

THE 15<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MSA SHOWDOWN  
OFFICIAL COMPETITIONS PACKET

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS  
MARCH 25-27, 2022

*Restart.  
Refresh.  
Reignite!*



VERSION 2.0



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# Purpose

The purpose of Showdown is to bring together MSAs and Muslim students all across the state of Texas in the spirit of healthy competition and unity. This event is a manifestation of the MSA Lone Star Council's understanding that through cooperation, we can achieve much more than we can individually. As we continue to work at local levels, we recognize that each MSA is part of a national and global movement working to bring positive change among Muslims and the society at large. Simply by participating in this event, we are coming together in an act of good and joining a movement that will impact the masses through the will of Allah (SWT) and our efforts, InshAllah.

## About the MSA Lone Star Council

The MSA Lone Star Council is a coalition of MSAs across the state of Texas whose primary purpose is to unify MSAs for the sake of Allah (SWT). Since 2002, LSC has served as a forum for efficient and effective interaction between the various MSAs in Texas by focusing on networking, training, and the development of Muslim student leaders. LSC operates with the understanding that through cooperation, we can accomplish anything.

Please reach out to [exec@msa-texas.org](mailto:exec@msa-texas.org) for any questions, comments, or concerns.

# Theme: Restart. Refresh. Reignite!

إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُغَيِّرُ مَا بِقَوْمٍ حَتَّىٰ يُغَيِّرُوا مَا بِأَنْفُسِهِمْ

*“Indeed, Allah (God) will not change the condition of a people until they change what is in themselves.”*

*Qur’an 13:11*

In today’s fast-paced society, everything around us is constantly evolving, including ourselves. Every day brings new challenges, and these challenges are meant for us to realize our ultimate purpose, which is to please Allah (SWT). Whether we have the happiest of moments or the most tragic of times; whether we live full of glee or go through hardships where we must learn to endure and embrace the pain – one thing always remains. After every experience we face, there is a light at the end of the tunnel – *a new beginning, a new start, a new intention.*

But this light in the midst of darkness seldom strikes on its own. This fire must *first* start with a renewed intention and a solid purpose on what we are to change. As Muslims, we pride ourselves on changing every day to establish a better version of ourselves. Many of us spend countless hours discussing how we want a better world, but rarely do we turn inwards and begin the change within. These changes, no matter how big or small, must begin within our hearts. And in the darkness, it may seem like everything has ended, the reality is that the spark has just *reignited.*

For the end is always just the beginning.

# General Guidelines

- All Showdown attendees **must meet** the following requirements: be a member of a university/collegiate MSA registered with LSC and/or 18 years or older. Current students and alumni of 3 years are allowed to compete. Alumni of over 3 years are allowed to attend but not compete.
- COVID-19 Protocols: All attendees must wear a mask at all times. Players on the bench must be wearing a mask at all times. The only exception will be when players are actively playing on the field or court.
- LSC reserves the right to disqualify or eject any Showdown attendee for inappropriate behavior or suspicion of dishonesty.
- Plagiarized submissions for competitions are **automatic disqualification**. Each competition entry/submission must be unique.
- Any participant who enters a competition late is subject to disqualification at the discretion of the competition's judge(s).
- Participants must be wearing their Showdown wristbands **at all times** and will not be allowed to enter event areas without their wristband.
- Dress code for both brothers and sisters should be loose fitting and not transparent. Feel free to wear your school's MSA shirt if available.
- **Prohibitions:** Schools may under NO circumstances use any of the following materials. Schools exhibiting any of the following will **receive negative points** and may be asked to leave.
  - Decorative items or spirit gear that will leave a mess behind (i.e. glitter, smoke bombs, etc.)
  - Items that produce amplified sounds (blow horns, megaphones, etc.)
  - Instruments of any kind (cow bells, drums, etc.)
- We highly recommend that your school print and bring at least one copy of this packet, as it contains all rules and scoring. It is your responsibility to check [the website](#) for the most up to date versions of this packet.

# Important Deadlines

Registration is not complete until payment is received. Individual registration is required. No refunds will be issued to an individual or MSA that is unable to attend after registering and submitting a payment online.

