Festival.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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Students and their portfolio will be evaluated on the following criteria: visual/compositional strength, craftsmanship, originality, content, and oral presentation of artworks.

Note: It is not required that artwork be framed or matted.

## Special Requirements

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Students participating in Art & Design Portfolio will not have time to participate in any other "day of" contests, only pre-submission contests.

# Art & Design - Branding & Logo Design

Contest Supervisor: Maribea Barnes-Marsano, Kyle Dyer  
Email: barnesm@marshall.edu, kyle.dyer@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** No Limit

**Eligibility:** High school students, sophomores through seniors.

**Type of Contest:** Individual

**Materials Needed:** N/A

**Entry Information** Pre-submission due , March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

## Description:

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Students are invited to pre-submit an original logo design as a .pdf or .jpg file to participate in the Branding and Logo Design contest. A logo is a unique graphic symbol that identifies a company, organization, or institution. Students may re-design an existing local business/organization's logo or create their own brand. Only original work will be accepted.

Submissions should include the following:

1. An original logo created with any design software or illustrated by hand. Dimensions: 6 x 6 inches or 6 x 8 inches. Submitted as a .pdf or .jpg file.
2. A written description of your design, why you chose the subject, and how you created your logo.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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Students will be evaluated on the following criteria: visual/compositional strength, originality, craftsmanship, content, and written explanation of work submitted.

## Special Requirements

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Please submit all entries by uploading image files and documentation to the online SCORES database. Tuition assistance will be awarded to the top three seniors who plan to attend Marshall University for a BFA or BA in Art, BA in Art Education, or the BFA Filmmaking degrees.

The top seniors will be entered into the pool with the top seniors from the Art & Design Portfolio competition for consideration for these scholarships.

First Place, Second Place, and Third Place awards will be given to seniors, juniors, and sophomores. Awards will be presented during the SCORES Academic Festival.

# Broadcast Writing

Contest Supervisor: Dan Hollis

Email: [hollis@marshall.edu](mailto:hollis@marshall.edu)

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**Limit:** 5 Students per school-25 Students total per time period

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Writing a TV news story

**Materials Needed:** Pencil

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 9:00 & 10:00

## Description:

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Individual participants will be given a fact sheet with details they will use to write a short television news script. In addition to writing the story, the participants will be asked to choose the video they think would be best to accompany the words.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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Evaluation will be based on, but not limited to, the following:

- Did the participant focus on the most newsworthy elements?
- Was the writing done in broadcast style?
- Did the information flow?
- Did the video complement the script? Did the script and the video work together?

## Special Requirements

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None

# Dance: Solo

Contest Supervisor: Shelby Nelson

Email: nelson287@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** No Limit

**Eligibility:** Open to all

**Type of Contest:** Solo Dance

**Materials Needed:** Dance recording must be submitted on a YouTube link and follow the requirements listed below

**Entry Information:** Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal). Beginning Time 11:00 if chosen from the pre-submission

## Description:

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Solo dance piece of any style or genre. Solo dance is limited to a minimum length of one minute thirty seconds and a maximum length of two minutes thirty seconds. Dance must be recorded and uploaded to the SCORES database by Friday, March 7th, 2025, and follow the criteria listed below. All submissions will be judged on the requirements/criteria listed, and the top 10 solo dancers will be notified by Friday, March 22, 2025. The top 10 solo dancers chosen will perform on campus, the day of the SCORES Academic Festival. During the on-campus performance, dancers will be allowed to choose the same dance or a different one.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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Contestants will be evaluated on the following:

Creativity      Technique      Choreography Precision

Costume      Music Selection      Facial Expressions/Communication      Time

## Special Requirements

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1. All dancers must submit the following information to the SCORES database by Friday, March 7th, 2025
  - Individual name/school name
  - Title of composition
  - Length of composition
  - Style of dance
  - Title of music
2. All dancers will report to the Recreation Center lobby by 11:00 a.m. Session will begin promptly at 11:00 and conclude by 12:00 p.m.
3. Entries for this contest must be solo dancers only

# Dance: Group

Contest Supervisor: Shelby Nelson

Email: nelson287@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 10 per group

**Eligibility:** Open to all

**Type of Contest:** Group Dance

**Materials Needed:** Dance recording must be submitted on a YouTube link and follow the requirements listed below

**Entry Information:** Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal). Beginning Time 12:00 if chosen from the pre-submission

## Description:

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Group dance piece of any style or genre. Dance groups are limited to a minimum length of one minute thirty seconds and a maximum length of two minutes thirty seconds. Dance must be uploaded to the SCORES database with a YouTube link by Friday, March 7th, 2025, and follow the criteria listed below. All submissions will be judged on the requirements/criteria listed, and the top 10 dance groups chosen will perform on campus the day of the SCORES Academic Festival. During the on-campus performance, dancers will be allowed to choose the same dance or a different one.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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Contestants will be evaluated on the following:

Creativity      Technique      Choreography Precision

Costume      Music Selection      Facial Expressions/Communication      Time

## Special Requirements

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1. All dancers must submit the following information to the SCORES database by Friday, March 7th, 2025
  - Individual name/school name
  - Title of composition
  - Length of composition
  - Style of dance
  - Title of music
2. All dancers will report to the Recreation Center lobby by 11:00 a.m. Session will begin promptly at 12:00 and this will conclude by 1:00 pm
3. Entries for this contest must be solo dancers only

# Designing of Scenery

Contest Supervisor: Jack Cirillo  
Email: colclough@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 3 students per school

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Design one set for a full length play or musical

**Materials Needed:** See description

**Entry Information:** Entry time: 10:00

## Description:

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The contestant should submit a Scenic Design Package of one set of a full-length play or musical. If chosen from a multiple set show (musical, Shakespearean, Restoration, or any show with a number of different locales), the setting should illustrate the major moments of the show. Minor scenes would not sufficiently depict the tenor of the production.

The Scenic Design Package should include the following:

play's title, author, act/scenes for which the design will be used, scale, student's name, and school (all items submitted for this project should include this information)

1. A Concept Statement consisting of a 2 - 3 paragraph statement of the designer's artistic intent. A verbal explanation of the mood, tone, texture, movement and/or dynamics of the play.
  2. A Research Portfolio containing visual examples of design elements from a variety of sources (architecture, art, furniture, fabric, etc.) that serves as a basis for design decisions.
  3. A drafted ground plan, in 1/4" scale, using the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse and generally accepted drafting conventions. The Ground Plan should minimally include:
    - a. plaster line
    - b. center line
    - c. proscenium wall
    - d. \*furniture
    - e. scenic elements (walls, platforms, doors, windows, etc.)
    - f. backing united (if any)
    - g. masking (stage draperies, drapes, etc.)
  4. Front Elevations, in 1/2" scale, of the major elements (wall, painted drops, etc.) Used in the show. This may require 1 - 3 plates.
  5. For Multiple Set shows, a Shaft Plot in Plan View shows how this set works in relation to other sets in the show.
  6. Either a Color Rendering or Painted Model to depict a major moment in the show.
- 

\*Rendering Specifications

- rendering should be matted, not to exceed 18" x 24"
  - recommended scale should be ½" - 1'
  - accurate scale and perspective
  - color selection to represent the finished setting
  - sufficient detail to illustrate texture and details
  - all furniture and set dressings
  - indication of theatrical lighting used in the scene
  - a standing human figure
  - recommended mediums are watercolor, color pencil, acrylic or a combination of the above
- \*If pastels are used, they should be fixed and protected with clear acetate

**\* Scale Model Specifications**

- model shall be in 1/4" scale
- color selection to represent finished set
- sufficient detail to illustrate textures and details
- materials selected with scale in mind
- all furniture and set dressings
- a standing human figure
- black box with proscenium

**Criteria for Judging the event:**

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1. Specifications of the theatre where the show for this set is to be performed must accompany projects.
2. A Full Stage Ground Plan of the set is required. The Ground Plan should include all scenic elements plus furniture and set dressings. The Ground Plan is usually done in ¼" =1'0" scale. GP's in ½" scale will be accepted. (The paper fuse for ½" scale will be very large!)
3. Each project must include Front Elevations (drawings of each wall, platforms and other set pieces labeled to coordinate with floor plan). Elevations MUST be in ½" =1'0" scale.
4. Models MUST be built to a scale of 1/2 inch = 1 foot.
5. Models MUST be painted in color, using acrylic or watercolor media. Painting should try to imitate the textures and surfaces used in the design (i.e., stone, wood, marble, foliage, etc.)
6. Each model MUST show how the set will be masked backstage.
7. A scaled figure must be posed in the model to illustrate the scale.
8. Furniture/prop pieces may be bought or handmade provided they are in ½" =1'0" scale.

**Special Requirements**

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Contestants should deliver their entries to the Scores festival on the day of the festival between 8:45 and 9:45 a.m. The contestants should pick up their work by 11:00 a.m. on the day of the festival.

# Editorial Writing

Contest Supervisor: Sandy York  
Email: [sandy.york@marshall.edu](mailto:sandy.york@marshall.edu)

---

**Limit:** 5 Students per school-25 Students total per time period

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Write an editorial

**Materials Needed:** Pencil

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 9:00 & 10:00

## **Description:**

---

This competition deals with the opinion function of newspapers - Editorial Writing. Participants will be given a topic that they must use to complete a 400-word editorial. Mistakes must be corrected, and copy turned in by the end of the test.

## **Criteria for Judging the event:**

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Judging will be based on logic, organization, writing style, word choice, grammar and development of the editorial.

# Feature Writing

Contest Supervisor: Robert Rabe, PhD  
Email: rabe@marshall.edu

---

**Limit:** 5 Students per school-25 Students total per time period

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Write a Feature Article

**Materials Needed:** Pencil

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 10:00 & 11:00

## **Description:**

---

Students will be provided with facts on which to base a Feature Article. Contestants must select relevant items, arrange them in order of importance, and complete the article within the time allowed.

## **Criteria for Judging the event:**

---

Stories will be judged on the logic of presentation, organization, writing style, word choice, grammar, and development of the feature.

# Music - Brass

Contest Supervisor: Chris Schletter, PhD

Email: [schletter@marshall.edu](mailto:schletter@marshall.edu)

---

**Limit:** 3 Students per school- 18 Students per time-period

10-minute performance slots, from 9:30 am – 12:30 pm

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Performance

**Materials Needed:** Copy of solo sheet music with measures numbered for the judge. Accompanists must be provided by the contestant (no taped or digital accompaniments). Contestants must provide their own instrument.

**Entry Information:** Beginning Time 9:30

## Description:

---

This contest is a solo performance on a Brass instrument. The student will perform a portion, or all, of two prepared compositions (depending on available time) for a judge. The soloist must furnish their own instrument. No pre-recorded or digital accompaniment please! Compositions that are written with an accompaniment are to be performed with an accompaniment.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

---

The contestants will be evaluated by the level of music performance in the following categories (100 points total). Musicality, Interpretation, and Expression:

Phrasing and Musical Line – 15 points

Dynamic Expression – 15 points

Tempo and Style – 10 points Technique, Control, and Accuracy:

Pitch Accuracy – 10 points

Rhythmic Accuracy – 10 points

Quality of Sound – 15 points

Demonstration of Fundamentals – 15 points Physical Control and Presence:

Presentation and Presence – 5 points

Control of Performance Anxiety – 5 points

## Special Requirements

---

Students must furnish their own instrument and accompanist: Standard instrumentation literature only.

# Music – Composition

Contest Supervisor: Mark Zanter, DMA

Email: [zanter@marshall.edu](mailto:zanter@marshall.edu)

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**Limit:** No limit

**Eligibility:** 10-12<sup>th</sup> grade

**Type of Contest:** Portfolio Submission

**Materials Needed:** NA

**Entry Information:** Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal).

## Description:

---

High school sophomores through seniors are invited to participate in the musical composition contest by submitting 1-3 original musical compositions (arrangements of pre-existing works are not eligible) in any musical style. Submissions should include one or more of the following:

1. Musical Score (Handwritten or computer generated of an original musical work for any medium (instrumental, vocal, electro-acoustic) and in any musical style.
2. Recording (MIDI acceptable) of the submitted work as an MP3 on a flash drive, or a link to SoundCloud, Google Drive, or Dropbox. This can be submitted in the SCORES database
3. Works submitted must be composed by a single individual, no group collaborations will be accepted.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

---

Works will be evaluated on artistic conception, musical notation, performability, and quality of submitted recording.

## Special Requirements

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This can be a PDF or document and digital files, max of 10 mb per submission.

# Music – Percussion

Contest Supervisor: Steve Hall  
Email: hallj@marshall.edu

---

**Limit:** 3 Students per school-10 Students per time period

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Performance

**Materials Needed:** Copy of musical pieces for judges: Accompanists must be provided by the contestant (no taped accompaniments); Bring your own instrument(s), sticks, and mallets.

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 10:00 & 11:00

## Description:

---

This contest is a solo performance on a Percussion instrument. The student will perform a portion or all of two prepared compositions (depending on availability of time) for a judge. The soloist must furnish their own accompanist. No taped accompaniments please!

\*\*\*\*Compositions that are written with an accompanist are to be performed with an accompaniment.\*\*\*\*

## Criteria for Judging the event:

---

The contestants will be evaluated by the level of their music performance: Stage Presence and Control of Performance Anxiety: 25%

Musical Expression: 25%

Technical Control and Accuracy: 25% Overall Sound Quality: 25%

## Special Requirements

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Students must furnish their own instruments and accompanists. Literature may be chosen from the following areas: concert snare drum, rudimental snare drum, keyboard percussion, and /or timpani. If an instrument is needed, please contact Professor Steve Hall at 696-6488.

# Music – Piano

Contest Supervisor: Martin Saunders

---

**Limit:** 3 Students per school-10 Students per time period

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Performance

**Materials Needed:** Copy of musical pieces for judges.

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 10:00 & 11:00

## **Description:**

---

This contest is a solo performance on a Piano. The student will perform a portion or all of two prepared compositions of contrasting styles for a judge.

## **Criteria for Judging the event:**

---

The contestants will be evaluated by the level of their music performance: Stage Presence and Control of Performance Anxiety: 25%

Musical Expression: 25%

Technical Control and Accuracy: 25%

Overall Sound Quality: 25%

## **Special Requirements**

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No more than seven minutes of music. At least one piece should be performed from memory. Standard Piano Literature only!

