

FETE FRANCAISE

AATF NORTH TEXAS

GENERAL REGULATIONS 2012

Eligibility

1. All contestants must be enrolled in a French course this school year at grade levels middle school through 12.
2. The teacher of every contestant must be currently a member of the AATF, North Texas Chapter by the date of the mandatory scheduling session on February 12. Anyone wishing to become a member should contact the chapter treasurer, Becky Lee at leem@lisd.net for more information.
3. Advantaged speakers are allowed to participate in all cultural events and level 5 academic events, but their points in the academic categories will not be counted towards individual or school sweepstakes awards.

An advantaged speaker is defined as:

- i. one who has attended a school instructed in French for two or more years after the age of six years old (completed CM1- or 2ème année in QC)
- ii. one who has resided in a francophone country for six months or more, or who is currently enrolled in French VI.
- iii. Native Speakers: Students who are classified as Native Speakers.
 1. Francophone foreign nationals
 2. Foreign exchange students with more than 2 years of French.

Students who infringe upon this rule will be disqualified.

4- Teachers need to register students in one of the two categories for level 1-2-3.

We will have level 1A, level 1B, level 2 A, level 2B, level 3A, level 3B. There are no changes for level 4, level 5 and advantage.

If a student registered in category B score is lower than that of the winner of category A, then they do not win. Any student in category B needs to scores higher than a category A student in order to win.

CATEGORIE A

Students compete at the level in which they are enrolled at the time of the contest. Student who has not lived with French-speaking parents, who has not attended a French school and who has not lived in a French-speaking community.

CATEGORIE B AVANCE

All others type of students will compete in which they are enrolled at the time of the contest. Any student enrolled in level 1 – will compete in level 1 advance

Below are examples for these students:

- a. **One who has attended a school instructed in French for two or more years before the age of six years old (completed CP- or 1ère année in QC)**
- b. **Students with one French-speaking parent. "French-speaking parent" that the parent speaks the language with the student"**
- c. **Student who has exposure to the language through his parent, extended family and/or francophone relatives.**
- d. **Students taking, in addition to their regular French course, one course or more conducted predominantly in French.**
- e. **Students who have spent two or more successive summers in a French-speaking area.**

Students who infringe upon this rule will be disqualified.

- 5- **Middle school students are allowed to participate but will not have designated events. They will compete with those in their level, regardless of grade classification.**
6. **It is the teacher's responsibility to determine eligibility for each of his/her students and to see that all rules are obeyed. However, before making any decision in a difficult situation, the teacher should consult the Fête Committee through the Vice President of Special Events, Francine Dupuis-Ho. Her contact information is given at the end of this document.**

Registration

1. **Registration is by school, not by teacher, but all teachers whose students are competing must be members of the AATF, North Texas Chapter. One school registration form must be filled in for each school, according to the instructions on the form. The forms will be available online. The deadline for registration is February 11th you need to send your completed form to the VP event. NO LATE REGISTRATION WILL BE ALLOWED. A copy is on our web site under "Registration- feteworksheet2012"**

On February 18th – you will complete SCHEDULING AND PAYMENT FOR YOUR STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE EVENT. In 2012, the meeting is

being held at RL Turner HS, Turner High School - 1600 Josey Lane - Carrollton, TX 75006

- a. One individual student registration form must be filled in for each student, according to instructions on the form. Teachers may make as many copies necessary of the student registration form. Student registration forms must match the information on the school registration form.
 - b. In order to schedule all competition prior to the day of the Fête, all teachers or their representatives must attend a mandatory scheduling session on **February 18, 2012 at RL Turner HS in Carrollton**. PLEASE NOTE: Registration is a complicated process. It is essential that all forms be carefully and correctly filled out with all information provided.
 - c. All schools will be assigned a random number which will be issued to the schools' representatives at the time of the mandatory scheduling session. This number must be correctly entered on all forms and correctly given to all judges at the time of the events.
2. Contestants are registered by category for all events, e.g. "Vocal Solo Folk", "Memorized Poetry", "Folk Dance".
 3. Contestants must also register by level for the academic events, e.g. "Vocab. 1", "Read Poetry 2", "Memorized Poetry 3". ** read eligibility section #3
 - a. Level 1: High School students (9-12) who are enrolled in first year of French and Middle School students who are enrolled in French 1B
 - b. Level 2: High School students (9-12) who are enrolled in second year of French
 - c. Level 3: High School students (9-12) who are enrolled in third year of French
 - d. Level 4: High School students (9-12) who are enrolled in fourth year of French
 - e. Level 5: High School students (9-12) who are enrolled in fifth year of French

THERE ARE NO LEVEL DISTINCTIONS FOR CULTURAL EVENTS

4. Fifth year students: There are two categories which are for fifth year students only: Extemporaneous Speaking and Composition. Level 5 students may also participate in any other category except the Dictée (which is limited to Levels 1-3). On the written tests, if fifth-year scores are lower than that of the winning fourth-year scores, the level is indicated as 4/5, i.e. they are not separated and prizes are awarded as stands. In other words,

both groups will be integrated. In other words, only when fifth level scores are above the winning fourth level will prizes be awarded as level 5.