## Registration Costs:

### **Early Registration + FREE shirt (\$40):**

Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup> by 11:59 PM CT

\*all competitors **should** register by this deadline\*

### **Regular Registration (\$45):**

Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup> by 12:00 PM CT

[Click here to register.](#)

## **Individual Submissions**

A participant must be registered by 1) the deadline for initial rosters and/or 2) the deadline for their competition's submission. LSC recommends that all competitors **register by the early registration deadline** in order to avoid any confusion. Check the rules, submission forms, and ballots to determine what must be submitted prior to Showdown. All submissions and rosters must be submitted on the [LSC website](#). Online submissions will **NOT be accepted after 1:00 PM CT** on the day of the deadline.

## **Competition Rosters**

Certain competitions have a limited number of spots available per school. MSA presidents or a selected officer will submit **two rosters**: a sports roster and a non-sports competition roster. Rosters will have the name, phone number, and email of the competitor(s). All competitors must be registered by the rosters deadline of **Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup>**. Competitors that are not registered by this deadline will be dropped.

## **Submitting Rosters**

LSC will email each registered MSA's President a password-protected link to access the competition & sports rosters on the [LSC website](#). When clicking on this link, you'll be prompted to enter a password. Please enter the password to access the roster. Only one submission of each form is allowed per school. Please do not submit roster forms until all information is complete. You will follow the same process for both the competitions and the sports roster (using the same password), submitting a separate roster for each sport. Feel free to use [LSC's roster template](#) in order to make your MSA's roster submission process as easy as possible.

## Competition and Roster Deadlines

### Saturday, February 26<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 PM CT

- T-shirt design competition

### Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 PM CT

- Rosters due for: ALL Sports
- Rosters due for: performance poetry, extemporaneous speaking, tajweed, nasheed, and knowledge bowl
- Schools should submit a Project Sadaqa campaign on [Launchgood](#)

### Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 PM CT

- Film - team submission
- Performance poetry - individual submission
- Writing - individual submission
- Written poetry - individual submission
- Photography - individual submission
- General art - individual submission
- Calligraphy - individual submission
- Promo video - MSA submission

### Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 PM CT

- Charity Project Pitch [applications due](#)

### Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup> @ 11:59 PM CT

- #RaceToShowdown2022

### Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 PM CT

- TikTok Talent - submission & judging deadline

### Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 PM CT

- All Project Sadaqa offline donations (checks & cash) must be physically turned in to an LSC officer or via Venmo (@msalsc).

### Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 AM CT

- All of the following MUST be physically checked in at the Art Room.
  - Scrapbook submissions & receipts; Art, Calligraphy, & Photography physical submissions.

### Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup> by 10:00 AM CT

- Event Photography submissions must be emailed to [exec@msa-texas.org](mailto:exec@msa-texas.org).

# Changes from Previous Showdowns

- **Alumni of 3 years (May 2019 and after)** are allowed to compete at Showdown. Contact the MSA President to be included on the rosters.
- **Promo videos** must be submitted on the MSA's Instagram account (IGTV) AND on YouTube. Both must be live by the deadline.
- **Extemporaneous Speaking, TikTok Talent,** and the **Charity Project Pitch** have been added as brand new Showdown competitions. Only 2 individuals per school may compete (any gender) in Extemporaneous Speaking. Schools may submit an unlimited number of entries for TikTok Talent and the Charity Project Pitch.
- The **Snapchat Filter Design competition** has been retired and is no longer a competition.
- Brothers' sports will be capped at the following number for each sport: basketball (12 teams), flag football (12 teams), and outdoor soccer (12 teams).
- Sisters' basketball will be capped at 10 teams. Dodgeball and volleyball will remain uncapped.
- Competitors **cannot** compete in more than 2 sports happening at the same time. This means that sisters cannot compete in both basketball AND dodgeball, and brothers cannot compete in both football AND soccer, as the aforementioned sports run at the same time.
- Any sports captain that does not attend the captain's meeting or give 3 days prior notice of absence to LSC or the Sports Chairs will have their team disqualified from the competition (i.e. volleyball captain from UNT does not show up, nor does she give prior notice, will have her team not playing on Saturday at all).
- As of Jan. 2019, LSC has established the following policies for sports regarding behavior:
  - Referees, sports (tournament) heads & chairs, and LSC reserve the right to disqualify any individual or team for fighting, unsportsmanlike conduct, or any other behavior deemed inappropriate by the organizers. Arguments will result in an offense and/or possible deduction of GAME POINTS.
  - A decision matrix will be implemented for sports if games are too-close to call or tied. This decision matrix will take sportsmanship into consideration when determining who advances in the brackets.
  - All competitors will be required to present a photo ID before play begins. Masks must be worn at all times.

