



## Junior State Convention Updates

**ACADEMICS** - Testing is online in a 2-week testing window. Only 1 test can be taken per student. (NEW) - Computer Science, Health and Physical Education, U.S. History and Spelling. All tests are 30 minutes except Language Arts is 45 minutes.

**ACCESSORIZED DESIGN** - Each club can submit one club-designed accessory depicting the 2024-2025 Theme, Radiate. No interviews or ribbons.

**APPAREL DESIGN** - Each club can submit one club-designed piece of apparel depicting the 2024-2025 Theme, Radiate. No interviews or ribbons.

**BOOK BATTLE** - (NEW) Test is taken by 4 students online using one device. Time limit of 30 minutes.

**CANDIDATES** - Candidates can participate in Academics and Visual Arts. Wood or metal cannot be used in construction of the skit set. However, wood or metal bases may be used no taller than 36"/3'. Wood or metal props used as intended can be used. (NEW) No Photo-Video Studio Backdrop Background Stand. No tumbling passes or cheerleading stunts are permitted. Singular - Cartwheels, aerial cartwheels, walkovers, back bends, and round-offs are permitted. Lifts may be used as long as the feet of the participant being lifted do not go higher than the knees of the person lifting. (Performed singularly). No weapons of any kind, fog machines, fire/open flame, or live animals. Water, paint, liquids, or other materials that can create a mess are not allowed on stage. Set-up of skit - 1 minute.

**CLUB TRADING PIN** - (NEW) All pins must use the convention theme, Radiate, and incorporate the year, 2024-2025, onto the pin. It must be commercially reproduced. No ribbons.

**CREATIVE WRITING** - Students are given 60 minutes to address a prompt. Online only.

**DIGITAL PORTFOLIO (ONLINE ONLY)** - (NEW) The portfolio will be created using a digital format or with an image sharing platform and submitted during the submission window prior to convention. The presentation style and theme are the club's choice.

**ENGINEERING** - Teams of three to five students will create a Racetrack for Junior. (NEW) 18-gallon container. Teams will be given 45 minutes to construct and 90 seconds to demonstrate and present.





**LIVING LITERATURE** - All participants must have their feet on the floor. The scene should be free standing and participants cannot lean on the walls. Scenes cannot be based on a song or lyrics. Wood and metal cannot be used in construction of the set. However, wood or metal bases may be used no taller than 36"/3'. (NEW) No Photo-Video Studio Backdrop Background Stands or Pop-up Portable Tents/Canopies. Scene dimensions may not exceed 12' wide by 12' deep by 12' high. Props made of wood/metal can be used as intended. Movement is not permitted with props or scenery. However, the flickering of battery powered lights/candles is allowed. No fog machines. Assembling of props/scenery outside of the square can take place prior to set up. Setup will not be monitored with a window of time of at least 1 hour.

**MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS** - Teams of three to five students will work to create a marketing campaign to the chosen prompt:

Junior - Develop a community-based project to assist one of the following in your town/city: homeless, elderly, veterans, or Head Start Program (ages 3-4). Promote the project in a variety of ways by incorporating the 4 pillars of National Beta. All work will be done prior to convention. The team will have 2 minutes to pitch the marketing campaign. Electricity and internet connections are not provided.

**MUSICOLOGY** - A team of 4 students will take the written test online using one device during the testing window prior to convention. Time limit of 30 minutes. The Top 8 teams will be listed on the app that advance to the oral rounds onsite. Mandatory meeting prior to the oral rounds for team and coach and a signed Code of Conduct is required.

**ONSITE ART (DRAWING AND PAINTING)** - Junior participants will have 90 minutes and will remain in the room for the competition. The participants must provide all of their own supplies including a drop cloth/tablecloth.

**ONSITE CAKE DECORATING** - Participants will decorate three cake dummies no larger than 9" rounds using the Convention Theme, Radiate, and incorporating two Beta elements. The finished product can be no larger than 12"x12". Participants will need the following: icing, spatula, smoother, cake turn table, one to two bottles of water, small plastic bucket, paper towels, (3) cake dummies, wipes, and cake/cardboard base. The following are required - trash bag and either two drop cloths or plastic tablecloths (one for the table/one for the floor).

**PERFORMING ARTS** - Group Performing Arts has two categories - Small Group (4-12) or Large Group (13+). Performance time limit of 4 minutes. A club may enter either Small or Large Group. "Solo, Duo or Trio" has 4 categories: Dancer, Instrumentalist, Vocalist or Variety Act. The performance time limit is 2 minutes. A club may enter either Dancer, Instrumentalist, Vocalist or Variety Act. A club may participate in Solo, Duo or Trio and Group Performing Arts. Wood or metal cannot be used in construction of the set. However, wood or metal bases may be used no taller than 36"/3'. (NEW) No Photo-Video Studio Backdrop Background Stands can be used as backdrops. No tumbling passes or cheerleading stunts are permitted. Singular - Cartwheels, aerial cartwheels, walkovers, back bends, and round-offs are permitted. Lifts may be used as long as the feet of the participant being lifted do not go higher than the knees of the person lifting. (singularly) No weapons of any kind, fog machines, fire/open flame, or live animals. Water, paint, liquids, or other materials that can create a mess are not allowed on stage. However, they may be used to create a work of art. Clean-up will be included in the set up/take down time limit.