Former first place winners of this competition are not permitted to compete again for two years.

# Music – Strings

Contest Supervisor: Solen Dikener  
Email: Email: [dikener@marshall.edu](mailto:dikener@marshall.edu)

---

**Limit:** 3 Students per school-10 Students per time period

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Performance

**Materials Needed:** Copy of musical pieces for judges; accompanists optional), must be supplied by the contestant (no taped accompaniments); bring your own instrument.

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 10:00 & 11:00

## Description:

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This contest is a solo performance on an Acoustic String instrument. The student will be performing a portion or all of two contrasting prepared compositions (depending on availability of time).

## Criteria for Judging the event:

---

The contestants will be evaluated by the level of their music performance: Stage Presence and Control of Performance Anxiety: 25%

Musical Expression: 25%

Technical Control and Accuracy: 25%

Overall Sound Quality: 25%

## Special Requirements

---

Student must furnish their own instrument.

# Music – Voice

Contest Supervisor:  
Dr. Alexander Lee, DMA  
Email: [leeal@marshall.edu](mailto:leeal@marshall.edu)

---

**Limit:** 5 Students per school-10 Students per time period

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Performance

**Materials Needed:** Accompanists (pianist) must be supplied by applicant or send MP3 or WAV file of karaoke or backing track to [leeal@marshall.edu](mailto:leeal@marshall.edu) 7 days before the contest.

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 10:00, 11:00, 12:00

## Description:

---

This contest is a solo performance in Voice Music. The student will be required to perform ONE prepared song from memory for a judge/judges.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

---

The contestants will be evaluated by the level of their music performance: Stage Presence and Control of

Performance Anxiety: 25%

Musical Expression: 25%

Technical Control and Accuracy: 25%

Overall Sound Quality: 25%

## Special Requirements

---

Students must furnish their own accompanist or send backing track (karaoke track) to Dr. Alexander Lee via email. Songs must be performed from memory.

Repertoire options

- 1.) Classical: Art song, operatic aria, traditional folk songs, sacred song or hymn
- 2.) Musical Theatre
- 3.) Commercial Music (Pop & Rock)

# Music – Woodwinds

Contest Supervisor:

<https://mubert.marshall.edu/scheduleofcourses.php?term=202503>,

DMA

Email: [binghama@marshall.edu](mailto:binghama@marshall.edu)

---

**Limit:** 3 Students per school-10 Students per time period

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Performance

**Materials Needed:** Copy of musical pieces for judges; accompanists must be supplied by the contestant (no taped accompaniments); bring your own instrument

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 10:00 & 11:00

## Description:

---

This contest is a solo performance in Woodwind Music. The student will be required to perform ONE prepared piece for a judge.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

---

The contestants will be evaluated by the level of their music performance: Stage Presence and Control of Performance Anxiety: 25%

Musical Expression: 25%

Technical Control and Accuracy: 25%

Overall Sound Quality: 25%

## Special Requirements

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Students must furnish their own instrument and accompanist. Standard Instrumental Literature only.

# News Writing

Contest Supervisor:  
Christopher Swindell  
Email: swindell@mashall.edu

---

**Limit:** 5 Students per school- 25 Students total per time period

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Write a News Story

**Materials Needed:** Pencil

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 9:00 & 10:00

## Description:

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A fact sheet will be supplied to participants who will then sift out the most significant items, determine the order in which they should be presented, and write a News Story.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

---

Contestants should pay particular attention to grammar, spelling, organization, and style.

## Special Requirements

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None

# Photojournalism

## Documentary Photo

Contest Supervisor: Sandy York  
Email: [sandy.york@marshall.edu](mailto:sandy.york@marshall.edu)

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**Limit:** 1 Entry per student

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Individual

**Materials Needed:** None

**Entry Informatio:** Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

### Description:

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Photojournalism – documentary photo contestants are to pre-submit an 8 x 10 or 5 x 7, black and white or color documentary photograph of a PERSON. A documentary photo is used to chronicle events and environments both significant and of everyday life. The documentary photo is to be an un-posed and natural looking image of a person in an environment. Attempt to produce a truthful and candid photograph of your chosen person.

Include a one-sentence caption, along with the photographer's name and school's name. This can be uploaded as a separate word document to the database. For guidance on writing captions, visit

<https://www.wikihow.com/Write-Good-Captions-in-Photojournalism>

### Criteria for Judging the event:

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Judging will be based on the storytelling quality of the photo and the written caption; originality, creativity and composition of the photo; and the technical qualities of exposure and focus.

Photos without captions will not be judged.

### Special Requirements

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None

# Photojournalism

## Feature Video

Contest Supervisor: Sandy York  
Email: sandy.york@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 1 Entry per student

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Individual

**Materials Needed:** None

**Entry Information:** Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

### Description:

---

Photojournalism – feature video contestants are to pre-submit a 2-3-minute video as a .mov or .mp4 on a flash drive. A feature video is a short video used to tell a story about a person, place or event. Find a moment that is worth telling a story about -- record the commonplace, show a slice of life on or off campus, tell an old story in a new way, evoke a reaction in the viewer. Attempt to tell a compelling story using the elements of video production. Think about story, framing, lighting, editing, sound, etc.

Attach a 2-3 sentence description about your video along with the videographer's name and school's name. This can be a separate word document uploaded to the database.

### Criteria for Judging the event:

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Judging will be based on the storytelling quality of the video with description, originality, creativity and the technical qualities of the visuals and audio.

### Special Requirements

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Please upload the submission to the SCORES database. Entries must be received by Friday, March 7th, 2025.

# Podcast Production

Contest Supervisor: Dr. Rob Quicke

Email: quicke@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 1 Team per school

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Team

**Materials Needed:** None

**Entry Informatio:** Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

## Description:

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The Radio-Television Production and Management area of the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications will conduct a podcast production competition. The podcast must be prepared, scripted, and produced entirely by the student participant/s. The podcast shall be submitted in advance for evaluation by the Radio-Television Production and Management faculty members. To be eligible, each podcast entry must conform to these criteria

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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1. The submitted podcast must be at least 10 minutes in duration and not exceed 30 minutes. The podcast can be a single episode taken from a series of episodes.
2. It must be a complete podcast episode, with a podcast name, student host or hosts, and featuring a specific theme or topic. This podcast must contain an introduction and a sign-off. The podcast should be exciting and interesting to listen to.
3. The content of the program must be suitable for broadcast on any public or commercial radio station, as well as for digital distribution. Therefore, submissions that include language that violates FCC guidelines/standards will not be accepted.
4. Content of the podcast must focus on an issue or topic which affects or interests teenagers in that community. The podcast hosts should be students but may include interview guests that are non-students, such as authorities, teachers, or other experts available to the students.
5. The program must be submitted as an MP3 or MP4 file, or as a URL to the hosted podcast episode online. Podcasts that feature video may also be submitted as well as audio-only podcasts.

## Clearly label your submission with the following items listed below.

1. Name of the podcast & Team Name
2. Name the individual student/s on the team designated as the podcast's host/s.
3. Names of all the other students involved in the production of this podcast.
4. Name of the high school
5. Length of the program and date the program was completed

## Special Requirements

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# Radio Programming

Contest Supervisor: Charles G. (Chuck) Bailey, Ed.D.  
baileycg@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 5 Students per team-3 Teams per school

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Team Event

**Materials Needed:** Pre-submitted

Pre-recorded Radio Feature Program submitted to the SCORES database.

**Entry Information:** **Entry Information:** Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

## Description:

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The Radio-Television Production and Management area of the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications will conduct a pre-recorded radio feature competition. The program must be prepared, scripted, and produced entirely by the student participants. The program shall be submitted in advance for evaluation by the Radio-Television Production and Management faculty members. To be eligible, each program entry must conform to these criteria:

1. The program must be timed 4 minutes, 30 seconds. It must be a complete feature program suitable for inclusion in an audio magazine program. This program must contain an introduction and a sign off.
2. The content of the program must be suitable for broadcast on any public or commercial station.
3. The content of the program must be a feature on a local or regional social issue which affects teenagers in that community. The program must include more than a single voice and must not include either a music disc jockey or a commercial. This program is a public affairs feature. Participants should be predominantly students but may include authorities or experts available to the students.
4. Program must be submitted on an MP3 or WAV file on a jump drive. Please beware of background noise during production.
5. All entries must be received no later than Friday, March 7th, 2025.
6. Clearly label your submission with the following items listed below.
  - a. Name of the program feature.
  - b. Team Name
  - c. Name the individual student on the team designated as the team's captain.
  - d. Names of all of the other students involved in the production of this program.
  - e. Name of the high school.

- f. Length of the program
  - g. Date the program was completed
7. Include a typewritten description of the program's format, names of the people heard during the program, a brief summary of the issue, why it is important to teenagers in the local area and a statement of the program's goal(s) or objective(s) for both the program's producers and the listeners.
  8. Inclement weather may result in some school cancellations. Therefore, the Radio-Television Production and Management faculty advise students to begin working on this project as soon as possible because the pre-submit deadline must be observed. ☒

### **Criteria for Judging the event:**

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The audio feature program will be judged on the audio quality of the production, performance of the talent, editing of the program, use of music or sound effects to enhance the program (not required), the treatment of the issue, the ability to provide relevant and compelling treatment of the issue and the reliability of the sources for this information. Whether or not the treatment of the issue is formal or informal in its approach is not an essential element to the program's evaluation. Creativity is encouraged but it will not make up for shortcomings in the foundational underpinnings of the program. Either the treatment of the issue of concern to teenagers meets the program's goal(s) or it does not.

This consideration is what is of utmost importance to the judges.

The winning entries may be broadcast on WMUL-FM 88.1 MHz, the Marshall University Student Operated Public Radio Station. The copies submitted to this contest will not be returned.

### **Special Requirements**

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Please indicate the teams by numbers I, II and III. Designate an individual student as the captain of a single team. A different individual for each team that enters the contest. First, second and third place entries in the radio programming contest will receive awards. In this team competition all student participants will receive a medal. A single high school with multiple teams is eligible to have more than one team finish in the top three.

# Television Newscast

Contest Supervisor: Dan Hollis

Email: hollis@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 1 Newscast per school -15 schools total

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Producing a Newscast Group

**Materials Needed:** See description

**Entry Information:** Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

## Description:

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Please submit as a link to a website. Make sure it is public or send password. The link can be uploaded to the SCORES database

This category is a TV newscast. Students will have shot, written, reported, anchored, and produced a TV newscast that typically includes a variety of stories from a variety of students with an anchor or anchor team. It should be information--not entertainment--focused. It may include pieces produced in the studio and/or field. It must have been produced between August 1, 2024, and the date of submission.

Please label your submission with the following information:

-Category name: Television Newscast

-Link

-School name

-List of Student Participants

-Date Produced

Entries not fitting the description will not be judged and/or ranked. The award(s) will go to the school not an individual or individuals.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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The criteria for evaluation include but are not limited to: quality of reporting, interviewing, writing, shooting, editing, producing, production and performance.

## Special Requirements

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None

# Television News Package

Contest Supervisor: Dan Hollis

Email: hollis@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 15 students total, 3 students per school

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Reporting/producing TV news story

**Materials Needed:** See description

**Entry Informatio:** Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

## Description:

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Please submit a link to a website. Make sure it is public or send the password. The link can be uploaded to the SCORES database.

A news report prepared by an individual student, this story should be in the 1-2-minute range and include interviews and reporter track. It must have been produced between August 1, 2024, and the date of submission. The news package should not have been altered from the way it originally aired.

Please label your submission with the following information:

- a) Category Name: Television News Package
- b) Link
- c) Student name
- d) School name
- e) Date produced

Entries not fitting the description will not be judged and/or ranked.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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The criteria for evaluation include but are not limited to: news judgment, quality of reporting, writing, videography, editing and use of sound bites.

## Special Requirements

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None

# Theatrical Costume Design

Contest Supervisor: Jack Cirillo  
Email: colclough@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 3 Students per school-15 Students per time period

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Portfolio

**Materials Needed:** See description

**Entry Information:** Beginning Time 9:00

## Description:

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The contestant should submit one costume design for each of four different characters in a full-length play or musical. Be sure to specify the title and author of the play or musical, the names of the characters, the acts and scenes in which the characters would wear these costumes, the student designer's name and their school should appear on the front of the rendering.

### Rendering/Costume Design and Specifications

- A short, typed statement of concept must accompany the renderings clarifying why they have made the particular design choices, and how the costume relates to the character.
- Costume plates rendered on white illustration board or heavy watercolor paper not smaller than 10 x 15 inches and no larger than 15 x 20 inches.
- Watercolor, gouache, designer inks, or fixed pastel may be used.
- Renderings should be covered with plastic acetate film and matted.
- Plates should include fabric swatches and trim.
- Evidence of research of historical costume or artistic influences can be presented in the form of copied pictures.
- Each plate should be labeled to indicate the character's name and the scene in which the costume is to be worn, and the name of the play.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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- Expression of character in pose or gesture and in the handling of color, line, texture, and light.
- Understanding of the play, the historical setting, and the relationship between characters.
- Originality or invention
- Presentation

## Special Requirements

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Contestants should deliver their entries to the Scores festival on the day of the festival between 8:45 and 9:15 a.m. The contestants should pick up their work by 11:00 a.m. on the day of the festival.

# College of Business

# Accounting Team Competition

Contest Supervisor: Amanda K. Thompson-Abbott  
Email: thomps80@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 10 Teams per time slot, 2-3 Students per team -2 Teams per school per time slot

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Team Contest

**Materials Needed:** None

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 11:00 & 12:00

## Description:

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“Cupcake Costing Conundrum”

The true cost of a product is an important part of the business decision-making process. More goes into calculating the full cost of a company’s physical product than may meet the eye. As part of the managerial accounting process, cost accountants must use objective and subjective measures. Teams will be expected to determine a method to allocate shared costs to individual products and calculate the cost of cupcakes for a bakery business. The students must then explain their process and rationalize their conclusion for the judges.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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Teams will be judged based on calculations and rationalization of final decisions.