# Scoring

- Each competitive event is allocated a certain number of points.
- Final scores will be determined by the **sum of points** received by each team in each competition.
- The team with the most points will receive the **first place grand prize. Second and third places** overall will also be recognized.
- Each competition will award a first, second, and third place with some exceptions:
  - **Short film** and **Project Sadaqa** will recognize first and second places only, per category/bracket.
  - **Team spirit, t-shirt design,** and **event photography** will recognize first place only, per category.
  - **#RaceToShowdown2022** participating schools will be awarded 5 points each.
  - The top 3 teams of the Charity Pitch Project will be awarded 15 points each.

Competitions	Max. Participants	Points per Participants(s)		
		1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
Sports: Basketball	1 Team (per gender)	15pts	10pts	5pts
Sports: Volleyball	1 Team	15pts	10pts	5pts
Sports: Dodgeball	1 Team	15pts	10pts	5pts
Sports: Flag Football	1 Team	15pts	10pts	5pts
Sports: Soccer	1 Team	15pts	10pt	5pts
Knowledge Bowl	1 Team	15pts	10pts	5pts
Tajweed	3 individuals per gender per school	15pts	10pts	5pts
Nasheed	2 small & 2 large groups per gender per school	15pts	10pts	5pts
TikTok Talent	∞ per school	15pts	10pts	5pts
Short Film: Comedy	∞ per school	15pts	10pts	-----
Short Film: Drama	∞ per school	15pts	10pts	-----
Art: General	∞ per school	15pts	10pts	5pts
Art: Calligraphy	∞ per school	15pts	10pts	5pts
Photography	∞ per school	15pts	10pts	5pts
Performance Poetry	3 performances per school	15pts	10pts	5pts
Written Poetry	∞ per school	15pts	10pts	5pts
Writing	∞ per school	15pts	10pts	5pts
Extemporaneous Speaking	2 individuals per school	15pts	10pts	5pts
Scrapbook	1 submission per school	15pts	10pts	5pts
T-shirt Design	∞ per school	5pts	-----	-----
Promo Video	1 per school	5pts	-----	-----
#RaceToShowdown2022	∞ per school	35pts	25pts	15pts
Project Sadaqa	1 campaign per school	15pts	10pts	-----
Charity Project Pitch	∞ per school	15pts	15pts	15pts
#Showdown15	∞ per school			
Team Spirit: Best Chant	∞ per school	5pts	-----	-----
Team Spirit: Best Sportsmanship	∞ per school	5pts	-----	-----
Team Spirit: Most School Spirit	∞ per school	5pts	-----	-----
Event Photography	1 submission per school	5 pts	-----	-----

# Competition Rules: Sporting Events

*Note: Violation of these rules may result in disqualification from that category.*

Brothers' and sisters' sports will be separate. Any changes to the rules will be announced via an addendum and updated below.

The following sports will be held at the University of North Texas:  
Flag Football, Outdoor Soccer, and Dodgeball.

The following sports will be held at Texas Woman's University:  
Brothers' & Sisters' Basketball and Volleyball.

**COVID-19 Protocols:** All attendees *must* wear a mask at all times. Players on the bench *must* be wearing a mask at all times. The only exception will be when players are actively playing on the field or court. Protocol will be enforced and reminders will be given by Sports Heads and Sports Chair.

# SPORTS: BASKETBALL

*Brothers' & Sisters' Competition (played separately)*

## Bracket & Teams

- Tournament play is 5-on-5, with brackets to be released at the Captains' meeting.
- Each school can only register one team. Each team must consist of members from the same MSA, unless an approved joint team has been made (by LSC). Only current students or 3 year alumni can participate.
- Each MSA will have the opportunity to register one team by **Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 PM CT** using the sports roster found on the [LSC website](#).
- Each player may play for only one team. Players must be 18 years or older.
- Each team will consist of 5 players and a maximum of 7 substitutes.
- Brothers' Basketball: Only **12 teams** will be allowed to compete in this sport, based on completed sports rosters by the MSA President.
- Sisters' Basketball: Only **10 teams** will be allowed to compete in this sport, based on completed sports rosters by the MSA President.

