Digital Submission Events – Rules at a Glance

You must submit your entry no later than one week before the contest. Websites will be updated each year to reflect the submission due dates. Instructions for uploading the entry will be published on the contest website and/or distributed to teachers each year. Specific instructions for labeling the entries with name(s), school, event, and title(s) (if appropriate) are included in the individual event rules.

Arts:

Digital Logo Design

<u>Entry Limit</u>: 1 entry per school (may be an individual or group project)

<u>Size Limits and Formats</u>: 1-2 megabytes; 2400 × 2000 px; .jpg, .gif, or .pdf

The first-place logo from each regional contest and the Texas State German Contest will become the official logo of that contest for the following year. It may be used for print and digital materials, including the contest website. Thus, if incorporating a year into the logo (it is <u>not</u> required), use the <u>next</u> year, e.g., at the 2040 contest, use the year 2041 if you use any year at all. **State qualifiers are encouraged to adapt their regional design to reflect the State contest.** Contestant(s) should NOT include your name or school in the image of the logo itself.

The logo must be German-related and some element of the design must relate to German contest. The logo may be animated or still. All images within the design must be original artwork and/or photos designed by or taken by the contestant(s). Images taken from the Internet or any other source are unacceptable. Contestant(s) may use pictures they have taken from prior contest years; however, no student faces may be visible. Any words, except for the contest name, must be in German.

Photo Essay

<u>Entry Limit</u>: 1 entry per school (may be an individual or a group project)

<u>Photo Limits</u>: 10-20 photos

Contestant(s) will write an **original** story in German to accompany a series of photographs. The story may not be taken in whole or in part from any print or online source, and no advantaged or native speakers may assist with the writing of the story. Photos must be originals taken by the contestant(s). Photos may be either black-and-white or color, or a combination of both. Any size photo is acceptable. The photos may concern any subject, but the part of the story telling what is happening in each photo should be displayed directly under/over/next to the photo.

Submission Process:
1. You may choose one of two methods for assembling the photo essay:
    a) arrange the photos and captions digitally in Google Slides, Microsoft PowerPoint, etc.;
        OR
    b) mount the photos and captions physically on a poster board (22" x 28", no larger, no smaller) and then take a picture of the entire poster, as well as individual pictures of the photos and captions and then assemble these pictures in Google Slides, Microsoft PowerPoint, etc.
2. With either method, you must add a title slide with **your name**(s), **school**, the event **"Photo Essay,"** and the **title of the project**.
3. Convert this file to a PDF and upload it according to the instructions provided.

Video Show

<u>Entry Limit</u>: 1 video per school; at least 6 contestants must be included in the video

<u>Time Limit</u>: 6-15 minutes

The video may be an original screenplay or a documentary and may <u>not</u> include animation. This may not be a video of one of your school's drama entries (puppet show, skit, etc.). All dialogue must be in German. Judging includes originality, German dialogue, and the professional quality of the video presentation. Creativity is encouraged.

Submission Process:
1. Upload the finished video to YouTube or Vimeo.
2. Type the script in Microsoft Word, Google Docs, etc.
3. Create a title page with the **student names**, **school**, **title of the video**, and **<u>the YouTube/Vimeo hyperlink to the video</u>**. **If you are concerned about privacy and want to password-protect your video, include the password along with the hyperlink.
4. Convert the document to a PDF and upload it according to the instructions provided. Do NOT upload the video itself; the judges will access your video via the link that you include on the title page.

Declamation:
Poetry Reading

<u>Entry Limit</u>: 3 contestants per level, per school (Levels 1, 2, 3, and 4)

<u>Length and Time Limits</u>:
Level 1: 16-24 lines **OR** 1-2 minutes
Level 2: 20-32 lines **OR** 1.5-2.5 minutes
Levels 3 and 4: 24-46 lines **OR** 2-3 minutes

The selection must be by a German-speaking author, i.e., originally published in German. It may not be a translation from a non-German-speaking author, even if it has been published, but it may be by a non-German who writes in German, e.g., Kishon. Poems may be edited to fit the time or line limits. Poetry Reading is judged on the basis of reading and not on any interpretation by the contestant, other than the use of voice changes, eye contact, facial expressions, and some use of hands. No props or costumes may be used. The contestant may not walk around. The title of the selection and the author must be listed along with the name of the student performing it on the alphabetical student list at the time of registration. <u>Poetry Reading selections may not be used as Poetry Memory selections or vice versa by the same person</u>.

Submission Process:
1. Record yourself reading the selection (or have someone else record you). Don't forget to say the title and author. You may do as many "takes" as you want until you're satisfied with the result, but the submitted recording must be a single continuous unedited take, not a spliced-together compilation of the best parts of multiple takes.
2. Upload the video of your reading to YouTube or Vimeo.
3. Create a single Word document or Google Doc, etc. with **the full text of the selection**, including title and author. To get the text of your reading selection into the document, you can cut and paste it if you have access to an electronic version of the piece or simply take a (clear!) picture or pictures of the text if you are working from a hard copy and paste the picture(s) into the document.
4. Include a title page with **your name**, **your school**, the **name and level of the event**, e.g., "Poetry Reading 2," and **a hyperlink to your YouTube/Vimeo recording**. **If you are concerned about privacy and want to password-protect your video, include the password with the hyperlink in the document.
5. Convert this document to a PDF file and upload it according to the instructions provided. Do NOT upload the video itself; the judges will access your video via the link that you include in the PDF.

