



NTCOG JA
NATIONAL
YOUTH
AND DISCIPLESHIP
DEPARTMENT



NATIONAL TALENT SHOWCASE COMPETITION MANUAL

2023-2024





Youth Congress Talent Showcase 2023-2024

INTRODUCTION

Our young people have consistently demonstrated high levels of skills and talents in the Performing Arts. Many of us can recall our involvement in 'Youth Achievement' back in the day. Over the years, the annual Youth Congress has become the premier event used to highlight the talents of the young people in the New Testament Church. We want to use this competition as a means of honing the talents of our young people and help to channel them into ministry.

We have structured the Teen Division to facilitate their participation in the upcoming International Teen Talent Competition in 2025 and have taken the decision to have two (2) Divisions this year: **Children and Teens**. To ensure eligibility at the International Teen Talent Competition, youth leaders should ensure that their teen competitors in the Talent Showcase will be between 13 and 20 years as at the calendar year 2025. We anticipate another competitive Talent Showcase as we surrender our talents to His Glory.

AS PER PREVIOUS YEARS, THE TALENT SHOWCASE COMPETITION WILL HAVE THREE DISTINCT ROUNDS:

1. **District Playoffs/Selection** – District Directors are required to conduct District playoffs and/or selections to determine the district representatives to the Regional Final. District Directors may enter the first, second or third place winners/selection from the District. Conditions apply.
2. **Regional Finals** – four (4) regional finals will be conducted by the National Office in conjunction with the Regional coordinators to determine the national finalists. All first, second and Third place winners will advance to the National Finals.
3. **National Finals** – All regional winners are eligible to compete at the national finals to be held during the National Youth Congress. All first, second and third place winners may proceed to the International Competition.

2024 COMPETITION SCHEDULE

- **District Play Off/Selection** – To be completed by **December 9, 2023**
- **Deadline for Entries** and fees to the Regional Finals – **January 12, 2024**
- Regional Talent Showcase Finals – **February 17, 2024**
- Deadline for **National Finals Entry and Fees** – **March 22, 2024**
- **National Finals** – **April 5, 2024**

DIVISIONS AND CATEGORIES



Children Division (11 and under)

1. Small Choir
2. Large Vocal Ensemble
3. Small Vocal Ensemble
2. Male Solo (accompanied or unaccompanied)
3. Female Solo (accompanied or unaccompanied)
4. Electric Keyboard
5. Percussion Indefinite
6. Instrumental Ensemble
7. Group Praise Dance
8. Solo Praise Dance
9. Solo Expressive/Interpretive Movement
10. Group Expressive/Interpretive Movement
11. Solo Contemporary Worship Dance
12. Group Contemporary Worship Dance
13. Solo Mime
14. Group Mime
15. Monologue
16. Solo Spoken Word
17. Group Spoken Word
18. Solo Human Video
19. Group Human Video
20. Solo Pantomime
21. Group Pantomime

Teen Division (12-18*)

All teens must be between 13-19 years old at least one day in the year 2025

SEE LIST OF CATEGORIES FROM THE TEEN TALENT MANUAL

Music Division

Categories:

Vocal:

1. Male Vocal Solo
2. Female Vocal Solo
3. Rap (solo)

Vocal Ensemble

1. Large (6-12 singers)
2. Small (2-5 singers)

Instrumental Ensemble

1. Large (9 or more players)

2. Small (2-8 players)
3. Handbell Ensemble
4. Steel Drum Ensemble



Instrumental Solo – Keyboard

1. Piano
2. Organ
3. Electric keyboard

Instrumental Solo – Non-Keyboard

1. Strings plucked
2. Strings bowed
3. Woodwind
4. Brass
5. Percussion, definite
6. Percussion, indefinite

Contemporary Christian Performance (group)

Choir (13 or more singers)

Drama Division

Group Categories:

(Small – 2-6, Large 7 or more participants)

Skit (Small and/or Large)
Mime (Small and/or Large)
Praise Dance (Small and/or Large))
Pantomime (Small and/or Large)
Human Video (Small and/or Large)
Expressive/Interpretive Movement (Small and/or Large)
Spoken Word (Small and/or Large)
Contemporary Worship Dance (Small and/or Large)

Solo Categories:

Monologue
Pantomime
Mime
Human Video
Expressive/Interpretive Movement
Spoken Word
Praise Dance
Contemporary Worship Dance
Christian Comedic Performance



Off Stage Divisions:

Bible Division

Bible Quizzing – done in collaboration with the Teens Ministry

Team

Individual

Bible Teaching

Individual (Children)

Team (Youth)

Individual (Youth)

Team (Youth)

Creative Writing Division

Articles and Essays

News Writing

Plays and Skits

Poetry

Short Story

Multimedia Division

Website Design

Multimedia Presentation Non-Video

Multimedia Presentation Video

Video Short Clip (0-2 minutes)

Short Film (5-15mins)

Long Film (16-60mins)

Multimedia Presentation Animated

Animated Video Short Clip (0-2mins)

Animated Short Film (5-15mins)

Animated Long Film (16-60mins)

Digital Photography

Arts Division



Ceramics/Glass
Graphics
Drawing
Oil/Acrylic Painting
Wet Media Painting
Raw Photography
Computer Graphics
Sculpture
Textiles
Mixed Media