## Equipment & Attire

- Proper attire within the boundaries of the Islamic dress code must be worn along with athletic shoes.
  - If wearing shorts, leggings *must* be worn underneath for the whole duration of the sport competition. This rule is for *both* genders.
- Each player must wear shorts or pants **without** any pockets, belt loops, or exposed drawstrings. This is for safety purposes and will be enforced.
- No players are allowed to wear necklaces, rings, jewelry (including piercings), hats, long earring tops etc. while participating.
  - Exception: medical alert bracelets or necklaces, eyeglasses, and hijabs.
- All players must be wearing a visible number on their jersey/shirt.
- Basketballs will be provided.

## Behavior

- Directed language or any physical aggression will result in the opposing/offended team having 2 free throw shots.
- The second offense (two fouls) on the same player in the same game will result in ejection. An ejected player will be disqualified for the next game that the ejected player would be otherwise eligible for.
- Any player accumulating three (3) or more fouls during the whole basketball competition will not be allowed to continue playing and must speak with the Sports Chair to determine the player's eligibility for the remainder of the competition.
- If any player is ejected from a game due to unsportsmanlike conduct, the captain of the team must meet with the Sports Head/Sports Chair to determine the player's eligibility for the remainder of the tournament.
- Referees, sports (tournament) heads & chairs, and LSC reserve the right to disqualify any

individual or team for fighting, unsportsmanlike conduct, or any other behavior deemed inappropriate by the organizers. Arguments will result in an offense and/or possible deduction of GAME POINTS.

### Gameplay

- All rules and regulations related to gameplay can be found [here](#) on TWU's IM website.
  - Note: TWU follows [NIRSA](#) IM rules. Please scroll to page 8 on the link for rules.

# SPORTS: VOLLEYBALL

## *Sisters' Only Competition*

### Bracket & Teams

- Tournament play is 6-on-6, with brackets to be released at the Captains' meeting.
- Each school can only register one team. Each team must consist of members from the same MSA, unless an approved joint team has been made (by LSC). Only current students or 3 year alumni can participate.
- Each MSA will have the opportunity to register one team by **Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 PM CT** using the sports roster found on the [LSC website](#).
- Each player may play for only one team. Players must be 18 years or older.
- Each team will consist of 6 players and a maximum of 4 substitutes (10 players total).
- A match consists of winning two out of three games to 21 scoring points using the Rally System. A game is won when a team scores 21 points and is ahead by at least 2 points. No game shall exceed 26 points. If the teams are tied at 26-26, the first team to score the 27th point shall be the winner. If necessary, the third game is played to 15 points.

### Equipment & Attire

- Proper attire within the boundaries of the Islamic dress code must be worn along with athletic shoes.
  - If wearing shorts, leggings *must* be worn underneath for the whole duration of the sport competition. This rule is for *both* genders.
- Because of safety reasons, no players are allowed to wear jewelry (including piercings), hats, etc. while participating. Rubber/cloth elastic bands used to control hair may be worn. Leg and knee braces may be worn but must be covered so that no metal or hard edges are exposed.
  - Exception: medical alert bracelets or necklaces, eyeglasses, and hijabs.
- All players must be wearing a visible number on their jersey/shirt.
- Each player must wear shorts or pants **without** any pockets, belt loops, or exposed drawstrings. This is for safety purposes and will be enforced.
- Volleyballs will be provided.

### Behavior

- Directed language to a player or any physical aggression to a player will result in an ejection. Each team has ONE WARNING per game; after that, the second offense will require an ejection with a substitution allowed. The third offense and onward offense(s) will result in an ejection (for the remainder of the sport competition) with NO SUBSTITUTIONS .
- If any player is ejected from a game due to unsportsmanlike conduct, the captain of the team must meet with the Sports Head/Sports Chair to determine the player's eligibility for the remainder of the tournament.
- Referees, sports (tournament) heads & chairs, and LSC reserve the right to disqualify any individual or team for fighting, unsportsmanlike conduct, or any other behavior deemed inappropriate by the organizers. Arguments will result in an offense and/or possible deduction of GAME POINTS.