## Special Requirements

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None

# Army Physical Fitness Test (APFT)

Contest Supervisor:  
CPT Jonny Liberatore  
Email:liberatore@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 5 Students per team (3 alternates) 2 Teams per school- 80 Students total per time period

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Team Contest

**Materials Needed:** T-shirt, shorts, running shoes

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 9:00 & 11:00

## Description:

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This test consists of one minute of push-ups, one minute of sit ups, and a one-mile run. All three events will be conducted in accordance with the Army field manual FM 21-20 and scores will be calculated using the Army Physical Fitness Test standards.

This is a team event. Each team will consist of five participants plus three optional alternates. Alternates and a team captain must be designated at the sign in table prior to test. Alternates may take the test, but their score will not be counted unless a team member is injured. Teams without the minimum five participants may take the test, but will not be permitted to compete for a medal.

Registration is a two-step process. First, each team must register by team name with the SCORES office no later than the SCORES registration deadline in order to be eligible for competition. For example: "Marshall University APFT Team 1". Participants will not register with the SCORES office individually. Second, each team must register its five participants and three optional alternates INDIVIDUALLY at the sign in table located in Gullickson Hall, second floor, room 215, no later than 8:30 a.m. on the day of the event. An instructional briefing will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Level "E" in the Cam Henderson Center.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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Army Training Circular 3-22.20 push-ups and sit up will be counted individually and one mile run time will be doubled to match with army two-mile standards.

## Special Requirements

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The sign-in desk will open at 8:00 a.m. and the assignment of team start times will be based on the team assignments from the University. The overall briefing will be at 8:30 a.m. in the Cam Henderson Center on Level E.

# Design a Plan for a Microcredential

Contest Supervisor: Hilary Gibson & Michelle Morrison

Email: [gibson175@marshall.edu](mailto:gibson175@marshall.edu), [michelle.morrison@marshall.edu](mailto:michelle.morrison@marshall.edu)

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**Limit:** No limit

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Presubmission

**Materials Needed:** None

**Entry Information:** Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

## Description:

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A microcredential is a short, focused course that teaches skills for jobs or community needs. They are smaller than a degree and can be completed faster than a certificate or minor. Micro-credentials are a form of alternative education that can help you get a job, continue your education, or learn a desired skill. For this contest students will be developing a plan for a microcredential. Review the microcredentials Marshall offers through the Marshall Skills Exchange. <https://www.marshall.edu/microcredentials/>. After reviewing, develop a plan on a microcredential that is not already offered.

What to include:

- **Focus:** The microcredential should develop specific skills and knowledge.
- **Audience:** Who is the audience for this microcredential?
- **Activities:** Include authentic activities and assessments based on experience.
- **Competencies:** Ensure the microcredential focuses on a clear set of competencies that align with career readiness competencies.
- **Learning outcomes:** Please list the learning outcomes for this microcredential
- **Need:** Why is this needed, and what research supports this need?
- **Flyer:** Create a flyer to promote your micro-credential

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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Individuals will be judged based on which individual meets and exceeds the requirements in the description.

## Special Requirements

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Students will submit two parts: A writeup of the information for the microcredential and a graphic to advertise the microcredential.

# Financial Management

Contest Supervisors: Shaorong Zhang

Email: [zhangs@marshall.edu](mailto:zhangs@marshall.edu)

---

**Limit:** 3 Students per school-30 Students total

**Eligibility:** Open to all Juniors and Seniors

**Type of Contest:** Exam

**Materials Needed:** Pencil/Pen, Calculator

**Entry Information:** Beginning Time 9:00

## Description:

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Math problems involving corporate financial management, i.e. profit planning, break-even.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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For multiple-choice financial problems, the highest score wins. The time of completion will be used as a tiebreaker if needed.

## Special Requirements

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None

# Health Care Knowledge Exam

Contest Supervisor: William Willis, DrPH

Email: willis23@marshall.edu

---

**Limit:** 4 Students per school-50 students total

**Eligibility:** Students should be at least a high school junior and have an understanding of current health Care events.

**Type of Contest:** Individual

**Materials Needed:** Pencil/Pen, sharp mind

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 11:00 & 12:00

## Description:

---

This exam focuses on current issues in health care. The exam is a straightforward 15 question T/F test, with a tie breaking fill-in-the blank question, requiring students to have a relatively good knowledge of the issues in health care today. Basic information related to current healthcare news items is the foundation for the questions within the exam.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

---

Each question is valued at one point each.

## Special Requirements

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None

# Human Resource Management: The Game of Life

Contest Supervisor: Michelle Biggs

**Limit:** 5 students per school

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Essay

**Materials Needed:** None

**Entry Information:** Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

## Description:

---

In the board game, The Game of Life, players set out on a journey of school/work/life choices. In reality, the choices are less specific, and results are more difficult to calculate. Use the following directions:

- Play the Game of Life (use a version not associated with a movie or TV show) and discuss how the various decisions/options could help you make the career choices you face in life. You can play the game with other people, but you must write your own essay.
- People say that luck and not skill is the predominant factor for a player's outcome in the game. Is luck also a factor in real-life school/work decisions? Give examples in your discussion

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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Individual essay should be your original work. It should be double-spaced, typewritten, up to five pages long.

## Special Requirements

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None

# International Financial Management

Contest Supervisor: Mohammad Karim, PhD

Email: karimm@marshall.edu

---

**Limit:** 4 Students per school-40 Students total

**Eligibility:** Open to All Juniors and Seniors

**Type of Contest:** Multiple Choice

**Materials Needed:** Pencil/Pen, Calculator

**Entry Information:** Beginning Time 12:00

## **Description:**

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Math and concept problems related to international finance (e.g. exchange rate, international trade, etc.).

## **Criteria for Judging the event:**

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Multiple choice questions. The highest score wins. Time of completion will be used as a tiebreaker if needed.

## **Special Requirements**

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None

# Learning About the World of Business

Contest Supervisor: Yi Duan

Email: yiDuan@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 5 Students per school- 100 students total

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Show 'n Tell Economics

**Materials Needed:** None

**Entry Information:** Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

## Description:

---

The world of business is intriguing! But it's always changing. And changes in the economy affect how each and every business operates. Your job is to interview as many businesspeople as you can, and collect their business cards, by the deadline below. These people cannot be your parents. Ask these people the four questions below. Write down their answers, or record them, whichever you prefer, and with the business cards you've collected, send the entire package to us by the deadline.

- The Business: (1) What does your company do for business? (2) What is your position with the company, and how long have you been in this position?
- What aspects of the country's overall economic performance are important for your business?
- When you hear the word "economy" or the phrase "The US Economy," what comes to your mind?
- What are your expectations for the future state of the US Economy, and how do you think your business will be affected by the economy over the coming year?

Send us the questions and answers from your businesspeople, all the business cards you collected, in an envelope with your name on it, and the title of the contest.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

---

The essay will be evaluated for content, grammar, and how well you followed the instructions

## Special Requirements

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Each submission **must** include the student's name, mailing address, and e-mail address.

# Marshmallow Challenge

Contest Supervisor: Kevin Knotts

Email: knottsk@marshall.edu

---

**Limit:** 5 Students per team, 1 Team per school, 10 teams total

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Team Contest

**Materials Needed:** None

**Entry Information:** Beginning Time 11:00

## Description:

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“Marshmallow Challenge”

The Marshmallow Challenge is a team-building activity where participants compete to build the tallest freestanding structure out of marshmallows, spaghetti, tape, and string. The challenge encourages creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving skills.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

---

The winning team will be decided based on the height of their structures in accordance with the game rules.

## Special Requirements

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None

# Military Map Reading

Contest Supervisor:  
CPT Jonny Liberatore  
Email: liberatored@marshall.edu

---

**Limit:** 2 Students per team 2 Teams per school- 20 Students total per time period

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Team Event

**Materials Needed:** None

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 11:00 & 12:00

## Description:

---

This test consists of approximately thirty questions using a 1:50,000 scale topographic map. Participants will be tested on written map reading and land navigation in accordance with FM 3-25.26.

Registration is a two-step process. First, each team must register by team name with the SCORES office no later than the SCORES registration deadline in order to be eligible for competition. For example: "Marshall University Map Reading Team 1". Participants will not register with the SCORES office individually. Second, each team must register its two participants INDIVIDUALLY at the sign in table located in the Gullickson Hall, second floor, room 215, no later than 9:00 a.m. on the day of the event. An instructional briefing will begin at 10:30 and 11:30.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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Participants must answer all questions correctly within the given time limit.

## Special Requirements

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None

# Newspaper Challenge

Contest Supervisor: Kevin Knotts

Email: knottsk@marshall.edu

---

**Limit:** 5 Students per team, 1 Team per school, 10 teams total

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Team Contest

**Materials Needed:** None

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 12:00

## Description:

---

“Newspaper Challenge”

The Newspaper Challenge is a team-building activity where participants compete to build the tallest freestanding structure out of newspaper, tape and a coke can. The challenge encourages creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving skills.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

---

The winning team will be decided based on the height of their structures in accordance with the game rules.

## Special Requirements

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None

# One Rope Bridge

Contest Supervisor:  
CPT Jonny Liberatore  
Email:liberatore@marshall.edu

---

**Limit:** 8 Students per team (4 alternates) 2 Teams per school- 156 Students total per time period

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Team Event

**Materials Needed:** Long sleeve shirt and pants

**Entry Information:** Beginning Time 10:00

## Description:

---

This contest consists of eight team members tying a Swiss seat OR using a harness and all the members crossing an already established rope bridge. Teams must have a team captain.

This event will take place on the sidewalk on the North Side of Rec Field.

Registration is a two-step process. First, each team must register by team name with the SCORES office no later than the SCORES registration deadline in order to be eligible for competition. For example: "Marshall University One Rope Team 1". Participants will not register with the SCORES office individually. Second, each team must register its eight participants and four optional alternates INDIVIDUALLY at the sign-in table located in Gullickson Hall, second floor, room 215, no later than 9:00

a.m. on the day of the event. An instructional briefing will begin at 9:30 in front of Buskirk Hall.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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See next sheet

## Special Requirements

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The sign-in desk will open at 8:00 a.m., and the team start times assigned will be based on the sign-in time on the day of the competition. The overall briefing will be at 9:30 a.m. on the sidewalk on the North Side of Rec Field.

2025 SCORES One Rope Bridge Penalty Guidelines

Infraction	Penalty:
Three people on the rope at the same time	- _____ 1 minute
Contact with water while on rope (Pencils, wallets, boots, jacket, etc.) seconds	- _____ 30
Crossing the boundary line seconds	- _____ 30
Starting before timer has begun seconds	- _____ 30
Swiss Seat Deficiencies seconds/deficiency	- _____ 15

Any infractions or penalties not listed will be determined and applied at the discretion of the on-site

# The Next Best.....

Contest Supervisor: Olen York  
Email: olen.york@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 4 Students per team 1 Team per school- 4 Teams total

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Team

**Materials Needed:** Paper & Pencil

**Entry Information:** Beginning Time 12:00

## Description:

---

Students, working in teams of 4, will brainstorm to plan the next version of a popular consumer product. The brainstorming session will result in a comprehensive description of the look, functions, apps, hardware, software and rationale for the design, where applicable. At the end of the time period, each team will be given 3 minutes to “pitch” their new design to the Research and Development Director. The actual consumer product to be developed will be announced at the beginning of the event,

## Criteria for Judging the event:

---

Team submissions will be judged on the innovativeness, creativity and uniqueness of the design, consumer benefits from the new design, competitive advantage(s) resulting from the new design, as well as the quality of the presentation (idea and benefits clearly articulated in the time from allowed).

## Special Requirements

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None

# College of Education and Professional Development

# Advertising Children's Literature

Contest Supervisor: Mindy Backus, EdD

Email: backus5@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 5 Students per school

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Individual project to be judged solely on itself—no presentation or demonstration required

**Materials Needed** Could vary; see the description below

**Entry Information:** Beginning Time 10:00

## Description:

---

This contest will feature an opportunity for participants to utilize propaganda techniques in a creative manner. The goal of this contest is to increase a young child's motivation to read a Caldecott Medal of Honor Award book by creating a book advertisement through a particular propaganda technique that will entice young children to read award-winning literature.

## Requirements:

- The book for which the advertisement is created must be a Caldecott Award or Honor book (any year). The book must be placed with the book advertisement.
- Contestants must choose from one of the following propaganda techniques as the means of advertising their book:
  - Assertion: an enthusiastic or energetic statement presented as a fact, although it may not necessarily be true
  - Bandwagon: encourages you to think that because everyone else is doing something, you should do it too; you will be left out if you don't do this
  - Card stacking: involves only presenting information that is positive to an idea and omitting information contrary to it
  - Glittering Generalities: use of important sounding "happy words" that cannot be proved or disproved (ex: good, honest, fair, best, etc.)
  - Plain Folks: depicts ordinary people doing ordinary activities to convince us to support someone or something
  - Testimonial: when someone famous ("big name" personalities) is used to endorse a product
  - Transfer: transferring the prestige of a popular symbol to a person or idea (ex: using the American flag as a background implies a patriotic event)

- Contestants will read a Caldecott Award or Honor book and create an advertisement for it through various media (Example: poster/bulletin board, diorama, PowerPoint slide or presentation, game, exhibit/display, 3-D display, flier, wall hanging, etc.). Contestants will display the advertisement with the book on the day it is to be judged.
- Along with the book advertisement, contestants must submit the following on an index card:
  - Student name
  - School
  - Name of book being advertised
  - Grade level for which the advertisement is to be used
  - Type of propaganda technique used

**Criteria for Judging the event:**

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		Evaluation Scale
1.	Index Card: Contains all parts	5 4 3 2 1 0
	a. Student name	
	b. School	
	c. Name of book being advertised	
	d. Grade level	
	e. Type of propaganda	
2.	Motivational for children	5 4 3 2 1 0
3.	Design Quality	5 4 3 2 1 0
4.	Effort	5 4 3 2 1 0
5.	Propaganda used correctly	5 4 3 2 1 0
	a. Assertion	
	b. Bandwagon	
	c. Card stacking	
	d. Glittering Generalities	
	e. Plain Folks	
	f. Testimonial	
	g. Transfer	

Book Advertisements will be judged on the day of the SCORES contest

**Special Requirements**

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Book Advertisements will be judged on the day of the SCORES contest

# Career Exploration

Contest Supervisor: Feon Smith-Branch, PhD Adult and Continuing  
Education (ACE)

Email: smithf@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 3 Students Per School, 21 students total

**Eligibility:** Open to all Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors

**Type of Contest:** Project and Slogan Development

**Materials Needed** Microsoft PowerPoint

**Entry Information:** Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

## Description:

---

“Today an Education – Tomorrow A Career” is the official Slogan to celebrate National Career and Technical Education month, which is February of each year. What career or occupation do you think will be in high demand in the next 20 years? What career pathway will you choose? This competition encourages students to think about their future career interests and to select one occupation they can see themselves doing in the next 10 years. Each student will create a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation illustrating their future career workplace occupation. To begin your research on locating information about hundreds of careers and occupations, visit the Bureau of Labor Statistics website, and review the Occupational Outlook Handbook <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/>. You can also use Google to search your career interest. Once you have selected the career workplace occupation, your presentation should include the following information:

- Cover Slide: Name/Title of the Occupation and a unique “Slogan” for the Occupation you have selected. You are to create a “Slogan” for the occupation.
- Historical perspective of the occupation. (When? Where? Why? How?)
- What education does this career require? Provide overview of education/training requirements. Where is the education/training available? Are you able to access the education/training needed to enter this career? Discuss.
- What is the future outlook for this career? Discuss
- What is the path for advancement in the career? Discuss.
- What are the everyday tasks performed in this career? Do the tasks match my interests and values? Discuss
- Does this career require travel? In other words, would you need to travel to other locations as a part of the job requirements?