New 2021

Prose Reading

Entry Limit: 3 contestants per level, per school (Levels 1, 2, 3, and 4)

Length and Time Limits:
Level 1: 16-24 lines **OR** 1-2 minutes
Level 2: 20-32 lines **OR** 1.5-2.5 minutes
Levels 3 and 4: 24-46 lines **OR** 2-3 minutes

The selection must be by a German-speaking author, i.e., originally published in German. It may not be a translation from a non-German-speaking author, even if it has been published, but it may be by a non-German who writes in German, e.g., Kishon. Selections may be edited to fit the time or line limits. Prose Reading is judged on the basis of reading and not on any interpretation by the contestant, other than the use of voice changes, eye contact, facial expressions, and some use of hands. No props or costumes may be used. The contestant may not walk around. The title of the selection and the author must be listed along with the name of the student performing it on the alphabetical student list at the time of registration. Prose Reading selections may not be used as Prose Memory selections or vice versa by the same person.

Submission Process:
1. Record yourself reading the selection (or have someone else record you). Don't forget to say the title and author. You may do as many "takes" as you want until you're satisfied with the result, but the submitted recording must be a single continuous unedited take, not a spliced-together compilation of the best parts of multiple takes.
2. Upload the video of your reading to YouTube or Vimeo.
3. Create a single Word document or Google Doc, etc. with **the full text of the selection**, including title and author. To get the text of your reading selection into the document, you can cut and paste it if you have access to an electronic version of the piece or simply take a (clear!) picture or pictures of the text if you are working from a hard copy and paste the picture(s) into the document.
4. Include a title page with **your name**, **your school**, the **name and level of the event**, e.g., "Prose Reading 2," and **a hyperlink to your YouTube/Vimeo recording**. **If you are concerned about privacy and want to password-protect your video, include the password with the hyperlink in the document.
5. Convert this document to a PDF file and upload it according to the instructions provided. Do NOT upload the video itself; the judges will access your video via the link that you include in the PDF.

Oral Tests:

Oral Presentation

Entry Limit: 2 entries per school (Level 4 only; EXCEPTION: If a school has no Level 4 students attending contest, Level 3 contestants may enter, but with the understanding that they will be competing against Level 4 contestants.)

Time Limit: 2-4 minutes

The contestant gives a **prepared** presentation based on a provided picture prompt. The picture will be posted on the contest website by December 1 each year and will relate to some current cultural topic. The presentation must compare cultural perspectives between one or more German-speaking countries and your own region related to the topic suggested by the picture. Contestant may use notes (maximum 10 bullet points, maximum 5 words per bullet), but the presentation is otherwise memorized. The presentation may be accompanied by a visual component (picture cards, poster, photo story, images on a tablet or laptop), but the visuals cannot include any words. Note: Contestant must remain fully in view of the camera for the entire presentation, so if close ups of visuals are necessary, the contestant must make sure he/she is still 100% visible. The video may not cut back and forth between contestant and visuals.

Submission Process:
1. Record yourself (or have someone record you) giving your presentation. You may do as many "takes" as you want until you're satisfied with the result, but the submitted recording must be a single continuous unedited take, not a spliced-together compilation of the best parts of multiple takes. (See rules above regarding use of visuals.)
2. If notes were used, hold the note card(s) up to the camera for at least 5 seconds (each) at the end of the presentation so that the judges can get a good look at it (them). The time it takes to display the note cards does not count toward the time limit.
3. Upload the video of your presentation to YouTube or Vimeo.
4. Create a single Word document or Google Doc with **your name**, **your school**, an image (or images) of your "**visual component**" if you used one, and **a hyperlink to your YouTube/Vimeo recording**. **If you are concerned about privacy and want to password-protect your video, include the password with the hyperlink in the document.
5. Convert this document to a PDF file and upload it according to the instructions provided. Do NOT upload the video itself; the judges will access your video via the link that you include on the document.

Research Paper:

<u>Entry Limit</u>: 1 research paper per school, with 1-2 authors

<u>Length Limits</u>: minimum 700 words, maximum 1000 words, not including Works Cited

Write a research paper in English on an interesting German-Texan cultural and/or historical topic. The topic should not be commonly known: a particular person, family, place, building, business, area, group, settlement, organization, church, tradition, activity, practice, etc. The paper should contribute to a greater understanding of German-Texan history and/or culture. The entry must be typed and double-spaced and have internal documentation with proper in-text citation and a Works Cited page, as per MLA (Modern Language Association) guidelines. Follow the rules in the latest MLA Style Sheet, paying special attention to rules for entering Internet sources. **Use at least three sources, at least two of which must be non-Internet**. Digitally archived sources originally published in hard copy may be counted as non-Internet sources. **Sources should include primary sources and secondary sources**. Primary sources are evidence in the form of artifacts, photos, letters, interviews, music, charts, illustrations, etc. with a direct connection to the era being studied. They may be personally documented by the contestant(s) (photos taken, interviews recorded) or found in personal collections, archives, libraries, museums, etc. Secondary sources are documents that discuss or analyze primary sources and topics – primarily other academic work.All entries will be checked for plagiarism via turnitin.com or a similar service.

Submission Process:
1. Following MLA Style, include **your name(s), your school**, the **date**, and the **title** of the paper at the top of page 1.
2. To include photographs, other images, and/or audio materials, add an appendix after the Works Cited page. Images may be pasted directly into the document. Audio files should be linked, e.g., via a Google Drive link.
3. Convert the completed research paper, including the Works Cited and any appendix, to a single PDF file and upload it according to the instructions provided.