### Game Play

- All rules and regulations related to gameplay can be viewed [here](#) on TWU's IM intramural website.

# SPORTS: DODGEBALL

## *Sisters' Only Competition*

### Bracket & Teams

- Tournament play is 6-on-6, with brackets to be released at the Captains' meeting.
- Each school can only register one team. Each team must consist of members from the same MSA, unless an approved joint team has been made (by LSC). Only current students or 3 year alumni can participate.
- Each MSA will have the opportunity to register one team by **Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 PM CT** using the sports roster found on the [LSC website](#).
- Each player may play for only one team. Players must be 18 years or older.
- Each team will consist of 6 players and a maximum of 4 substitutes (10 players).
- The match will be a best three of five game format. The first team to win three games will be declared the winner.

### Equipment & Attire

- Proper attire within the boundaries of the Islamic dress code must be worn along with athletic shoes.
  - If wearing shorts, leggings *must* be worn underneath for the whole duration of the sport competition. This rule is for *both* genders.
- Because of safety reasons, no players are allowed to wear jewelry (including piercings), hats, etc. while participating. Rubber/cloth elastic bands used to control hair may be worn.
  - Exception: medical alert bracelets or necklaces, eyeglasses, and hijabs.
- All players must be wearing a visible number on their jersey/shirt.
- Each player must wear shorts or pants **without** any pockets, belt loops, or exposed drawstrings. This is for safety purposes and will be enforced.
- Dodgeballs will be provided.

### Behavior

- A substitute may replace a player when the ball is dead or between games. If a player has been eliminated, they are not eligible to become a substitute.
- Any player ejected from a game for any reason must leave the gym for the remainder of their game. They will not be allowed to participate in any further until they have met with the Sports Chair.
- Actions that warrant an ejection include but are not limited to:
  - Repeatedly striking opposing players above the shoulders, foul language, arguing with the game officials or Sports Head/Chair, repeatedly breaking game rules.
- Two ejections from the same team in the same game will result in an automatic forfeit.
- If any player is ejected from a game due to unsportsmanlike conduct, the captain of the team must meet with the Tournament Head/Sports Chair to determine the player's eligibility for the remainder of the tournament.
- Referees, sports (tournament) heads & chairs, and LSC reserve the right to disqualify any individual or team for fighting, unsportsmanlike conduct, or any other behavior deemed

inappropriate by the organizers. Arguments will result in an offense and/or possible deduction of GAME POINTS.

### Game Play

- Each game will have a three-minute time limit. If time runs out during play, the team with the most players on the court will be declared the winner. If teams have the same number of players when time expires, then the next team to eliminate ONE (1) opponent will be declared the winner.
- All rules & regulations related to gameplay can be found [here](#) on UNT's IM Dodgeball website.

# SPORTS: OUTDOOR SOCCER

## *Brothers' Only Competition*

### Brackets and Teams

- Tournament play is 7-on-7, with brackets to be released at the Captains' meeting.
- Each school can only register one team. Each team must consist of members from the same MSA, unless an approved joint team has been made (by LSC). Only current students or 3 year alumni can participate.
- Each MSA will have the opportunity to register one team by **Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 PM CT** using the sports roster found on the [LSC website](#).
- Each player may play for only one team. Players must be 18 years or older.
- Each team will consist of no more than 16 players.
- Only **12 teams** will be allowed to compete in this sport, based on completed sports rosters by the MSA President.

### Equipment & Attire

- Proper attire within the boundaries of the Islamic dress code must be worn along with athletic shoes.
  - If wearing shorts, leggings *must* be worn underneath for the whole duration of the sport competition. This rule is for *both* genders.
- Because of safety reasons, no players are allowed to wear jewelry (including piercings), hats, etc. while participating. Rubber/cloth elastic bands used to control hair may be worn.
  - Exception: medical alert bracelets or necklaces and eyeglasses.
- You may wear soccer cleats; however no metal cleats will be allowed. Shin guards are encouraged but are not mandatory. Regulation, rubber-soled cleats, plastic cleats, detachable rubber cleats that screw into the shoe, and tennis shoes are the only permissible footwear.
- Each player must wear shorts or pants **without** any pockets, belt loops, or exposed drawstrings. This is for safety purposes and will be enforced.
- All players must be wearing a visible number on their jersey/shirt.
- Soccer balls will be provided.