- What are the normal work hours? What are the typical wages for this career? What health and retirement benefits are generally found in this line of work?
- Do I need to relocate to find a job in this field? In other words, would you be required to move to a different city or state from where you currently reside?
- What other careers are closely related to this career?
- Reference Slide: Must cite at least two (2) sources from where you obtained your information. Don't forget to cite your source(s) in your speaker notes and/or on each slide where you cite information and include the citation on the Reference(s) page. Citation Styles: MLA or APA.

Using the information, you have gathered for the career workplace occupation, you are to prepare a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation. Imagine that you have been asked to do a presentation to a group of individuals who have little to no knowledge about your career workplace occupation choice. The presentation must have a minimum of eight (8) to a maximum of ten (10) slides to cover the content in the bullets listed above. In addition, to the content slides, a cover slide and reference slide must be included. Speaker notes help to alleviate adding too much information on the PowerPoint slides that will make them look bulky and overcrowded. You can include your speaker notes on one slide at the beginning of the presentation, at end on the last slide, or incorporate information throughout the presentation on separate slides. The PowerPoint theme, format, background, colors, graphics, clipart, photos, bullets, etc. are your choice. Make sure the font is appropriate for all viewers. Be creative!

### **Criteria for Judging the event:**

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- Selection of career occupation (5%)
- Creation of a unique Slogan (displayed) (10%)
- Presentation Slides and Speaker Notes: Covers all required content from bullets under Description and includes required number of citations (50%)
- Creativity of PowerPoint slides (theme, colors, graphics, etc.) (20%) Eight to ten slides requirement (15%)

**Total Points Possible: 100%**

### **Special Requirements**

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Entries can be uploaded to the SCORES database: Entries must be received by Friday, March 7th, 2025. In case of technical difficulties, you are required to keep a backup copy of your PowerPoint Presentation that can be emailed to smithf@marshall.edu

# Effective Teaching Strategies

Contest Supervisor: Paula Lucas, EdD

Email: [whitep@marshall.edu](mailto:whitep@marshall.edu)

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**Limit:** No Limit

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Individual

**Materials Needed:** Flash drive

**Entry Information:** Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

## **Description:**

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Participants are to teach a lesson to the appropriate grade level of students. The lesson is to be recorded on a Flash drive for submission purposes. A lesson plan must also be included so the SCORES evaluator will be able to determine if the teaching demonstration has actually followed the plan and met the stated objectives. The lesson plan should include: the concept to be taught, grade level, objectives to be covered, procedure for teaching the lesson, and the evaluation (how will you assess students to see if they understood the concept you taught.)

## **Criteria for Judging the event:**

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See the next page for rubric

## **Special Requirements**

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None



# College of Liberal Arts

# American National Government

Contest Supervisor: Marybeth Beller, PhD

Email: beller@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 5 Students per school, 40 students per time period

**Eligibility:** Open to Juniors and Seniors

**Type of Contest:** Exam

**Materials Needed:** Writing utensils

**Entry Information:** Beginning Time 10:00

## Description:

---

Contestants must demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the organization, functions, and evolutionary nature of the National Government of the United States, paying particular attention to the role of political parties and the media and divisions of power between the three federal branches of government and the states.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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The exam is an objective, multiple-choice exam with one essay. The essay will be graded if a tiebreaker is required.

## Special Requirements

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None

# Business Writing – Memorandum

Contest Supervisor: Joni Magnusson

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**Limit:** 3 entries per school

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Essay

**Materials Needed:**

**Entry Information:** Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

## Description:

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1. Case study will be provided
2. Sample memo will be provided
3. Detailed worksheets and instructions will be provided
4. All entries must be typed in Memo Format
5. Documents should be one page if possible and no longer than 1 ½ pages

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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1. Entries MUST be in Memo Format
2. Entries must be no longer than 1 ½ pages
3. Criteria for evaluation of the choices should be clear
4. Writing should be clear, concise and business appropriate
5. Effective use of headers, bullets, lists to make the document reader friendly
6. Grammar, usage, mechanics and punctuation must be correct
7. Reader should be able to read the memo, consider the information and make a decision in “one sitting”

20% of the grade is format

60% of the grade is content

20% of the grade is grammar, usage, mechanics and punctuation

## Special Requirements

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None

## What is a memo or memorandum?

A memo is a specific format used for formal written communication within the workplace as opposed to a letter which is written communication with those outside the workplace. The document is generally designed to be printed and read by the intended readers. A memo can be sent electronically but is usually sent as an attachment to an email to preserve the unique formatting.

Memos can be neutral, i.e., merely providing information. Memos can be positive, i.e., announcing earnings, a bonus or a new employee. Memos can provide less than welcome news, i.e., poor earnings, changes in policy, longer work hours or loss of a contract. Memos can be persuasive as the writer is often selling a change or an idea.

Memos have a specific format and are readily recognized by the readers. These documents are generally on one topic and work best when only one page. The document is designed for busy readers who want to read, think, and make a decision immediately. (Longer, more complicated memos are often called “informal reports.”)

Before writing a memo, the author must define the audience (memos can have multiple readers) and the needs of these readers. Additionally, the writer must know the purpose of the memo.

Once these questions are answered, the writer must organize the information before beginning the writing process. Since different readers may want/need different information, the writer must decide who is the primary reader and organize the memo to provide the necessary information for this reader to make a decision.

## Memo Assignment

You are the Vice President and Manager of the Chicago office of Jones Enterprises, a national consulting firm. Beginning July 1, 2012, your office was asked to participate in a one-year program to test the feasibility of offering employees the opportunity to work a flex-time schedule. Up to ½ of your employees could choose to work 4 10-hour days (Monday through Thursday) instead of the “normal” 5-day work week. Your employees were told that it was a one-year trial at the beginning of the pilot program.

As requested by your boss, at the end of the 12-month test period, you analyzed the program and sent your findings to the Corporate Office. You recommended that flextime be discontinued.

Some of the things you found were to support this were:

- Customer complaints (especially regarding Fridays):  
Could not reach their regular company contacts Long wait on hold when calling  
Did not get good service which affected their profitability
- Your Chicago office employees’ complaints:  
Spent Fridays answering the phone and helping customers Normal Friday work was not completed

Employees did not keep the schedule board current Everyone was behind on Monday due to uncompleted work

Decision from the Corporate Office after reviewing your analysis:

- Flex Schedule will not be used by Jones Enterprises
- 5 day work week for all employees will resume December 1, 2013

**Assignment:**

Send a one-page memo to your (the Chicago office) employees telling them of the decision and the schedule change. Think about how much of the background information you need to give your employees so they “buy into” the decision, but are not upset with other employees

# Creative Writing: Poetry

Contest Supervisor: Joel Peckham  
E peckhamj@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 2 Students per school 20 students total

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Poetry

**Materials Needed:** Writing utensils

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 12:00 & 1:00. Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

## Description:

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1. Each entry must be original student work.
2. Each entry must be typed, single-spaced, and accompanied by a cover sheet from the submitting teacher with the student's name, grade, high school, teacher, and poem title.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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Poems that answer "yes" to the following questions will be considered stronger and ranked higher.

1. Does the poem privilege concrete, image-driven details over abstract concepts or ideas?
2. Does the poem privilege concision in word-choice and syntax?
3. Does the poem utilize poetic devices—including (but by no means limited to or by) repetition (phrasal, sonic, or otherwise), metaphor and simile, or figurative language?

## Special Requirements

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Each entrant, in order to be considered eligible for an award, must also attend a discussion group in the English Department on the festival date.

# Creative Writing: Short Screenplay

Contest Supervisor: Ian Nolte

Email: nolte3@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 2 Students per school 20 students total

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Essay

**Materials Needed:** Writing Utensils

**Entry Information:** Beginning Time 12:00. Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

## Description:

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1. Each entry must be an original short screenplay no longer than 10 pages.
2. Each entry must be prepared in standard screenplay format. Screenplays are most easily prepared in using free-to-access software like Celtx or Fade In.
3. Each entry must be accompanied by a cover sheet from the submitting teacher with the contest name, student's name, grade, high school, teacher, and title.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

---

Screenplays that are the strongest will address several of the following guidelines:

1. Character development—Main characters are to have a clear dramatic need, character traits, and undergo some type of change over the course of the narrative.
2. Plot—The plot is well developed with a clear conflict and a satisfying resolution.
3. Screenplay form—The story is expressed in visual language suitable for the screen. Action and dialogue are clearly formatted, compelling, and engaging.

## Special Requirements

---

In order to be considered eligible for an award, each entrant must also attend a discussion group in the English Department at Marshall University on the festival date.

# Creative Writing: Short Story

Contest Supervisor: Daniel O'Malley

Email: [omalleyd@marshall.edu](mailto:omalleyd@marshall.edu)

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**Limit:** 2 Students per school 20 students total

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Essay

**Materials Needed:** Writing Utensils

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 12:00 & 1:00. Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

## Description:

---

1. Each entry must be original.
2. Each entry must be typed, double-spaced, and accompanied by a cover sheet from the submitting teacher with the student's name, grade, high school, teacher, and title. The cover sheet should also include the words: Creative Writing: Short Story.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

---

Stories that are the strongest will address several of the following guidelines:

1. How well developed are the characters; are they three-dimensional and not clichéd, stock or familiar? Are they strictly functional when they need to be more than this?
2. How well is the plot developed (is it consistent, does it avoid clichéd scenarios, is there conflict, is there resolution—change within the main character/narrator)?
3. Is the point of view plausible and consistent, meaning there are no unjustified POV switches and a sense of character can be obtained from the POV?
4. How well does the writer develop the language and overall style: is the language fresh, are clichéd phrases avoided, does the writer include specific details and descriptions?
5. How well is dialogue constructed: is it realistic; does it avoid being solely informational; is it enhancing characterization and furthering plot; is it believable as human speech; does it avoid unnecessary and confusing dialect spellings and avoid deliberate misspellings, such as "gotcha," "willin'," and "sammich"; are there sufficient, straightforward dialogue tags (stick with "he says/she says," "he asks/I ask"), used only when necessary; is dialogue correctly paragraphed?
6. Is the formatting consistent; are the paragraphs indented properly; are there few, if any, surface-level errors; are there few, if any, sentence-level errors?

## Special Requirements

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Each entrant, in order to be considered eligible for an award, must also attend a discussion group in the English Department on the festival date.

# Creative Writing: Personal Essay

Contest Supervisor: Rachael Peckham

Email: peckham@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 2 Students per school 20 students total

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Essay

**Materials Needed:** Writing Utensils

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 12:00 & 1:00. Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

## Description:

---

1. Each entry must be original.
2. Each entry must be typed, double-spaced, and accompanied by a cover sheet from the submitting teacher with the student's name, grade, high school, teacher, and title. The cover sheet should also include the words: Creative Writing: Personal Essay.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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1. Does the personal essay meet the fundamental expectation of "truth" in creative nonfiction (i.e. the subject matter in this essay is true and not fictitious)?
2. Does the personal essay maintain a loyalty to truth, while still employing the devices and strategies of good creative writing ("fresh" language, vivid description, character development, authentic-sounding dialogue, a discernible narrative arc, etc.)?
3. Is there a sense of the individual *person* behind the pen? Is the voice compelling? Does this perspective feel intimate and familiar to the reader?
4. In addition to an "audible" voice, is there a strong movement toward discovery and/or self-examination in the essay? How well does the essayist examine their own thoughts, memories, questions, and motivations (fears/desires) toward the subject matter?
5. Does the essay demonstrate complex reflection or commentary? Does the reflection **avoid** sentimentality, clichés, broad-sweeping generalizations, and pat conclusions that might *sound* good, but lack honesty and complexity?
6. Is the essay's presentation sophisticated and free of mechanical errors?

## Special Requirements

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Each entrant, in order to be considered eligible for an award, must also attend a discussion group in the English Department on the festival date.

# Design a Brochure about Careers in Psychology

Contest Supervisor: Melissa Atkins

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**Limit:** No limit

**Eligibility:** Open to all

**Type of Contest:** Presubmission

**Materials Needed:** None

**Entry Information:** Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

## Description:

---

Psychology offers various career paths, from clinical work to research, education, and more. Create a visually appealing and informative brochure highlighting career opportunities in psychology. You can do it as an overview on the different careers, or pick one area of Psychology.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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- **Content Quality:** Accuracy and depth of research.
- **Organization:** Logical flow and clarity of information.
- **Creativity:** Use of design elements to engage readers.
- **Presentation:** Professional and polished appearance.

