

# NASHEED/RAP

**Format:** In-Person

**On-site Submission:** Three (3) copies of the Nasheed/Rap must be submitted to judges on-site at the time of the competition.

**Registration Guidelines:**

1. A minimum of one (1) and a maximum of six (6) people can register for this competition.
  - a. One submission per MIST team/school.
2. There will be a separate competition for brothers and for sisters.
  - a. Hence, each team must either be all sisters or all brothers.

**Procedure:**

1. The performance should not exceed more than 5 minutes.
  - a. Points will be deducted from the total score if the performance exceeds the allotted time.
2. The Nasheed/Rap competition is different from the Spoken Word competition.
  - a. Therefore, if a competitor registers for both competitions, they may not use the same piece.
3. The only instrument that can be used for the performance is a drum with an open end (daf).
  - a. Full drum kits, floor drums, etc. will not be allowed.
  - b. Drums will not be supplied by MIST. Each group is responsible for bringing their own drums.
  - c. Other methods used for rhythm may be utilized such as vocal percussion (beatboxing) if students feel comfortable, etc.
  - d. Groups cannot use digitally enhanced sounds for their performance.
4. Groups must perform in front of an audience.
5. No repeat performances from previous years are allowed.
  - a. All nasheed/raps performed must be original.
6. Tones, lyrics and, tunes must not be copied from existing artists. If they have been copied, it is grounds for disqualification from the competition.
7. The competitors must submit three hard copies of their Nasheed lyrics to the MIST Nasheed judges before they perform.
8. Judging Criteria will be based upon the official MIST Nasheed/Rap Ballot.

# DETAILED BALLOT: NASHEED/RAP

## Section A: Administrative

Points: 10

- Presenter(s) are on time for the competition.
- Nasheed/Rap is under five (5) minutes.
- There are no identifiers on the submission aside from the MIST ID.
- The presenter(s) look credible and are dressed for an interview.

## Section B: Content/Structure

Points: 15

- Is the Nasheed free from any inappropriate content?
  - If it contains profanity, sexual innuendo, etc. do not score the rest of the section; competitor receives 0/15. If so, continue scoring.
- Is the Nasheed well written, (ie. Are rhyme, metaphors, and figurative language present in the lyrics?)
- Does the Nasheed show originality and creativity?
- Intro: does it establish a melodic, harmonic, and/ or rhythmic pattern related to the piece?
  - Does it establish a basic connection with the listener?
- Verse: how well does it tie into the main purpose?
  - Are the verses well defined? Is there a story/message to easily follow throughout each verse?
- Chorus: is the chorus easy to follow? Is it catchy?
  - How does the chorus embody the message of the song?
- Bridge: 1 bonus point.

## Section C: Technical

Points: 25

- Intonation: Tone quality, pitch, accuracy, blend, and balance.
- Vocal technique: Articulation, rhythmic accuracy, fluency, flexibility, breath control, etc.
- Tone: sound or timbre pleasing to the ear, blend, evenness.
- Is there a unique texture to the performer's voice/s? Is it a soft or gentle sound? A hoarse or gravelly sound?
- Does/do the performer/s display a unique wide range of vocal tones? Is it just monotone?
  - Can performer/s move from a low to medium to high note effectively?
  - Can high notes be articulated without cracking or straining their voice?
  - Do the low notes contain power/strength?
- Rhythmic integrity and interpretation: Style, tempo, phrasing, dynamic contrast, etc.
- Musical effect and diction. Phrasing and melodic sensitivity, artistry, expressive and musical feeling, etc.
- Musicianship: Sensitivity to all aspects of execution in order to make an effective musical result: phrasing, dynamics (good sense of loud and soft singing), vocal attack.

## Section D: Delivery

Points: 20

- Stage Presence: Is there a connection with the audience, energy, and excitement?
- Is there a connection between the piece and the performer's emotions? Does the performer embody the piece?
  - What is their body language?
- Are the members of the group in time with one another (rhythm)?
  - If it is one member, are they maintaining tempo?
- Are the members of the group in tune with one another?

- If the group consists of one member, do they have a good tone?
- Are the lyrics clear and easy to understand? (In their presentation, not interpretation)
- Stage presence - group appearance, music memorized, facial expressions, staging, accompaniment, entertainment value.
- Do the competitors establish eye contact? Do the performers use the stage?

#### **Section E: Complexity**

**Points: 10**

- Wide range, complex or varied rhythms, incorporation of several creative elements, complex harmonies.

#### **Section F: Overall Experience**

**Points: 10**

After the reviewing the Nasheed content, performance, and interview, rate the entire experience from 1 to 10.

- 1 being very poor (no organization, unity, intonation, relation to the theme).
- 5 to 6 being average.
- 10 being exceptional (memorable performance, sound understanding of the theme, exceptional Nasheed content).

#### **Section G: Application of Theme**

**Points: 10**

- There is a strong, clearly evident relevance to the theme.
- The theme is expressed in a unique or outstanding way.
- Purpose of the nasheed/rap is clearly articulated and shows evidence of reflection and/or research.
- Elements and principles of the project are clearly articulated and the student shows evidence of careful selection and organization of these elements and principles.

Judges will ask the following questions to gauge the competitors' understanding of the theme and how it was expressed in their work. Judges will then proceed to scoring.

- How did you aim to convey this year's theme in your work?
- What do you hope to teach people about the theme with your submission?
- What element of the work is the most important towards conveying your understanding of the theme?

# NASHEED/RAP BALLOT

		Subtotal
Section A	Administrative	_____ / 10 points
Section B	Content/Structure	_____ / 15 points
Section C	Technical	_____ / 25 points
Section D	Delivery	_____ / 20 points
Section E	Complexity	_____ / 10 points
Section F	Overall Experience	_____ / 10 points
Section G	Application of Theme	_____ / 10 points

Total: \_\_\_\_\_/100 Points

Overall Judges Comments and Feedback