**POETRY** - Students are given 60 minutes to respond to a prompt and submit during the submission window prior to convention. Online only.

**QUIZ BOWL** - A team of 4 students will take the written test online using one device during the testing window prior to convention. Time limit of 30 minutes. The Top 8 teams will be listed on the app that advance to the oral rounds onsite. Mandatory meeting prior to the oral rounds for team and coach and a signed Code of Conduct is required.

**ROBOTICS** - Teams and adults have 15 minutes to set up. The team has 2 minutes to demonstrate. A 1-minute Q&A will follow. Entry must follow the 2024-2025 Robotics Showcase Challenge: Push, Lift, Pile. (NEW) Safety deduction for not having kill switch for active moving parts. Liquid, sand, glitter, or other messy substances are not allowed.

**SCRAPBOOK** - The presentation style and theme are club's choice. It may be a photo or scrapbook album, journal, or book. No interviews, ribbons, electricity, or internet.

**SERVICE LEARNING SHOWCASE** - A club can submit one free standing trifold board that features the club's service with choice of theme. No interviews, ribbons, electricity, or internet connections.

**SONGFEST** - The song performed must incorporate the 2024-2025 theme, Radiate with a time limit of 3 minutes. Max - 3 handheld mics per club. Typed/printed original lyrics and typed/printed rewritten lyrics must be submitted - one copy - prior to performance. The rewritten lyrics should include school name/club ID#. No costumes, hats, sunglasses, suspenders, or sequined/lighted bow ties are permitted. However, matching shirts, pants, shorts, or skirts, ties/bow ties, hair bows, headbands, and school uniforms are allowed.

**SPEECH** - Time limit is one to two minutes. A one-time deduction of 5 points will be taken for going under 1 minute or over 2 minutes. A typed/printed bibliography must be submitted even if no sources need to be cited. Junior topic: "Shining Brightly with Beta"

**TECHNOLOGY (ONLINE ONLY)** - The prompt is as follows:  
Junior prompt - "Radiating a Path to Success with Beta"

**THREE DIMENSIONAL DESIGN** - The design must follow the 2024-2025 Theme, Radiate. The project can be any student created design that is three dimensional and is no larger than 24" x 24" x 24". No interviews, ribbons, electricity, or internet connections..

**TWO DIMENSIONAL DESIGN** - The design must follow the 2024-2025 Theme, Radiate. A club will submit one free flowing design (24" x 36" or smaller) that depicts the theme. The depth of the design, lettering, etc., on the materials must not exceed 1/4 ". The design must be displayed using a t-stand or standard. The t-stand or standard will not be judged. No interviews, ribbons, electricity, or internet connections.





**VISUAL ARTS (UPDATE TO CATEGORIES)** - Each school may enter one in each category. However, a student may enter only one piece for Visual Arts. Finished pieces of art must be the original work of student during the current convention year and submitted at a time designated in the program to be judged. All submissions must be submitted onsite.

## **CATEGORIES FOR VISUAL ARTS - DIVISION I (9TH - 10TH GRADES) AND DIVISION II (11TH - 12TH GRADES)**

### **BLACK & WHITE PHOTOGRAPHY**

- The photograph must be no larger than 8"x10". If you choose to frame and mat, then the entry can be no larger than 11"x14".

### **COLOR PHOTOGRAPHY**

- The photograph must be no larger than 8"x10". If you choose to frame and mat, then the entry can be no larger than 11"x14".

### **DIGITAL ART**

- No AI created entries.
- The entry must be no larger than 8"x10". If you choose to frame and mat, then the entry can be no larger than 11"x14".

### **DIGITALLY ENHANCED PHOTOGRAPHY** (A photograph that is enhanced or altered from the original.)

- Changing from color to black and white and vice versa is not considered "digitally enhancing" a photograph.
- The original photograph and digitally enhanced photograph must be submitted for judging. The original photograph must be 5"x7" and the digitally enhanced photograph must be no larger than 8"x10". If you choose to frame and mat, then the entry can be no larger than 11"x14".

### **DRAWING**

- Entry must be no larger than 16"x20".
- Any medium can be used in the drawing. No paint pens allowed.

### **FIBER ARTS** (material consist of natural or synthetic fiber such as fabric or yarn)

- No kits allowed.
- Dimensions must not exceed 36"x36". Quilts, blankets, and throws must be folded to fit the dimensions of 36"x36". The judges will unfold and view for judging. No stands for display purposes will be allowed.
- Photos, posters, albums, etc. detailing the creation should not be submitted.