## Special Requirements

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None

# Digital Humanities: String Us Along with a Story Told in Twine

Contest Supervisor: Nathan Rucker

Email: [rucker37@marshall.edu](mailto:rucker37@marshall.edu)

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**Limit:** 3 Students per school 25 students total

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Text-based Videogame made with Twine

**Materials Needed:** Computer capable of running Twine (available at <http://twinery.org/>)

**Entry Information:** Pre-Submission. No prior coding experience necessary: Learn Twine for this project and then send us your game. Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

## Description:

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1. Entry must be original.
2. Entry must be text-based and exported from TWINE as an HTML file with the student's name and game title in the file name. (For example: LillvisKGAMETITLE.html).
3. Each entry must be accompanied by a cover sheet from the submitting teacher with the student's name, grade, high school, teacher, and title. The cover sheet should also include the words: Digital Humanities: String Us Along with a Story Told in Twine. &

Please note: Twine game should be emailed, and that email must contain two attachments: The cover sheet and the Twine game.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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At Marshall University, Digital Humanities allows us to explore and deepen the relationship between humanities disciplines and digital tools and technologies. Students develop their technical and critical thinking skills by using, creating, and reflecting on humanities data projects. As such, your text-based Twine game should exhibit strength in its narrative, gameplay, and aesthetic elements.

Twine games that are the strongest will answer "yes" to the following questions:

1. Does the Twine game feature a narrative with branching paths and possibly multiple endings?
2. Does the Twine game use narrative elements (dialogue, characters, plot, setting, etc.) to advance the story?
3. Does the Twine game use aesthetic elements (image, color, video, etc.) to support the narrative being told?
4. Does the Twine game use the Twine tool to effectively deliver the narrative elements and aesthetic elements to the player? (In other words, it is a compelling, narrative- driven videogame and not a comic book or a short story.)

# Dramatic Interpretation of Literature

Contest Supervisor: Rich Jones

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**Limit:** 3 Students per school 6 students per time period

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Presentation

**Materials Needed:** None

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 11:00 & 12:00

## **Description:**

Each contestant will present a program, either serious or humorous in nature, which represents one or more characters from material of literary merit. This material may be drawn from commercially available published stage, screen or radio scripts, short stories or novels. Programs may consist of single or multiple selections. Manuscripts are not permitted; the presentation must be delivered from memory. Movement, pantomime, and gesturing are allowed.

## **Criteria for Judging the event:**

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- **Introduction:** The introduction must name the work and author, provide necessary background information and establish the mood. If using a teaser, or if lines from the selection are used in the introduction, the speaker must adhere to the rules of the event.
- **Material:** Single or multiple character cuttings should be considered equally. The student should be able to capture and convey the emotional and intellectual depths of the characters, as well as the development of both the characterization and plot. Consideration should be given to the literary merit of the selection.
- **Characterization:** Each character should be interesting, engaging and lifelike. The performer should create a physical, vocal and temperamental existence suited for each character. The performer should keep these choices consistent. The performer should use his or her face, eyes and body to create the characters effectively. Each character should show the intent of what they are wanting, thinking, feeling and remembering when speaking and reacting. Characters should appropriately develop and/ or deepen as the plot or story line progresses.
- **Multiple Characterizations (if used):** The transitions when moving from one character to another should be clean and crisp. The pacing of transition should reflect the tempo of the interaction.
- **Environment:** Each character should create a world around him or her. Movement should be used to create a three-dimensional environment in which the characters exist. Pantomime, if used, should be accurate and realistic. Gestures should be fully realized, creating in just the right way what the performer intends the audience to see. When doing a multiple character selection, the performer should create effective interaction between the characters.
- **Overall Effect:** The overall performance should build to various moments and have a climax. The story should be complete and easy to follow. The performance should display another world outside of the performance space.

**TIME:** 10 minutes maximum with a 30 second grace period

# Film Analysis

Contest Supervisor: Walter Squire

Email: [squirew@marshall.edu](mailto:squirew@marshall.edu)

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**Limit:** 3 Students per school 20 students per time period

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Essay

**Materials Needed:** None

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 11:00 & 12:00. Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

## Description:

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We watch movies for entertainment, to escape from the stresses of daily life, and to provide excitement which is sometimes lacking outside of cinematic narratives. Movies also make arguments relevant to the times and places where they were created as well as to the times and places where they are viewed. If movies seem less thematically driven than do works of written literature, it is because they communicate differently. Movies communicate through a layering of numerous sights and sounds, including but not limited to set design, costumes, hairstyle, camera angles and distances, editing, spoken dialogue, music, and sound effects. The purpose of writing an analysis about a film is to demonstrate how the meaning or power of the film is communicated through sights and sounds in addition to narrative?

Your analysis of a specific film should go beyond plot summary—you can assume your reader is familiar with the movie. You must also use evidence (auditory, visual, and plot details) to support your claim regarding what that film argues.

- Each entry must be an original analysis of a film.
- Each entry must be typed, double-spaced, and accompanied by a cover sheet from the submitting teacher with the student's name, grade, high school, teacher, and title. The cover sheet should also include the words: Film Analysis.
- No more than three entries per school.
- Each entrant, in order to be considered eligible for an award, must also attend a discussion group in the English Department on the festival date.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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Film analyses that are the strongest will address several of the following guidelines:

- The writer addresses an argument that the film seems to make.
- The writer uses examples from the film to illustrate their claim. The examples are not only narrative but also specific to the medium of movies--both visual and auditory details are included as support.
- The writer organizes the essay well and uses the conventions (grammar, punctuation, and spelling) of academic English.

# Google Earth

Contest Supervisor: Jamie Leonard, PhD

Email: leonard@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 3 Students per school, 18 students total

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Computer exercise using Google Earth

**Materials Needed:** Pencil/Pen

**Entry Information:** Beginning Time 10:00 am

## Description:

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Students will work individually in a computer lab and use Google Earth to locate places and provide information about them.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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The highest number of correct responses to the approximately 25 questions wins.

## Special Requirements

None

# GPS Scavenger Hunt

Contest Supervisor: Jamie Leonard, PhD

Email: leonard@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 2 Students per team, three teams per school-30 Students total

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Computer exercise using Google Earth/Team

**Materials Needed:** Pencil/pen, smartphone that will display latitude/longitude in degrees, minutes, and seconds

**Entry Information:** Beginning Time 11:00 AM

## Description:

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Students work in teams of two using their smartphone GPS capabilities to find and walk to places on campus and collect information about what they see in those places.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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The highest number of correct responses to the approximately 12 questions wins.

## Special Requirements

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Each team needs a smartphone that will display the location of the phone in latitude/longitude in degrees, minutes, and seconds.

# Greek & Roman Mythology

Contest Supervisor: Del Chrol, PhD & Sydnor Roy PhD

Email: [chrol@marshall.edu](mailto:chrol@marshall.edu) & [royc@marshall.edu](mailto:royc@marshall.edu)

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**Limit:** 3 students per school

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Multiple choice plus short essay

**Materials Needed:** Pencil

**Entry Information:** Beginning Time 11:00 AM

## Description:

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Students will be tested on their basic knowledge of Greek and Roman mythology

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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One point per correct answer (max score = 25). The quality of essay decides a tiebreaker

## Special Requirements

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None

# Impromptu Speaking

Contest Supervisor: Rich Jones

Email: jonesri@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 2 Students per school 6 Students per time period

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Presentation

**Materials Needed:** Pencil/Pen & 3x5 Notecard

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 11:00 & 12:00

## Description:

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Each contestant will receive three quotations from which to choose one to speak on. Each contestant will have 7 minutes to prepare and speak on the chosen topic. There is a thirty-second grace period. One 3x5 note card may be used.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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- **Purpose:** The purpose of the impromptu speech is to give a contestant an opportunity to be creative and imaginative. An impromptu speech should reveal the student's ability to organize his or her thoughts quickly and in a logical manner. The speech should present the speaker with an opportunity to express himself or herself freely and demonstrate his or her skill in delivery.
- **Preparation:** There will be a 5-minute preparation time for each speaker and audible time signals must be given. The speaker should indicate whether they prefer to be timed up or down.
- **Structure:** The introduction should gain attention, specify a clear thesis, and give some direction as to how the speech will unfold or develop. The body should be organized for easy understanding. Transitional words/devices should help to move the speech from point to point. The conclusion should recap, make you want to think more about the topic, and end interestingly.
- **Development:** The speaker should be held accountable for substantiating and supporting main positions. There should be a variety of effective supporting materials from qualified sources. There should be clear explanation that helps the listener follow the speech's flow and appreciate the use of supporting material.
- **Language:** The word choice should be clear and potent. Figures of speech and rhetorical devices should be used effectively.
- **Vocal Delivery:** The speaker should be articulate and fluent. The speaker should make use of contrast and make use of the elements of vocal variety: pitch, volume, rate, pausing, phrasing, stress, tone. The speaker should stress words to enhance meaning. The speaker should be conversational and concerned, passionate and pleasing. The speaker should be in control of the words and the emotions.
- **Physical Delivery:** The speaker should vary facial expression to accentuate the natural flow of thoughts and feelings. The speaker's eyes should show thinking and feeling. The speaker should

make eye contact with the audience. The speaker's stance should be erect and controlled, without distracting movements. Movement, if used, should be motivated by transitions in thought or mood. Gestures should be visible, effectively used for emphasis, and varied.

- Delivery and content should be evaluated equally.

Time signals should be given according to the speaker's wishes.

### **Special Requirements**

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None

# Literary Analysis

Contest Supervisor: Nicole Lawrence

Email: [lawrence14@marshall.edu](mailto:lawrence14@marshall.edu)

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**Limit:** 3 Students per school 30 students total

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Essay

**Materials Needed:** Pencil & paper

**Entry Information:** Beginning Time 1:00. Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

## Description:

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We study literature to try to understand better how it reflects, shapes, and critiques what it means to be human in this world. Literature can instruct, can delight or entertain, and can create its own world or worlds. Literary analysis asks questions about how literature does these things using language. The purpose of writing analysis about literature is to create a clearly written argument, based on evidence, about the meaning, power, or structure of a work of literature.

Evidence, for a literary critic, can come from a text's literary elements, from its social and historical context, and from the ideas of other critics. For this essay, you'll focus on one of the following literary elements: setting or symbols. Setting has to do not only with a text's geographic location, but with the time period, socio-economic conditions, and social practices in which a text is set. For example, Kate Chopin's short story "The Storm" focuses on a romantic love affair. The stormy weather mirrors the emotions and actions of the characters. Symbols are objects that mean something more than their literal meanings, often ideas and qualities that go deeper than just the surface. For example, in Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter*, the scarlet letter is a very real thing—a red letter "A" that stands for adulteress, which main character Hester Prynne is forced to wear around her small town. But it is also a symbol of secret sins. In a literary work of your own choosing, make an argument about how either the setting or a key symbol informs the meaning, power, or structure of the text. The literary work can be a poem, novel, play, or a work of creative non-fiction. It can be something that you have read for school or independently. Remember that your analysis should go far beyond a general plot summary— you can assume your reader is familiar with the text. You must also use evidence (quotations from the text) to support your claim.

- Each entry must be original.
- Each entry must be typed, double-spaced, and accompanied by a cover sheet from the submitting teacher with the student's name, grade, high school, teacher, and title. The cover sheet should also include the words: Literary Analysis.
- No more than three entries per school.

## **Criteria for Judging the event:**

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- How well does the writer address the significance of setting or a symbol to their literary work?
- How well does the writer use examples from the text to illustrate their claim? Are the examples explained such that the reader can see how they support the argument being made?
- How well does the writer organize the essay? Is there a coherent thesis? Are there paragraphs organized around single topics? Are the connections back to the thesis clear? Is the arrangement of sentences within paragraphs logical and smooth?
- How well does the writer use the conventions (i.e., mechanics, usage, grammar, spelling) of academic English?

## **Special Requirements**

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Each entrant, in order to be considered for an award, must also attend a discussion group in the English Department on the festival date.

# Original Oratory

Contest Supervisor: Rich Jones

Email: jonesri@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 3 Students per school 6 students per time period

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Presentation

**Materials Needed:** Copy of the text should be made available at the time of the presentation

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 12:00 & 1:00.

## Description:

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Contestants will present an original speech, either persuasive or informative in nature, on any appropriate subject. The content must be written by the contestant and not more than 150 words of the oration may be direct quotation from any other speech or writing. Such quotations shall be identified in the typewritten copy and indicated during the presentation. Plagiarism is not acceptable. The speech must be delivered from memory. Notes are not permitted.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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- **Topic:** The topic should be interesting, stimulating, and of some importance. The purpose of the oration may be to inspire, to persuade, to eulogize, or to inform. These purposes may overlap in the same oration. Speakers must not be penalized for expressing views with which the judge happens to disagree.
- **Structure:** The introduction should gain attention, specify a clear thesis, and give some direction as to how the speech will unfold or develop. The body should be organized for easy understanding. Transitional words/devices should help to move the speech from point to point. The conclusion should recap, make you want to think more about the topic, and end interestingly.
- **Development:** The speaker should be held accountable for substantiating and supporting main positions. There should be a variety of effective supporting materials from qualified sources. There should be clear explanation that helps the listener follow the speech's flow and appreciate the use of supporting material.
- **Language:** The word choice should be clear and potent. Figures of speech and rhetorical devices should be used effectively.
- **Vocal Delivery:** The speaker should be articulate and fluent. The speaker should make use of contrast and make use of the elements of vocal variety: pitch, volume, rate, pausing, phrasing, stress, tone. The speaker should stress words to enhance meaning. The speaker should be

conversational and concerned, passionate and pleasing. The speaker should be in control of the words and the emotions.

- Physical Delivery: The speaker should vary facial expression to accentuate the natural flow of thoughts and feelings. The speaker's eyes should show thinking and feeling. The speaker should make eye contact with the audience. The speaker's stance should be erect and controlled, without distracting movements. Movement, if used, should be motivated by transitions in thought or mood. Gestures should be visible, effectively used for emphasis, and varied.
- Delivery and content should be evaluated equally.

TIME: 10 minutes with a 30 second grace period.

## **Special Requirements**

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None

# Persuasive Essay

Contest Supervisor: Sarah Trautwein

Email: canterbury73@marshall.edu

**Limit:** 3 Students per school 15 Students total per time slot

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Essay

**Materials Needed:** None

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 11:00 & 12:00. Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

## Description:

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- Each entry must be original.
- Each entry must be typed, double-spaced, and accompanied by a cover sheet from the submitting teacher with the student's name, grade, high school, teacher, and title. The cover sheet should also include the words: Persuasive Essay.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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- Does the essay have a clear thesis? Does the thesis provide a clear, arguable claim?
- Does the writer provide clear and accurate evidence to support the claim made in the essay? Does the writer anticipate and address counterarguments?
- Is the essay well-organized? Do paragraphs provide a logical development of points connected to the thesis? Are transitions between paragraphs smooth?
- Does the conclusion go beyond a restatement of what has already been said in the essay to offer insight?
- Are sentences and word choice fresh and varied?
- Is the essay free of distracting grammatical and mechanical errors?