### Behavior

- Each team has ONE WARNING (yellow card) per game for the following reasons: Entering the field of play without permission, persistent infringement of any of the rules, verbal objection or action toward the official, foul language, unsportsmanlike conduct (referee and Sports Head/Sports Chair discretion), and slide tackle where no contact is made with ball handler. After that, the second offense will require an ejection.
- An ejected player cannot be replaced except when that player has been disqualified (yellow and red card) for a second yellow card.
- If any player is ejected from a game due to unsportsmanlike conduct, the captain of the team must meet with the Tournament Head/Sports Chair to determine the player's eligibility for the remainder of the tournament.
- Referees, sports (tournament) heads & chairs, and LSC reserve the right to disqualify any

individual or team for fighting, unsportsmanlike conduct, or any other behavior deemed inappropriate by the organizers. Arguments will result in an offense and/or possible deduction of GAME POINTS.

### Gameplay

- There will be no offside calls.
- In order to be considered a goal the entire ball must cross the line.
- Penalty kicks will be taken 10 yards away from the goal.
- All free kicks and corner kicks will be direct and can be scored directly.
  - A goal MAY be scored during play directly from a: direct free kick, goal kick, penalty kick, corner kick, drop ball, goalkeeper's throw, punt, or drop-kick.
  - A goal MAY NOT be scored during play directly from a: indirect free kick, kick off, throw-in, free kick into a team's own goal.
- Mercy rule: A game shall be called if a team is ahead by five (5) goals with two minutes or less remaining in the game. A game shall also be called if at any point during the second half a team is up by ten (10) goals or more.
- Substitutes will be unlimited and can be made at any time there is a "dead ball" .
- All rules and regulations related to gameplay can be found [here](#) on UNT's IM website.

# SPORTS: FLAG FOOTBALL

## *Brothers' Only Competition*

### Brackets and Teams

- Tournament play is 7-on-7, with brackets to be released at the Captains' meeting.
- Each school can only register one team. Each team must consist of members from the same MSA, unless an approved joint team has been made (by LSC). Only current students or 3 year alumni can participate.
- Each MSA will have the opportunity to register one team by **Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 PM CT** using the sports roster found on the [LSC website](#).
- Each player may play for only one team. Players must be 18 years or older.
- Each team will consist of no more than 14 players.
- Only **12 teams** will be allowed to compete in this sport, based on completed sports rosters by the MSA President.

### Equipment & Attire

- Proper attire within the boundaries of the Islamic dress code must be worn along with athletic shoes.
  - If wearing shorts, leggings *must* be worn underneath for the whole duration of the sport competition. This rule is for *both* genders.
- Because of safety reasons, no players are allowed to wear jewelry (including piercings), hats, etc. while participating. Rubber/cloth elastic bands used to control hair may be worn.
  - Exception: medical alert bracelets or necklaces and eyeglasses.
- You may wear soccer cleats; however no metal cleats will be allowed. Shin guards are encouraged but are not mandatory. Regulation, rubber-soled cleats, plastic cleats, detachable rubber cleats that screw into the shoe, and tennis shoes are the only permissible footwear.
- Each player must wear shorts or pants **without** any pockets, belt loops, or exposed drawstrings. This is for safety purposes and will be enforced.
- All players must be wearing a visible number on their jersey/shirt. hirts must be tucked into the shorts or pants and flag belts must remain outside of the shirt/jersey during play.
- Footballs and flag belts will be provided.

### Behavior

- Directed language to a player or any physical aggression to a player will result in a 10 yard penalty. Each team has ONE WARNING per game before the 10 yard penalty is implemented; any arguments after with the referee will result in a point deduction per referee and Sports Chair/Sports Head discretion..
- If any player is ejected from a game due to unsportsmanlike conduct, the captain of the team must meet with the Tournament Head/Sports Chair to determine the player's eligibility for the remainder of the tournament.
- Referees, sports (tournament) heads & chairs, and LSC reserve the right to disqualify any individual or team for fighting, unsportsmanlike conduct, or any other behavior deemed inappropriate by the organizers. Arguments will result in an offense and/or possible deduction of GAME POINTS.