5. For music groups (vocal and instrumental) where two groups per school per category are allowed, there must be no duplication of students from one vocal group neither to the other, nor from one instrumental group to the other. In other words, a student cannot be in two vocal or instrumental groups, but can be in one instrumental and one vocal group.
6. For dance groups (folk and other) where only one entry per school per category is allowed, students may participate in both categories.
7. For drama groups, where level is a limiting factor, there must be no duplication of students from one group to another. Advantaged speakers may not participate in this event.
8. Contestants may register for 1 to 4 events. They may register for 5 events, if they register for either 2 written tests and 3 non-written tests or 3 written tests and 2 non-written tests. Written tests are defined as the Vocabulary, the Grammar, and the Civilization tests.
9. Points are given for the top three winners in each event and are distributed based on the type of event in the following manner:
 - a. First place winners in an academic event earn 9 points.
 - b. First place winners in a cultural event earn 6 points.
 - c. Second place winners in an academic event earn 6 points.
 - d. Second place winners in a cultural event earn 4 points.
 - e. Third place winners in an academic event earn 3 points.
 - f. Third place winners in a cultural event earn 2 points.

Academic events weigh more heavily than cultural events. The points earned will be tallied to determine individual and school sweepstakes awards.

10. There is a \$6 non-refundable fee per student, payable by the time of the mandatory teacher registration, which qualifies the student to participate in the Fête. Please make checks payable to NORTH TEXAS AATF and mail them to Becky Lee at 8817 Tyler Drive, Lantana, TX 76226, or bring them to the mandatory scheduling session. A school purchase order is acceptable if payment is postmarked by the date of the mandatory teacher registration.

Substitutions

Substitutions for students are possible only if the student substituting is able to compete at the original time scheduled for the student who is withdrawing. The Vice President of Special Events must be notified of these substitutions by phone or e-mail by the cut-off date which

is one week before the competition. Please limit your substitutions to no more than 5. Should you need to make more than 5 changes, you will need to contact both the Vice-President of Special Events and the Chapter President to explain the circumstances in order to gain permission. Substitutions after the cut off due date are not permitted. This means that each school's roster of contestants must be firm and complete one week before the date of the competition.

Judging

1. Every attempt will be made to provide 2 judges per category and, in academic contest, per level.
2. Every attempt will be made to provide a monitor for every event who will act as time-keeper (where applicable), who will see to the orderly progression of contestants through the judging area, or who will hand out and collect written tests.
3. Teachers who have students participating must help with judging or monitoring. Teachers may be appointed as monitors for any event, but every effort will be made to avoid events where teachers have students participating. Please understand if we have to assign teachers to events where their students are participating. After all, we are all professionals.
4. All limitations of time must be strictly observed, with the exception of technical, i.e. mechanical, difficulties. A penalty of 10 points will be assessed in timed events for each minute (or part thereof) over the limit.
5. Art and Crafts entries must be in place by 9 am on the day of the competition. The judging of these events is very time consuming. Entries may be reclaimed between 1:00 and the closing of the Fête, unless extraordinary circumstances require students to leave earlier. PLEASE NOTE: Unclaimed entries will be discarded. No responsibility will be taken by AATF NT or host for entries which are not claimed before the contest is over.
6. Judging of all categories will begin at 9:30. Students must be present at the assigned time or may forfeit their event. Arts and crafts contestants do not remain with their works during judging. The judging of all categories will terminate by 1:30 pm. The contest (including awards ceremony) should be over by 3:00 pm.

Written test administration

1. Test administrators will be instructed to allow no one to enter late for the exams. Students must be punctual because the same administrators must do the next exams.
2. All participants must submit proper photo ID. Student ID, driver's license, passports will be accepted. Other ID subject to executive committee approval. Those not complying will not be allowed to take the test. Students must also bring a prepared no. 2 pencil for test taking.
3. Cheating on the written tests will be dealt with immediately. Administrators will be instructed to send out anyone caught cheating. Teachers should caution their students about this policy. Teachers of students caught cheating will be informed of this and should take appropriate action of which they will notify the committee.

Important Notes

1. Every effort is made to give your students a schedule that will allow them to compete in all of the events they wish to take part in; however, time conflicts are sometimes inevitable. Please tell your students to report to the judges even if they arrive late to let them know that they still wish to participate. We will try to accommodate such requests if at all possible.
2. Students will be required to show a photo ID before entering the testing areas. Please make sure they bring this and a no. 2 pencil with them on the day of the Fête.
3. Some rules and criteria have changed in certain categories. Please read through them carefully prior to the scheduling session on February 12. We will be able to answer any questions you have at the scheduling session. There will be a mandatory meeting at 10 am for teachers bringing students to the Fête.

Thank you for your dedication and participation in La Fête Française 2012. It is our hope that adhering to these regulations will make the contest fair and enjoyable for the students, teachers and judges who help make it possible.

Vice-President of Special Events

Francine Dupuis-Ho

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