## Special Requirements

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Each entrant, in order to be considered eligible for an award, must also attend a discussion group in the English Department on the festival date.

# Psychology Exam and Essay

Contest Supervisor: Marianna Linz

Email: linz@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 5 Students per school-35 Students per time period

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Multiple Choice with one short essay

**Materials Needed:** Pencil

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 11:00 & 12:00

## Description:

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Students will be tested on their basic knowledge about a wide range of topics in the field of psychology, including history, psychobiology, sensation and perception, learning (specifically, the basic procedures of classical and operant conditioning), memory and cognition, abnormal psychology, developmental psychology, language, personality, and social behavior.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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One point per each correct answer (max score = 50). Quality of essay decides a tiebreaker.

## Special Requirements

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None

# Spanish Level One

Contest Supervisor: Jose Luis Murillo, Ph.D.

Email: [Murillo@marshall.edu](mailto:Murillo@marshall.edu)

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**Limit:** 3 Students per school 25 Students per time period

**Eligibility:** Open only to students who have not received credit for no more than Spanish I at the end of the current academic year. Not open to students whose native language is Spanish.

**Type of Contest:** Multiple Choice Exam

**Materials Needed:** Pencil

**Entry Information:** Beginning Time 9:00

## Description:

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Part of this test is on-line, and computer generated. In the first part of the test students will be directed to a secure site and shown how to access the test. The student is given a set of questions or statements, each of which is followed by four possible responses, words, phrases. The students must choose the best response to the question, or the word or phrase that best completes the statement.

The second part of the test is an essay that the student must write on the topic of the judges' choice.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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SPANISH LEVEL I: 50 multiple choice-questions

Part I: Grammar, 30 multiple choices

Part II: Listening comprehension, 10 multiple choices

Part III: Reading Comprehension, 10 multiple choices

In case of tying students would have to write a paragraph so to untie the result.

## Special Requirements

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No more than one year of coursework. When students are signed up for this event, the school verifies they are at the proper level. No additional forms are required.

# Spanish Level Two

Contest Supervisor: José Luis Murillo, Ph.D.

Email: murillo@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 3 Students per school 25 Students per time period

**Eligibility:** Open to all students who will have completed not more than two years of course work in the subject at the end of the current academic year. Not open to native speakers of Spanish, or to students who speak Spanish at home.

**Type of Contest:** Multiple Choice

**Materials Needed:** Pencil

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 10:00 & 11:00

## Description:

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This is an on-line computer-generated test. Students will be directed to a secure site and shown how to access the test. On the test, the student will be given a set of questions or statements, each of which is followed by four possible responses, words, or phrases. The student must choose the best response to the question, or the word or phrase that best completes the statement.

The test will cover: preterit of regular and irregular verbs, stem-changing verbs in the preterit, spelling changes in the preterit, the imperfect tense, comparison of uses of the preterit and the imperfect, demonstrative adjectives, and pronouns, comparisons of equality, inequality, and the superlative.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

---

SPANISH LEVEL II: 50 multiple choice-questions

Part I: Grammar, 30 multiple choices

Part II: Listening comprehension, 10 multiple choices

Part III: Reading Comprehension, 10 multiple choices

In case of tying students would have to write a paragraph so to untie the result.

## Special Requirements

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No more than two years of coursework. When students are signed up for this event, the school verifies they are at the proper level. No additional forms are required.

# Spanish Level Three

Contest Supervisor: José Luis Murillo, Ph.D.

Email: murillo@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 3 Students per school 25 Students per time period

**Eligibility:** Open to all students who will have completed not more than three years of course work in the subject at the end of the current academic year. Not open to native speakers of Spanish, or to students who speak Spanish at home.

**Type of Contest:** Multiple Choice

**Materials Needed:** Pencil

**Entry Information:** Beginning Time 10:00

## Description:

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This is a listening comprehension test. The test will cover: the present subjunctive tense (regular and irregular), stem-changing and spelling changes, the use of the subjunctive in noun, adjective and adverbial clauses, indirect commands, let's commands, the imperfect subjunctive in noun, adjective, and adverbial clauses, the passive voice, the future perfect and conditional perfect tenses, and if clauses.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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SPANISH LEVEL III: 50 multiple choice-questions

Part I: Grammar, 30 multiple choices

Part II: Listening comprehension, 10 multiple choices

Part III: Reading Comprehension, 10 multiple choices

In case of tying, students would have to write a paragraph to untie the result.

## Special Requirements

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No more than three years of coursework. When students are signed up for this event, the school verifies they are at the proper level. No additional forms are required.

# Spanish Level Four

Contest Supervisor: José Luis Murillo, Ph.D.

Email: murillo@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 3 Students per school 25 Students per time period

**Eligibility:** Open to all students who will have completed not more than three years of course work in the subject at the end of the current academic year. Not open to native speakers of Spanish, or to students who speak Spanish at home.

**Type of Contest:** Multiple Choice

**Materials Needed:** Pencil

**Entry Information:** Beginning Time 9:00

## Description:

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This is a reading comprehension test. The student will have a booklet of possible answers and an answer sheet. They will read possible answers and select the correct one which they will mark on their answer sheet.

Student must have studied all the grammar of Spanish and have a firm grasp of vocabulary.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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SPANISH LEVEL IV: 70 multiple choice questions

Part I A: Grammar, multiple choices. 25 incompletes to be completed sentences

Part I B: Reading Comprehension 15 multiple choices

Part II: Reading Comprehension based on long paragraph. 30 multiple choices

In case of tying students would have to write a paragraph so to untie the result.

## Special Requirements

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No more than three years of coursework. When students are signed up for this event, the school verifies they are at the proper level. No additional forms are required.

# Spanish Level Five

Contest Supervisor: José Luis Murillo, Ph.D.

Email: murillo@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 3 Students per school 25 Students per time period

**Eligibility:** Open only to bilingual students.

**Type of Contest:** Multiple Choice Exam

**Materials Needed:** Pencil

**Entry Information:** Beginning Time 9:00

## Description:

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This is a listening and reading comprehension test. The student will have a booklet of possible answers and an answer sheet. They will hear and read possible answers and select the correct one which they will mark on their answer sheet.

Students must be familiar with all the grammar of Spanish and have a firm grasp of vocabulary.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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SPANISH LEVEL V: 45 multiple choice questions

Part A & B: Reading Comprehension based on long paragraphs. 45 multiple choices.

In case of tying, students would have to write a paragraph to untie the result.

## Special Requirements

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Open only to bilingual students. When students are signed up for this event, the school verifies they are at the proper level. No additional forms are required.

# Study Abroad Essay

Contest Supervisor: Jyotsna Patel

Email: Patelj@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 3 Students per school

**Eligibility:** Open to all

**Type of Contest:** Essay, Presubmission

**Materials Needed:** Computer

**Entry Information:** Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

## Description:

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Please describe in a 2-3 page essay the importance of doing a study abroad program while attending college.

### Academic and Career Goals:

Explain how studying abroad will help you achieve your academic goals and how these align with your long-term career plans.

### Personal Growth:

Discuss how the study abroad experience will help you grow personally. This could include language acquisition, cultural immersion, developing independence, or gaining a global perspective on issues.

Reaffirm your enthusiasm and commitment to the study abroad experience, and briefly summarize how it will contribute to your future aspirations.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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Essays will be judged based on content, writing clarity, and proper grammar and spelling.

## Special Requirements

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None

# United States History

Contest Supervisor: Manamee Guha

Email: guham@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 2 Students per school-30 students total

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Skills test, problem solving, observation skills

**Materials Needed:** Pencil

**Entry Information:** Beginning Time 9:00

## Description:

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This examination is designed to measure the student's understanding of the fundamental concepts and significant social, political, cultural, and economic developments in the history of the United States.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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The highest score wins.

## Special Requirements

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None

# World History

Contest Supervisor: Manamee Guha

Email: guham@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 2 Students per school-30 students total

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Multiple Choice

**Materials Needed:** Pencil

**Entry Information:** Beginning Time 9:00

## Description:

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This exam is designed to measure the student's grasp of the fundamental concepts and significant social, political, cultural, and economic developments in World History.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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The highest top three scores win.

## Special Requirements

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None

# College of Science

# Chemistry I

Contest Supervisor: Leslie Frost, PhD

Email: frost@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 3 Students per school-25 Students per time period

**Eligibility:** Open only to those students who have completed not more than one year of coursework in the subject at the end of the current academic year.

**Type of Contest:** Multiple Choice

**Materials Needed:** Pencils. Calculator required (graphics and programmable calculators are forbidden).

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 9:00 & 10:00

## Description:

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This is an examination on basic Chemical principles. Questions concerning common laboratory procedures may be included. There will be an essay question which will be graded only in the event of a tie.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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The student with the highest score on the exam wins.

## Special Requirements

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When students are signed up for this event, the school verifies they are at the proper level. No additional forms are required.

# Chemistry II

Contest Supervisor: Leslie Frost, PhD

Email: frost@marshall.edu

---

**Limit:** 3 Students per school-25 Students per time period

**Eligibility:** Open to those students who have completed more than one year of coursework in the subject at the end of the current academic year.

**Type of Contest:** Multiple Choice

**Materials Needed:** Pencils. Calculator required (graphics and programmable calculators are forbidden).

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 9:00 & 10:00

## Description:

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The Chemistry II exam is for students who have had more than one year of high school chemistry. AP students are able to take the Chemistry II exam.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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The student with the highest score on the exam wins.

## Special Requirements

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When students are signed up for this event, the school verifies they are at the proper level. No additional forms are required.

# Crime Scene Competition

Contest Supervisor: Leslie Quick, Ph.D.

Email: quickl@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 5 students per school

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Individual

**Materials Needed:** Pen/pencil

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 10:00 & 11:00

## Description:

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Students will walk through a crime scene scenario, followed by a test of their interpretation of the scene.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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The event will be scored based on the best responses to a provided worksheet and questionnaire about the crime scene events. The student who identifies or comes closest to identifying what occurred at the crime scene and correctly answers worksheet questions will receive the highest score. Time completion will be used to break any ties.

## Special Requirements

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None

# Cyberforensics & Security

Contest Supervisor: James Lanham

Email: [lanham14@marshall.edu](mailto:lanham14@marshall.edu)

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**Limit:** 30 total. No more than two from each school

**Eligibility:** The students need to study the provided material. The materials will be sent to schools by the end of January.

**Type of Contest:** Individual

**Materials Needed:** Pen or Pencil

**Entry Information:** 10:00 AM

**Description:** They will take a written test based on the provided reference guide. The test will be true, false, and multiple choice with scenario-based questions.

**Criteria for Judging the event:** Highest score

**Special Requirements**

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# Environmental Science

Contest Supervisor: Mindy Armstead-Yeager &  
Tom Jones

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**Limit:** 5 students per school 40 students total

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Multiple Choice Exam

**Materials Needed:** Pen/pencil

**Entry Information:** Beginning Time 1:00

## Description:

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A 50-question multiple choice test on basic concepts of environmental science.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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Ranked by % correct.

## Special Requirements

---

None

# General Physics

Contest Supervisor: Curtis Foltz Email:  
foltzc@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 4 students per school 20 Students total per time period

**Eligibility:** Open to students who have some knowledge of physics

**Type of Contest:** Multiple Choice Exam

**Materials Needed:** Pencil, Scientific Calculator(non-programmable), a ½-page (8½x5½, printed 1 side) formula sheet may be brought, or will be supplied.

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 11:00 & 12:00

## Description:

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24-36 questions emphasizing classical mechanics via Force and Energy, including some rotations, oscillations, fluids, heat, and waves. Tie-breaker questions might include electricity and optics. Top scorers will be offered scholarships to attend Marshall University as Physics Majors.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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Answers will be multiple-choice or multiple-select, equally weighted.

## Special Requirements

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At least some knowledge of physics.

# Math Quiz Bowl

Contest Supervisor: Clayton Brooks

Email: brooksc@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 1 Team per school (4 students per team)

**Eligibility:** Open to all high school students

**Type of Contest:** Team Quiz Bowl

**Materials Needed:** Pen or Pencil

(We are not supplying them, and no pencil sharpeners provided)

No calculators, tablets or other devices are allowed. Paper and calculators will be supplied.

**Entry Information:** Beginning Time 9:00

## Description:

---

The contest will consist of questions chosen from all areas of high school mathematics up to, and including, the level of Pre-calculus. No calculus questions will be asked.

Each pre-registered team will have a reserved table. Other teams will be allowed to compete only if a non-reserved table is available. A question will appear on a video screen. Teams will have 2-5 minutes to write down an answer on a supplied answer sheet and hold the sheet in the air. Late answers will not be accepted. Resubmitted answers will not be accepted. This process will continue until time runs out.

For specified questions, teams will be provided a TI-30X II S calculator. No other devices will be allowed, including additional calculators.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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Teams will be ranked according to the number of correct answers. If needed, a tiebreaker question will be asked, with the winner being the team with the correct answer first.

## Special Requirements

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None but merriment is encouraged. This includes team names.

# College of Health Professions

# Clinical Laboratory Science Essay

Contest Supervisor: Jennifer D. Perry, EdD, MLS (ASCP)

Email: Jennifer.perry@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 5 students per school

**Eligibility:** Open to all high school students

**Type of Contest:** Essay

**Materials Needed:** Internet Access/

Access to resources regarding medical laboratory testing

**Entry Information:** Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

## Description:

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Clinical laboratory testing has become a prevalent subject in pop culture medical television shows and films. Research a clinical laboratory test or profile of tests mentioned in a medical television show and discuss the disease(s) being tested for and the significance of the disease for the patient. Some examples of popular television shows are, but are not limited to: Chicago Med, Code Blue, The Good Doctor, Code Black, Grey's Anatomy, and older shows such as ER and House, M.D.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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The essays will be reviewed by faculty members in the Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences and evaluated for quality of writing and content primarily using a rubric.