### Gameplay

- All rules and regulations related to gameplay can be found [here](#) on UNT's IM website.

# Competition Rules: Non-Sporting Events

*Note: Violation of these rules may result in disqualification from that category.*

Brothers' and sisters' competitions will be separate, unless otherwise stated.  
Any changes to the rules will be announced via an addendum and updated below.

**COVID-19 Protocols:** All attendees and competitors *must* wear a mask at all times. Nasheed, extemporaneous speaking, and performance poetry competitors can perform with their masks off but they must be worn when not performing.

# KNOWLEDGE BOWL

**Deadline for roster: Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 PM CT**

## Purpose

The purpose of the Knowledge Bowl is to encourage participants to increase their Islamic knowledge, as well as knowledge of the world we live in.

## Description

All teams participating in Knowledge Bowl will take a written test during the preliminary round. The top three scoring teams will advance to the final round (Jeopardy style) and compete by giving appropriate responses to point questions presented by the moderator.

## Topics and Study Materials

The following topics are resources selected for this year's Knowledge Bowl.

- Topic I: Tafsir Ibn Kathir – Surah Ar-Ra'd (Surah 13)
- Topic II: Seerah - *Muhammad: His Life Based on the Early Sources* by Martin Lings
- Topic III: Book - *Agenda to Change Our Condition* by Zaid Shakir & Hamza Yusuf
- Topic IV: Current Events - NPR World: World section only; articles dated on and between March 12 - March 19, 2022.

## Rules and Procedures

- Each MSA will have the opportunity to register one team on the [LSC website](#), with a list of team members by **Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 PM CT**.
  - A team will consist of a minimum of 3 members and a maximum of 4. No player may play for two different teams in the course of a tournament.
- All teams/team members competing must report to the competition site at the designated time. Failure to do so may result in disqualification from the Knowledge Bowl.
- No notes shall be allowed in any portion of the Knowledge Bowl.
- Cell phones, pagers or any other electronic devices will NOT be allowed during the competition. Talking is NOT allowed during the written test portion, unless otherwise noted. Any violation of the rules will result in removal from the testing room and disqualification from the competition.
- Any decision made by the moderator is final. Arguing with the moderator will first result in a verbal warning or reminder. Subsequent instances of arguing will result in an immediate deduction of 50 points from the team score, with the possibility of expulsion and/or disqualification for excessive and/or repeated arguing.
- Matches will be played until all questions are answered or until the allotted 10 minute time is completed, whichever comes first.
- Only the finals round is open to audience observation. Any audience member who attempts to communicate with the competition teams in any way during the competition will be asked to leave the room. All cell phones must be turned off in the competition room. No talking will be allowed.

- Cheating will not be tolerated. Any individual or team caught cheating will immediately be disqualified from the competition.
- First through third place will be awarded according to highest points.
- LSC reserves the right to make any changes to the stated rules and regulations, as deemed necessary.

### Preliminary Round

- The preliminary competition is an 80 question multiple choice written test, with 20 questions from each category. The test is divided into four booklets, one for each category.
- No notes of any kind may be brought into the testing room.
- Team members may communicate in writing but talking is prohibited.
- Test booklets may be written on and passed amongst the team members.
- Teams will have 30 minutes to complete all four portions of the written test. You may write on the test booklet. Final answers should be recorded on the corresponding answer sheet. Only answers written on the answer sheet will be graded.
- Booklets, answer sheets, and pens/pencils will be provided.
- The three teams with the highest test scores will advance to the finals round. Teams will be notified by LSC through the MSA's President, social media, and through the event Discord server.