## HAND-DRAWN ANIME

- Entry must be no larger than 16"x20".
- Any medium can be used in the drawing.
- The subject matter does not need to be based on an actual anime character(s). It must be an original character design.

## JEWELRY

- Only one entry can be submitted to be judged (ex. pair of earrings, a bracelet, a necklace, etc.) Sets are not permitted. Students will be asked to remove additional pieces that are not being judged.
- No kits allowed.
- Jewelry displays, hand displays, etc., may be used, but are not required or judged.

## MIXED MEDIA (uses more than one medium. This can be any items of the student's choosing.)

- Entry must be no larger than 24"x24"x24".

## PAINTING

- Entry must be no larger than 16"x20".
- Any medium such as watercolor, tempera, oil, acrylic, etc., can be used in the painting.
- No kits, such as Paint by Number, can be used.

## POTTERY

- Entry must be no larger than 24"x24"x24".

## QUILLING (strips of paper that are rolled, shaped, and glued to create a design)

- No kits allowed.
- Entry must be no larger than 24"x24"x24".
- Photos, posters, albums, etc. detailing the creation should not be submitted.

## RECYCLABLE ART (recycling of any materials (discarded or otherwise) to create a new work of art)

- Entry must be no larger than 36"x36"x36".
- Photos, posters, albums, etc. detailing the creation should not be submitted.

## SCULPTURE

- Sculpture is the art of making three dimensional forms using stone, wood, metal, plaster, etc.
- Any materials can be used to create the entry.
- Entry must be no larger than 48"x48"x48".
- Photos, posters, albums, etc. detailing the creation should not be submitted.

## WOODWORKING

- No kits allowed.
- Entry must be no larger than 60"x60"x60".
- Photos, posters, albums, etc. detailing the creation should not be submitted.





(NEW) Beginning July 1, 2024, no student(s) will be able to “play-up” with the higher division for any competition. For example, 4th and 5th graders (Elementary) will not be able to compete with 6th-8th graders (Junior). Additionally, the rule would also apply that 6th-8th graders (Junior) would not be able to compete with 9th-12th graders. The rationale behind this change is because every state now awards students in Elementary, Junior, and the Senior divisions. So, to ensure that all competitions are equitable and fair, competitors must remain in their appropriate divisions.

## NATIONAL CONVENTION THEME - RADIATE - ORLANDO, FLORIDA

**\*PREMIER PERFORMERS** - A separate registration of \$40 will be required during National Convention Registration. Must be registered by May 2, 2025.

## FUTURE NATIONAL CONVENTION SITES

Nashville, TN - 2026

Fort Worth, TX - 2027

## NATIONAL EXHIBITIONS FOR NATIONAL CONVENTION

**CONVENTION INVENTION** - Teams of 2 to 4 students will invent, construct, and present an original design using any materials.

Invention must fit into one of the following categories:

1. Consumer Products - Products that increase quality of life in the workplace, at home, during leisure time, or while traveling.
2. Electronics & Sensors - Products that improve computing, communications, sensing, test, and other fields that rely on advances in electronic components, boards, and systems; products that enable an interconnected world.
3. Sustainable Technologies - Products that reduce dependence on non-renewable energy resources, as well as products designed for other purposes using environmentally friendly materials or manufacturing processes.

**CREATE AND ANIMATE** - This exhibition is for all aspiring animators. Students are responsible for creating an animation/stop motion film. Following a theme provided after registration closes, the team of 2-4 members will create an original animated presentation. All types of animation styles and mediums are acceptable, such as 2D, 3D, stop-motion and more.

**MEETING OF THE MINDS** - A prompt and rules for the exhibition will be provided onsite to each team along with all materials needed. Teams will be required to collaboratively engage in higher level cognitive abilities such as abstract







reasoning, and problem solving. An onsite challenge will be given during the exhibition to enhance the original design. Designs will be displayed and judged during the exhibition.

**REIMAGINE\*RECREATE\*RECYCLE** - Teams of 3 to 5 students will create an item (announced in the National Handbook in February) using only recyclable materials. Designs should display creativity, innovation, originality, and quality craftsmanship. Designs must be completed prior to the convention. An onsite challenge will be given during the exhibition to enhance the original design. Designs will be displayed and judged during the exhibition.

## LEADERSHIP CHALLENGES THAT QUALIFY CLUBS FOR NATIONAL CONVENTION

**COLLABORATION CONNECTION** - new challenge

**LEAD OUTSIDE THE BOX** - new prompt

**PROJECT PROPOSAL** - the project must be completed, and students will present results

**LEADERSHIP REPRESENTATIVE** - All Leadership Representatives selected at a Summit have the opportunity to interview for National Leadership Ambassador. These students must be registered for National Convention by the deadline of May 2, 2025, to be interviewed during the National Convention.