## Special Requirements

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None

# Communication Disorders Exam

Contest Supervisor: Sarah Clemins

Email: nuckels@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 5 students per school

**Eligibility:** Open to all high school students

**Type of Contest:** Exam

**Materials Needed:** None

**Entry Information:** Beginning Time 12:00

## Description:

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This is a multiple-choice exam taken after reading about the field of Communication Disorders and Speech-Language Pathology. There is one short essay question to determine tie breakers with objective portion of exam.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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Scores on objective portion. Score on rubric for essay.

## Special Requirements

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None

## Communication Disorders Exam

Imagine how it would feel if you couldn't express your thoughts, wants, or needs. How would you feel if you were unable to understand what other people were trying to tell you? A communication disorder can affect every aspect of your life. A speech-language pathologist (SLP) provides therapy for people with communication disorders to lessen or alleviate the difficulties they face when communicating. The field of speech-language pathology encompasses a wide spectrum of deficits, diagnoses, and therapeutic strategies. SLPs diagnose and treat clients with a broad variety of disorders, fluency disorders, voice disorders, and swallowing disorders. SLPs may also treat clients with hearing impairments. Although the diagnosis of hearing impairment is made by an audiologist, clients with hearing impairments may have delays in speech and/or language which can be treated by an SLP. Some SLPs treat clients whose deficits are related to neurological impairment, and some work with clients who cannot speak and require an alternate means of communication. Clients may range from infants through the elderly, and may be treated in many settings including preschools, schools, hospitals, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes or private clinics.

Have you ever heard a child who seemed to be unable to pronounce words correctly? The child may have an articulation or phonological disorder. According to the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (1999), about three out of five of all communication disorders are due to difficulties with articulation. An articulation disorder occurs when there is an incorrect production of speech sounds due to faulty placement, timing, direction, pressure, speed, or integration of the movement of the lips, tongue, velum, or pharynx (Nicolasi, Harryman, and Kresheck, 1989). An example of an articulation disorder is when children say "wabbit" for "rabbit" because they are unable to perform the motor movements to produce the correct sound.

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (1999) estimates that approximately 10% of all first graders exhibit a phonological disorder. A phonological disorder involves changes in the sound system of words. A phonological process is a sound change that affects a class of sounds or sequences. For example, the process of fronting involves changing a sound that is made in the back of the mouth to a sound that is made in the front, like changing "cat" to "tat". Common phonological processes include final consonant deletion, which is leaving off the last consonant of the word; cluster reduction, changing a consonant cluster like "bl" to only one sound; and stopping, changing a sound that can be held out for a long time like "s" to a sound that only lasts a short time like a "t". A child has a phonological disorder if the phonological process causes changes in how sounds are produced or how the speaker mentally represents speech sounds (Bernthal & Banjson, 1998). SLPs may treat clients with articulation disorders by teaching the client correct placement for the production of a sound, whereas therapy for phonological disorders involves teaching the characteristics of the sound classes.

A language disorder can affect patients at any age. Language disorders may inhibit the ability to express what you want to say or may impair your ability to understand what someone is saying. Language disorders can result from developmental delays, hearing impairments, environmental factors, genetic syndromes, neurological impairment or other factors. Language deficit can affect any or all of the five components of language, which are: phonology, the rules for sound combination; morphology, the rules for word formation; syntax, the structure of sentences; semantics, which deals with the meanings of language; and pragmatics, the rules that govern the reason(s) for communicating (Bernstein & Tiegerman-Farber, 1997). Language deficits can be diagnosed in a variety of ways, including the use of standardized testing and/or analyzing a sample of the client's language. After a diagnosis has been made, the SLP selects therapy goals which are appropriate for that particular client.

Fluency disorders are disturbances in speech due to stuttering or cluttering. Stuttering is an involuntary repetition or prolongation of speech sound syllable. For example, a speaker may repeat the first syllable of a word such as, “bu-bu-bu-book.” Cluttering is a speech disorder with disturbances in perception, articulation, and formation of speech, such as delayed auditory feedback or frequency altered feedback. SLPs also teach behavioral strategies to modify dysfluent speech and provide emotional support to assist the client in coping with pressured speaking situations.

Voice disorders occur as deviations in pitch, loudness, and quality, the three parameters of voice. Disorders involving pitch occur when a client uses a pitch that is too high or low and is not healthy for the structures of the larynx. Deficits involving loudness result in sounds that are too soft or too loud for the client’s communication interaction. Vocal quality can be described in terms of hoarse, harsh, or breathy, which are related to the movement of the vocal folds of the larynx. Voice disorders can occur due to faulty use of the voice such as excessive throat clearing, a disease or condition such as laryngeal cancer, or from psychogenic disturbances. Evaluation of voice disorders may involve both listening to the voice and using equipment that allows the clinician to measure or view aspects of the voice. After a diagnosis has been made, treatment involves eliminating the causal factors of the voice disorder and helping the client use more appropriate vocal practices.

SLPs may see patients with dysphagia, a disorder in swallowing. Swallowing disorders can occur at any age and can result from abnormalities at birth, structural damage, and/or a medical condition. Common causes of dysphagia include strokes, tumors, or surgical intervention for cancer. A SLP may evaluate a patient’s swallowing abilities by performing a videofluoroscopic evaluation which shows an x ray view of the mouth and throat. Therapy may range from changing the client’s posture while eating to using facilitative techniques to increase the sensation and motor movements needed for swallowing.

Some communication disorders are caused by damage to the brain from such things as strokes or traumatic brain injuries. The brain is responsible for planning motor movements and sending motor signals to the muscles. It also receives sensory input, formulates language, and sustains life functions such as breathing and swallowing. Damage to any area of the brain can result in extensive deficits depending on the location of the damage. Clients with neurological deficits may exhibit either speech or language disorders. For example, there are more than 1 million persons in the United States with aphasia, a disorder that occurs when a person has a stroke affecting the language dominant hemisphere of the brain (ASHA, 1999). Neurological disorders can be treated through strategies to regain or compensate for lost communication skills. An SLP plays the key role in regaining or compensating for the communication skills the client needs to return work or communicate in everyday situations.

The area of augmentative and alternative communication, or AAC, allows SLPs to provide clients who are unable to communicate through speech or writing with devices that allow them to communicate. The inability to speak or write can be caused by a variety of congenital or acquired impairments. The role of the SLP who works with AAC is to determine what device will provide the most effective communication in the client’s environment. AAC devices may range from simple picture boards to sophisticated computers that can actually produce natural-sounding speech.

Obtaining certification to be an SLP is a multi-step process but is rewarded for those who pursue it. National certification is obtained through the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, or ASHA. Students who wish to become SLPs first complete a pre-professional undergraduate program, and then must obtain a Master’s Degree from a program that is accredited through ASHA’s Council on Academic Accreditation (CAA). The CAA accredits college and university programs that provide the appropriate coursework and clinical practicum experience needed for certification.

The variety of disorders and settings make this profession a diverse and challenging career. Communication is a vital function for daily life and without it we cannot express our wants, needs, and wishes. SLPs greatly impact the lives of their clients. Children may be able to engage in interactions with friends and teachers thereby increasing their self-esteem and learning ability, and adults may be able to communicate more effectively both in employment settings and with their families and friends. Choosing a career as a Speech-Language Pathologist requires dedication, but the satisfaction of hearing a child speak for the first time or an adult stroke victim begin to communicate her needs makes the process greatly rewarding.

## Reference

American speech-Language-Hearing Association (1999). Speech-Language Disorders and the SLP.  
<http://www.asha.org/students/career/sld.htm> (May 5, 2000)

Bernstein, D. & Tiegerman-Farber, E. (1997) Language and Communication Disorders in Children 4th Ed.

Needham Heights: Allyn and Bacon

Bernthal, J. & Bankson, N. (1998). Articulation and Phonological Disorders 4th Ed. Boston: Allyn and Bacon  
Beukelman, D & Mirenda, P. (1998) Augmentative and Alternative Communication 2nd Ed. Baltimore: Paul H Brooks

Publishing Co.

Nicolosi, L Harryman, E. & Kresheck, J. (1989). Terminology of communication Disorders 3rd Ed. Baltimore: Williams and Wilkins

Shipley, K. & McAfee, J. (1998) Assessment in Speech-Language Pathology 2nd Ed. San Diego: Singular Publishing Grp.Inc

# Dietetics Obesity Essay

Contest Supervisor: Kelli Williams, PhD, RD, LD  
Email: williamsk@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 5 students per school

**Eligibility:** Open to all high school students

**Type of Contest:** Essay

**Materials Needed:** Computer with Internet Access

**Entry Information:** Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

## Description:

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This is a pre-submit essay contest. All essays should be typed in Word and double spaced. Responses should be no more than three typed pages. Participants are asked to answer the question below.

The obesity epidemic is a major problem impacting the U.S. health care system as well as the profession of Dietetics. Please discuss the obesity epidemic in general terms and the impact it has on the health of our country and its' health care system. Additionally, what actions are being taken to combat this problem currently and what additional actions might you recommend?

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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Essays will be judged by a panel of experts for accuracy, thorough investigation of topic, grammar, spelling, and innovativeness of treatment actions.

## Special Requirements

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None

# Exercise Science

Contest Supervisor: Brandon Jones, Ph.D. CSCS

Email: [jonesbra@marshall.edu](mailto:jonesbra@marshall.edu)

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**Limit:** 35 students total

**Eligibility:** Open to all who have taken biology and physiology

**Type of Contest:** Exam

**Materials Needed:** Pencil, Calculator, Bubble Sheets

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 10:00

## Description:

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The student should be able to demonstrate an understanding of basic human physiology and be able to apply this knowledge in areas of physical fitness, physical training, health and disease, and sport performance.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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All multiple-choice type exam using bubble sheet-computer grading. Winners are chosen by the highest number of correct answers.

## Special Requirements

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Students must have completed biology and physiology in high school.

# Health Science Exam

Contest Supervisor: Kumika Toma

Email: [tomak@marshall.edu](mailto:tomak@marshall.edu)

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**Limit:** 35 students total

**Eligibility:** Open to all

**Type of Contest:** Exam

**Materials Needed:** Pencil, Calculator,  
Bubble Sheets

**Entry Information:** Beginning Times 10:00

## Description:

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The student will demonstrate their knowledge of health care and health professions information that is emphasized in the Health Science major. Students will answer 50 multiple-choice questions related to defining health, determinants of health, human disease, trends in health care, as well as roles, duties, and educational and career paths for clinical and non-clinical health professionals.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

---

50 multiple choice/true-false questions

## Special Requirements

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None

# School of Nursing Essay

Contest Supervisor: Bethany Dyer, Ph.D. & Jeff Chambers, Ph.D  
Email: b.dyer@marshall.edu; taylor171@marshall.edu

**Limit:** No Limit

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Essay

**Materials Needed:** None

**Entry Information:** Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

## Description:

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Essay Topic: Writers should select from one of the nursing topics listed below:

- Explain the difference between the education and areas of employment for a licensed practical nurse (LPN) and registered nurse (RN).
- Different between an associate degree nurse (ADN) and a baccalaureate degree nurse (BSN) in terms of education and employment opportunities.
- Discuss the various roles of a registered nurse in the hospital setting.

This is a formal essay paper that should be double-spaced, at least 2-3 pages in length, not including the title page and reference page. All references should be cited within the paper. The essay should have an introduction, body, and a conclusion. The title of the paper should indicate the selected topic.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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Essays will be judged based on content, writing clarity, clarity of thoughts, and proper grammar and spelling.

## Special Requirements

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None

**College of  
Engineering  
and  
Computer  
Sciences**

# AI & Robotics Drawing Competition: Envisioning the Future of Technology

Contest Supervisor: Ananya Jana, PhD

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**Limit:** Up to 5 Students per group.

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Team-based or Individual Participation.

**Materials Needed:** Drawing materials (pencils, markers, colors, sketchpads). Digital drawing tools (optional, e.g., tablets, graphic design software).

**Entry Information:** Presubmission

## Description:

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**Concept Development:** Participants will explore the impact of Artificial Intelligence and robotics on society. Teams will brainstorm creative representations of AI and robotics in various fields, such as healthcare, smart cities, and education.

**Artwork Creation:** Create a detailed hand-drawn or digital illustration that represents a futuristic vision of AI and robotics. **Artistic Statement:** One-page typed, double-spaced artistic statement explaining the inspiration behind the artwork. The statement should describe the AI and robotics concepts illustrated and explain how the drawing represents the future of technology. **Final Submission:** A completed artwork (physical or digital format) along with a one-page artistic statement

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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The drawing and the artistic statement.

## Special Requirements

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None

# App Challenge: “Beautiful WV”

Contest Supervisor: Husnu S. Narman, PhD

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**Limit:** 3-5 Students in a team-No limit in the number of teams per school

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Programming, Pre-Submission

**Materials Needed:** **Computer** with the free MIT App Inventor or Kodular software for app development.

**Entry Information:** Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

## Description:

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MIT App Inventor and Kodular are software to program interactive stories, games, and animations for smartphones helping young people learn to think creatively, design, and work collaboratively. This contest is to develop any story related to “Beautiful WV” using MIT App Inventor or Kodular as a team project.

1. Design and build a story using MIT App Inventor or Kodular to demonstrate creativity, team-building ability, and development skills.
2. Submit an apk file, YouTube demo link for the developed program, and a documentation file containing the description of the story developed and its features to the SCORES database by Friday, March 7th, 2025
3. There will be no in-person presentation. Instead, create your demo to thoroughly explain your application. Your demo can also explain the problem that you solve with your application, how it will be beneficial, its limitations, and the possibility of future extensions. PowerPoint in the demo video is not required but encouraged.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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### Ranked by the total score of:

- (1) Completeness (20%), (2) Creativity (20%), (3) User Experience (20%), (4) Technical Difficulty (20%) (5) Documentation and Demo (20%)

## Special Requirements

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The Story must be developed using MIT App Inventor or Kodular (<https://appinventor.mit.edu/> or <https://www.kodular.io/>).

Students also have the option to submit this early to be judged into the NSF Game Maker Awards. This is not required for the actual SCORES event but it would be a wonderful opportunity for your students. The deadline if students want to submit their app to this national event is January 31<sup>st</sup>.

