

SONG LEADING

PURPOSE: To encourage young men and women to develop song-leading skills

PROCESS:

Each participant (or church coordinator) will:

- Be certain they are registered for this event, with correct gender and grade level info.
- Be at the assigned room at the beginning of the event.
- Bring their own transparency for the song to be lead. (See guidelines on "During the Event" below.)
- Be certain that at least one adult volunteer is provided for every four participants from a congregation. Men and women are needed. (The church coordinator is responsible for this.)

The Event Coordinator will:

- Assume responsibility for the MWLTC Song Leading Event and be certain that the event setup is adequate.
 - Be certain that an overhead projector is in place.
 - Assign participants to event rooms. Please refer to "Event Coordinator Guide" for details.
 - Conduct an evaluators meeting before the event. Please refer to "Event Coordinator Guide" for details.
 - Provide adult volunteers to serve as "room emcee" for each event room. Please refer to "Event Coordinator Guide" for details.
 - Report results and provide critique sheets to the Awards Committee.
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GUIDELINES:

Participant Eligibility

- There are two grade levels in this event: Grades 3-6 and Grades 7-12
- This event is available to boys & girls. There will be separate venues for Boys & Girls to participate in this event.

Before the Event

- *Practice with a Microphone:* Participants are recommended to practice with a microphone and a speaker system so the participant is comfortable hearing one's self and regulating their volume by their distance from the microphone.

During the Event

- *Participant Appearance:* Each participant should dress as if they were leading the worship at their home congregation. It is expected that this should be at least dress casual (i.e. khakis or slacks with a nice shirt for boys; comparable for girls). The participant's appearance should be neat, modest, and not a distraction.
- *Leading the Song:* The participant must lead two verses (no more, no less). Pitching the song with a pitch pipe or a tuning fork is recommended, but not required. Other key factors are listed in the Song Leading Evaluation Form.
- *The Transparency:* Each student must bring a copy of the song they will lead on overhead transparency to be displayed. The overhead transparency must include the music and words. MWLTC cannot guarantee that a copier and transparency material will be available at convention.
- *Licensing:* The song must be public domain (no copyright indication on original) or your congregation must have a church copyright license (CCLI) # before copying any songs. **Write "Public Domain", "PD", or the CCLI # as applicable so that it may be easily seen when the transparency is placed on the overhead projector.**

Spectators

- Spectators may not enter or leave the room while participants are leading singing. Door monitors will only allow entrance and exit between songs.
 - Any video or audio equipment must be set up prior to the event.
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AWARDS:

Grade Level 3-6	Gold = 90 to 100	Silver = 80 to 89	Bronze = 70 to 79	Participant = 69 & less
Grade Level 7-12	Gold = 95 to 100	Silver = 85 to 94	Bronze = 75 to 84	Participant = 74 & less

EVALUATION CRITERIA:

See Song Leading Evaluation Form for criteria and weighting.

Song Leading

Instructions for Evaluators:

1. Place bar code label or write student info.
2. Assign score for each criteria & calculate total.
3. Write additional comments.

Place Label Here	Name:	Place Label Here	EVENT COORD:	
	Grade:		Gender:	
	Cong:			FINAL AWARD

Pitch

Score: _____

13-15: Started song on a pitch/key appropriate for 4-part harmony

11-13: Started song too low or too high for 4-part harmony but recovered at some point.

0-11: Started song too low or too high for 4-part harmony & did not recover.

Tempo and Dynamics

Score: _____

13-15: Set an appropriate tempo for song • May have attempted some appropriate tempo or dynamic changes within the song

11-13: Set an appropriate tempo at the beginning, but it slowed noticeably by the end

0-11: The tempo was either too fast or too slow for the mood of the song.

Verses Led / Verse Transition

Score: _____

8-10: Led 2 verses • Indicated which verse to sing either verbally before the song or by hand signal during song • Excellent leadership and smooth transition in moving to second verse

7-8: Led 2 verses • No hand signal or verbal instruction on which verse to sing • Rough transition to second verse

0-7: Led something other than 2 verses • May not have shown hand signal or given verbal instruction

Volume

Score: _____

13-15: Loud enough for most or all to easily hear, especially when beginning or making transitions.

11-13: Not loud enough to be heard in back.

0-11: Easily drowned out by audience • Audience must stop or soften at transitions to hear leader OR audience "carries" leader through song.

Poise

Score: _____

14-15: Very confident & well-prepared • Placed transparency correctly the first time • Excellent volume & diction when announcing song

13-14: Reasonably confident & prepared. • May have fumbled some with transparency. • Good volume & diction when announcing song

11-13: Somewhat nervous but had prepared for event • May have fumbled some with the transparency. • Needed to be louder &/or clearer when announcing song

0-11: Very nervous. Needed more preparation for event. • May have fumbled some with the transparency. • Needed to be louder &/or clearer when announcing song; May have mumbled

Interaction

Score: _____

14-15: Eye contact, facial expressions, etc. drew audience into praise. • Song leader is assertive in leading the audience.

13-14: Eye contact, facial expressions, etc. were made much of the time but the leader wasn't as assertive.

11-13: Eye contact, facial expressions, etc. were made occasionally.

0-11: Very little or no eye contact, facial expressions, etc. • Leader stared at the music.

Beat

Score: _____

14-15: Showed beat with hand throughout • Able to keep audience at set tempo or bring them back up to speed if needed.

13-14: Showed beat with hand throughout. • Allowed audience to dictate the tempo (i.e. Slowed beat in relation to audience lead)

11-13: Showed beat most of the time.

0-11: Rarely or never showed beat with hand.

Brief Commentary on Spirit of Worship

An excellent song leader not only masters the skills above, but also shows and creates a spirit of worship that is evidenced by:

- Setting appropriate tone and mood for the song
- Using appropriate facial expressions & body mannerisms that complement the song
- Singing with spirit and understanding of the song lyrics

(This is not necessarily an exhaustive list.)

Evaluator's Comments:

Total Score: _____

3rd-6th grd: 0-69; 70-79; 80-89; 90-100

7th-12th grd: 0-74; 75-84; 85-94; 95-100