GENERAL INFORMATION

Please note carefully the following Crucial Information:-

COMPETITION SCHEDULE

1. **District Play Off/Selection** – To be completed by **December 9, 2023**
2. **Deadline** for entries and fees to the **Regional Finals** – **January 12, 2024**
3. **Regional Finals** – **February 17, 2024**
4. **Deadline** for **National Finals Entry and Fees**– **March 22, 2024**
5. **National Finals** – *Youth Congress* - **April 5, 2024**

REGIONAL FINALS ENTRY FEES

1. **Individual Performance** - *\$2000 per entry* (non-refundable)
2. **Group Performance**- *\$2500 per entry* (non-refundable)
3. **Late Fee:**\$1500 per item

NATIONAL FINALS ENTRY FEES

1. **Individual Performance** - **\$2000 per entry** (non-refundable)
2. **Group Performance** - **\$2500 per entry** (non-refundable)
3. **Late Fee:** \$1500 per item

Note: Please note the cost increase that takes effect this year. The previous fees have been in effect for more than five years.

If you need further clarification, please contact the National Coordinator –Sis. Chenelle Williams at 876-416-4158 or the National Youth Director at: 927-7767; 927-3712.

Email: newtestamentyouths@ntcogjamaica.org

GENERAL GUIDELINES



1. Each District must complete and submit the prescribed online entry form along with the required entry fees on or before the scheduled dates.
2. Performers may be disqualified if they fail to register with the Talent Showcase Coordinator and be present at least 30 minutes before the start of the respective competitions.
3. **All music or tracks must be submitted via mp3 format prior to the event.**
4. Where possible participants should be clearly identifiable based on their regional colours.
5. All participants should abide by the judges' decisions.
6. All queries should be made by the assigned district representative or the District Director to the National Talent Showcase Coordinator.
7. Each district is allowed three entries per category at the Regional Final
8. Each region is allowed three entries per category at the National Final.

Grounds for Disqualification

Over the years we have come to recognise that there are individuals/groups who have had little or no regard for the rules and regulations that have been outlined in the Talent Showcase Manual. As such, we are putting in place some basic guidelines to help to better inform persons as it relates to what will constitute to a piece being disqualified from the competition.

1. A group or individual that is over the prescribed age range will automatically be disqualified from the competition.
2. A Group or Individual doing a dance or drama piece that is not an original choreographed by them and fail to give due recognition to the original choreographers will be automatically disqualified.
3. A group who fail to heed the warnings of the judges/coordinators as it relates to aspects of their performance not suited for Christian competition will be disqualified
4. A group or Individual who becomes disrespectful to the Judges/coordinators will be disqualified from the competition.
5. Teams who fail to enter a piece in its designated category will be disqualified. (E.g. A team that enters a mime but the piece is depicting a Pantomime).

Please note that the grounds for disqualifying any piece from the competition is not limited to those outlined in this document but also as deemed appropriate by the coordinator[s] of the Talent Showcase competition.

Highlights – New Updates

1. Music Division has a new category called Rap. (see Teen Talent Manual for details)
2. Drama Division has changed synchronized movement to Praise Dance
3. Drama Division has split Group items into two, Small (2-6 participants) or Large (7 or more participants)
4. Solo Christian Comedic Performance is a new category.
5. Solo and Group Contemporary Worship Dance is a new category.
6. Off Stage Divisions will be considered after National Finals and interested persons will be able to submit their entries via an online link that will be provided. All interested persons can review the requirements in the manual and submit their queries to the National Talent Showcase Director.

TALENT SHOWCASE WORKSHOPS

1. November 4, 2023: Portmore Church
2. December 2, 2023: Montego Bay Church

Churches can attend the closest location to them. Persons are required to register via the link which will be provided.

A registration fee of \$500 is required per person.

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES:

1. District Playoff/Selection - To be completed by December 9, 2023.
2. Deadline for entries to the Regional Finals - January 12, 2024
3. Regional Finals - February 17, 2024.
4. Deadline for National Finals Entry Fee - March 22, 2024.
5. National Finals - *Youth Congress* - April 5, 2024.
6. Teen Talent Expo - June 14, 2024 - Waltham Park.

NATIONAL TALENT SHOWCASE COMMITTEE

2023-2024

Names	Church	Profession	Contact No.876	Email Address
Rev. Orane Williams	Portmore	Youth Board Liaison	554-2019	orane.e.williams@gmail.com
1. Chenelle Williams • Director	Portmore	Certified Wedding Planner	416-4158	chenelle.n.williams@gmail.com
2. Gavay Watt	Rousseau Road	Digital Media Manager	470-7182 422-1913	gkmegawatt@hotmail.com
3. Shanay Cowan	Eastwood Park	Student	287-0784	shanaynesha@gmail.com
4. Tiffany Bennett-Allen	Gregory Park	Business	224-8335	bennet_tiffany@yahoo.com
5. Denzel Chung	Eastwood Park	Teacher	894-6903	marquischung97@gmail.com
6. Ojay Powell	Salt Spring	Point of Sale Associate	462-4108	ojaypowell@yahoo.com
7. Merissa Daley	Spalding	Educator	835-0170	merissadaley@gmail.com
8. Jodi-Ann Myers	Franklyn Town	Student	441-9485	jodzwill@gmail.com