[https://nsf.gov-resources.nsfgov/files/NSF\\_Game\\_Maker\\_Entrant\\_Toolkit.pdf?VersionId=Qe6mYfnYDFnyxBnSmqUXP2PpnzWELT89](https://nsf.gov/resources/nsf.gov/files/NSF_Game_Maker_Entrant_Toolkit.pdf?VersionId=Qe6mYfnYDFnyxBnSmqUXP2PpnzWELT89)

# Cryptography Race

Contest Supervisor: Paulus Wahjudi, PhD

Email: wahjudi@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** Maximum of 2 students in a team (team of one is allowed)

Two teams limit per school

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Group

**Materials Needed:** None

**Entry Information:** Time 10:00 – 11:00 AM in WAEC 3245

## Description:

---

Encryption is the process of encoding a message or information in such a way that only authorized parties can access it and those who are not authorized cannot. There are several types of algorithms called ciphers to perform encryption and decryption of plain text.

Participants should study the following cipher: Caesar, Substitution, Vigenere, One Time Pad, and Polybius. Participants must understand how to decipher an encrypted text to plain text utilizing the ciphers.

During the event, teams will be given messages to decipher utilizing the various ciphers listed above

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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Rank determined by the total number of messages solved correctly.

## Special Requirements

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Each team is allowed one handwritten 8.5 x 11 help sheet (one side only) containing information of the various cipher information listed above to assist in deciphering the secret messages.

# Game Design with Scratch

Contest Supervisor: Professor Mundell

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**Limit:** Maximum of 2 students in a team (team of one is allowed)

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Computer programming

**Materials Needed:** Computer with Web Browser or offline Scratch software.

**Entry Information:** Presubmit

## Description:

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Design a game or interactive story using Scratch (<https://scratch.mit.edu/>) with the theme of 'Nature'. The game should have some kind of challenge to overcome and show off the team's creativity and skill.

Submit a .sb3 file made in Scratch 3.0 along with a paper (.docx file or similar) describing the project.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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- 1) Completeness (20%)
- 2) Technical Complexity (20%)
- 3) User Experience (20%)
- 4) Includes Instructions (10%)
- 5) Adheres to Theme of 'Nature' (10%)
- 6) Documentation (10%)
- 7) Creativity (10%)

## Special Requirements

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Must be developed using Scratch (<https://scratch.mit.edu/>).

# Household Energy Conservation and Efficiency

Contest Supervisor: Maher Al-Badri, PhD

Email: [albadri@marshall.edu](mailto:albadri@marshall.edu)

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**Limit:** No Limit

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Individual

**Materials Needed:** Computer; Internet Access

**Entry Information:** Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

## Description:

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ENERGY STAR is a program run by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) that promotes energy efficiency. The program provides information on the energy consumption of products and devices using different standardized methods. There are six energy efficiency improvements for existing homes recommended by ENERGY STAR. Study the six recommendations and review your school's energy utilization and consumption. Develop a plan to improve your school's energy efficiency. Write a report that summarizes your findings along with recommendation(s) to improve your school. The recommendation must be rationalized and consider the amount of money the school will have to invest and the amount of time it takes to recoup the initial investment.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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Criteria for judging the event:

Rank is determined by the following things: The completeness of the review and accurate calculations to provide the best savings while considering the initial investment needed.

## Special Requirements

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Energy Star Home Improvement: [https://www.energystar.gov/products/energy\\_star\\_home\\_upgrade](https://www.energystar.gov/products/energy_star_home_upgrade)

# Industrial Engineering:

## Independent Classroom Layout Design and Optimization Challenge

Contest Supervisor: Sudipta Chowdhury, Ph.D.,

Email: [chowdhurys@marshall.edu](mailto:chowdhurys@marshall.edu)

---

**Limit:** 5 Students per group

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Team

**Materials Needed:**

- A scale floor plan of the students' own classroom
- Graph paper and drawing supplies (pencils, rulers, erasers)
- A list of available classroom furniture and equipment

**Entry Information:** Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

### Description:

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- **Current Layout Analysis:** Review the provided scale floor plan of your own classroom and identify existing issues and inefficiencies, paying particular attention to flow disruptions and ergonomic concerns.
- **IE Concepts Review:** Study key IE principles, emphasizing the following concepts:
  - **Flow Analysis:** Analyze and optimize the flow of students and materials within the classroom to minimize traffic congestion and maximize efficiency.
  - **Human Factors:** Consider comfort and safety principles to create a classroom layout that enhances the well-being of both students and the teacher.
- **Redesign Planning:** Independently brainstorm ideas for redesigning the classroom layout, applying flow analysis and human factors concepts. Focus on efficient placement of classroom furniture and equipment while prioritizing human factor considerations and improved user flow.
- **Design Proposal:** Create a visual design proposal for the new classroom layout. Provide a scaled floor plan with annotations explaining design choices based on flow analysis and human factors principles.

### Criteria for Judging the event:

---

One group essay that should clearly list all students and the school's name. It should be double-spaced, typewritten, up to five pages long.

### Special Requirements

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None

# Web Programming

Contest Supervisor: David Cartwright

Email: [david.cartwright@marshall.edu](mailto:david.cartwright@marshall.edu)

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**Limit:** 5 students per school-40 students total

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Multiple Choice, fill in the blanks, true/false

**Materials Needed:** Pencil, Calculator

**Entry Information:** Beginning Time 1:00

## Description:

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This is a multiple-choice examination testing the basic understanding and use of HTML standards, the DOM model, JavaScript, and CSS.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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Winners will be chosen based on the highest score.

## Special Requirements

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Prior class work or experience is recommended.

# Safety & Hazard Recognition/Prevention

Contest Supervisor: Tyler M. Perry, CSP  
Email: Perry3089@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 30 students per time period

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Multiple Choice,  
fill in the blanks, true/false

**Materials Needed:** Pencil, Calculator

**Entry Information:** 9:00 & 11:00

## Description:

---

Utilizing Marshall's Occupational Safety and Health Laboratory, students will be presented with a wide variety of hazardous situation examples. Students will be tasked with identifying any hazards they recognize. Students will then identify potential Safety equipment or work practices to help reduce or eliminate the hazards identified.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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Points will be given to student one the number of hazards identified and proper selection of Hazard reduction solutions. Situations will include manufacturing industry, office spaces, transportation, home safety, and school safety.

## Special Requirements

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None

# Spaghetti Bridge Competition

Contest Supervisor: Isaac Wait, PhD

Email: wait@marshall.edu

---

**Limit:** Maximum of 2 students in a team (team of one is allowed)

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Group

**Materials Needed:** Spaghetti noodles; hot glue

**Entry Information:** 9:00 am in WAEC 1228 & 10:00 am in WAEC 1228

## Description:

---

The goal of the competition is to make a bridge out of spaghetti and glue that can support as much weight as possible. The bridges should be made before the Scores festival, where they will be tested by hanging weights from them until they break. The bridges should follow these rules:

- The length should be between 8 and 11 inches
- The height should be between 1.5 and 3 inches
- The width should be at least as big as the height
- The bridge should be able to hold weight in the middle over a 6-inch gap.
- A zip tie will be used to attach the weight in the middle of the bridge.
- The strength of the bridge will be calculated by dividing the weight that the bridge holds (that is live load) by the weight of the bridge itself (that is dead load).

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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Materials used, the dimensions of the bridge, and the strength of the bridge.

## Special Requirements

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The bridge should be built before the day of the competition. On competition day only load testing will occur.

# Information Technology Concepts

Contest Supervisor: David Cartwright

Email: [david.cartwright@marshall.edu](mailto:david.cartwright@marshall.edu)

---

**Limit:** 5 students per school 30 students total

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Multiple Choice test and fill-in-the-blank

**Materials Needed:** Pencil & Calculator

**Entry Information:** 12:00

## Description:

---

This is a multiple-choice examination testing the basic understanding and use of the information technology concepts, including computers, hardware, software and the internet.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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Winners will be chosen based on the highest score.

## Special Requirements

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None

# School of Pharmacy

# Careers in Pharmacy Public Service Announcement

Contest Supervisor: Brittany Riley, PharmD Telephone:

Email: warrick2@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** Unlimited

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Public Service Announcement

**Materials Needed:** Pencil

**Entry Information:** Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

## Description:

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Pharmacy is a profession in which there are many different career paths. Research one career path and make a 3-5 minute public service announcement about this career path. <https://pharmacyforme.org/> is a great resource to start your research from.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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The PSAs will be reviewed by faculty members in the School of Pharmacy and evaluated for quality of content primarily using a rubric.

## Special Requirements

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None

# Pharmacy Abbreviations Translation

Contest Supervisor: Brittany Riley, PharmD Telephone:

Email: warrick2@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 5 per school/50 students total

**Eligibility:** Open to All

**Type of Contest:** Exam

**Materials Needed:** Pencil

**Entry Information:** Beginning Time 9:00

## Description:

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In pharmacy practice, abbreviations or “sig codes” are used routinely when communicating prescription orders from healthcare providers to the pharmacy. Sig codes are often derived from Latin terms. For example, “hs” stands for “hora somni” which translates to “at the hour of sleep.” Our exam will consist of 20 prescriptions with sig codes. Contestants will be asked to translate the sig codes into English language directions that would be understood by patients. A tiebreaker assessment will include translating 5 more complex sig codes.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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The exam is worth 20 points.

Credit will be awarded for each entirely correct sig code translation. Students must correctly spell the directions to receive credit. Each item in the tiebreaker assessment will be worth 1 point. The tiebreaker will be used to determine first, second, and third place if necessary.

## Special Requirements

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Please provide the attached sig code list to students to use in preparation for this exam.

This list will not be provided during the assessment.

<b><u>Abbreviation</u></b>	<b><u>Meaning</u></b>
aa	of each
ac	before meals
ad	up to; to make
ad	right ear
ad lib	at pleasure, freely
am	morning or before noon
as	left ear
atc	around the clock
au	each ear
bid	twice a day
c	with or food
cap	capsule
cv	tomorrow evening
disp	dispense
dtd	give of such doses
ft	make
gtt(s)	drop(s)
h or hr	hour
hs	at bedtime
id	intra dermal
im	intramuscular
iv	intravenous
ivp	iv push
ivpb	iv piggyback
m	mix
non rep.	do not repeat (no refills)
od	right eye
oint	ointment
os	left eye
ou	each eye
oz	ounce
p	continue
pc	after meals
pm	evening or afternoon
po	by mouth
pr	per rectum
prn	as needed
q.s	a sufficient quantity
q.s ad	a sufficient quantity to make or add up to
q4h, q8h, q12h	every 4 hours, every 8 hours, every 12 hours
qd	daily
qid	4x daily
qod	every other day
sl	sublingual
sol	solution
stat	immediately
subq or sc	subcutaneously
supp	suppository

<b>susp</b>	suspension
<b>syr</b>	syrup
<b>tab</b>	tablet
<b>tbsp</b>	tablespoonful
<b>tid</b>	three times daily
<b>trit</b>	grind to a powder
<b>tsp</b>	teaspoonful
<b>ung</b>	ointment

# Pre-Pharmacy Examination

Contest Supervisor: Brittany Riley, PharmD Telephone:

Email: warrick2@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** 5 per school/50 students total

**Eligibility:** Open to all who have taken or are enrolled in chemistry and anatomy

**Type of Contest:** Exam

**Materials Needed:** Pencil

**Entry Information:** Beginning Time 10:00

## Description:

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Pharmacists are consistently ranked among some of the most highly trusted professionals. Pharmacists are able to utilize their knowledge of sciences to work directly with the public to provide direct patient care in communities. In the community practice setting, pharmacists are an easily accessible healthcare resource who can answer patient questions without an appointment.

This contest will consist of a 30-question assessment with questions pertaining to chemistry, unit conversion, calculations, anatomy, and science-related reading. A 5-point multiple choice test will be used as a tiebreaker in the event of a tie.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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The exam is worth 30 points.

Credit will be awarded for each correct answer. Each item in the tie breaker test item will be worth 1 point. The tie breaker will be used to determine first, second, and third place if necessary.

## Special Requirements

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Coursework in chemistry and anatomy currently or previously will help participants to excel.

# School of Pharmacy Essay

Contest Supervisor: Brittany Riley, PharmD

Email: warrick2@marshall.edu

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**Limit:** No Limit

**Eligibility:** Open to all

**Type of Contest:** Essay

**Materials Needed:** None

**Entry Information:** Pre-submission due Friday, March 7th, 2025 (Submit via online portal)

## Description:

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National drug shortages impact patient care through increased risk of medication errors and through compromised or delayed medical procedures. Drug shortages are increasingly making national headlines and the public concern is growing.

Describe the impact of drug shortages on patient care. What factors contribute to drug shortages? How could these factors be addressed to end and prevent drug shortages? What actions are pharmacists currently taking to combat drug shortages, and what actions would you suggest to aid this key issue? Essays should be no longer than 1500 words.

## Criteria for Judging the event:

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The essays will be reviewed by faculty members in the School of Pharmacy and evaluated for quality of writing and content primarily using a rubric. Essays will be assessed for content, structure, and grammar.

## Special Requirements

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# Outstanding Student Nomination Form

Please Return by: March 7th, 2025

Name of Nominee

Address

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

High School

\_\_\_\_\_

Cumulative \_\_\_\_\_ On a \_\_\_\_\_ Scale

ACT Composite \_\_\_\_\_ or SAT (CR + M) \_\_\_\_\_

Summary of Extracurricular Activities:

Summary of Community Activities:

Other Awards

Name of Local Newspaper:

Please list all of the contests the student will be competing:

*(Please note: the contestants may participate in four contests (one must be a group event), but only the scores of the individual contests will be used in the evaluation of the Outstanding Student nominees.)*

1.

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

The nomination form must be accompanied by a copy of the student's high school transcript, a letter of recommendation from a school official (teacher, counselor, or administrator) that addresses why the student is deserving of the scholarship, and a personal statement written by the student that explains why they want to attend Marshall and how a Marshall education will help him/her achieve their goals for the future.

Name and title of person completing this form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Title*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*



Verification of School Enrollment

For the 2025 S.C.O.R.E.S. Academic Festival

**Due by: March 7th, 2025**

High School \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Student Enrollment** (Excluding Vocational Programs)

12<sup>th</sup> Grade \_\_\_\_\_

11<sup>th</sup> Grade \_\_\_\_\_

10<sup>th</sup> Grade \_\_\_\_\_

9<sup>th</sup> Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Name and title of person completing this form: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title

Date