### Final Round Rules

- The final competition is a 20 minute match consisting of two rounds, with a total of 48 questions; each round is 10 minutes and has 24 questions. The questions will be from all four categories.
- Both rounds will proceed jeopardy-style with a team representative choosing the category and point value. For example, a team representative may say "History for 300, please."
- Each team will be provided a buzzer(s) to respond to the moderator's question. However, that team member who buzzes in and is acknowledged will be the only one to respond to that question. The team with the lowest score will start off by choosing a category and point value.
- Only the first answer given by a team member may be accepted.
- After the moderator has completed the question, teams are allotted ten (10) seconds to buzz in. The team member who buzzes in will have five (5) seconds to confer and provide an answer, after the moderator has recognized the team member. *(No points shall be awarded unless the team member is first recognized by the moderator.)* If no team buzzes in before the 10 seconds are up the question is considered dead and the team who originally chose the question will choose a new question.
- A correct answer is awarded full points and the team may select another question. An incorrect answer or elapsing the 5 second time frame will result in the loss of total question point value from the team's total points unless otherwise noted in the rules.
- If a team buzzes in prior to the entire question being asked, the moderator will stop reading the question immediately and the team member then has five (5) seconds to confer and answer the question. If an incorrect answer is given, the team will lose all of the points allotted for that question. The moderator will then read the question, in its entirety, to the remaining team(s) to buzz in and answer.

- The opposing teams will then have the opportunity to buzz in within ten (10) seconds after the question is repeated and answer the question within the allotted five (5) second time period and at half of the original point value. If the team provides an incorrect answer or elapses the 5 second time frame, the team will lose 1/2 of the question point value. If the team(s) chooses not to answer, no points will be added or deducted from the team(s) score. The moderator will then provide the answer and the team to whom the question was initially posed to will be able to choose another question.
- The team with the highest number of points at the end of the twenty (20) minutes is declared the winner of that match. If the twenty (20) minute match time is completed in the middle of an answer, the team recognized is allowed to complete their answer. If it is missed, the other team(s) is allowed to provide an answer. No new questions may be asked after the ten (10) minute mark, unless there is a tie.
- In the event of a tie, one additional question may be asked as a toss up question. The first team to buzz in and answer correctly wins the question points. All final rules outlined above apply.

Round #	Style	Incorrect Response Attempt 1	Response Attempt 2 by other team	Incorrect Response Attempt 2	Time to Answer
1	Jeopardy	Loss of Points	Yes, ½ Points	Loss of ½ Points	5 seconds per attempt
2	Jeopardy	Loss of Points	Yes, ½ Points	Loss of ½ Points	5 seconds per attempt

# TAJWEED

*Brothers' and sisters' competitions will be separate.*

**Deadline for roster: Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 PM CT**

## Purpose

The purpose of the Tajweed competition is to encourage students to learn the recitation of classical Arabic in which the Quran was first revealed.

*"Those to whom We have given the Book read it as it ought to be read."  
(Quran 2:121)*

Each person will be asked to read with Tajweed a random passage from **Surah Ar-Ra'd (Surah 13)**. Three participants per gender, per school will be allowed to participate. All participants will be asked to recite the same passage without knowing what the passage is prior to entering the competition room. Participants are allowed to bring their own Quran, but a Tajweed Quran will **not** be allowed.

MSA presidents must submit a list of Tajweed competitors by **Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 PM CT** using the "Competitions Roster" found on the [LSC website](#).

Tajweed competitors will be assigned time slots at which time they must check in prior to competing. Competitors will be notified the week of Showdown of their time slot via email. Three minutes will be allowed for lateness. If a competitor fails to check in by this time, he/she will be automatically disqualified.

Judging will be based on the following criteria:

1. **Recitation category:** Perfecting (mastering) the art of reciting the Quran and by respecting the correct outputs of the alphabets, phonetics, timing, and applying all the rules of Tajweed.
2. **Articulation category:** Perfecting the style of pronunciation of each Arabic letter and knowing where the sound of each letter comes from.
3. **Performance Category:** Perfecting (mastering) the performance process.

MSA/Competitor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Tajweed Ballot

Notes

Tajweed Major Errors	Number of Errors						Notes
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\*1 error= 4 points off

Errors in Harakat - damma / fatha / kasra	0	1	2	3	4	5+	
Lengthening Harakat/Shortening Madd Asli	0	1	2	3	4	5+	
Errors in Makharij & Sifat	0	1	2	3	4	5+	
Errors in Qalqalah	0	1	2	3	4	5+	

Total out of 80	
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Tajweed Minor Errors	Number of Errors						Notes
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\*1 error = 1 point off

Errors in Rules of Nun & Meem Sakinah	0	1	2	3	4	5+	
Errors in Madd Fari	0	1	2	3	4	5+	
Errors in Tafhim/Tarqiq of Ra	0	1	2	3	4	5+	
Errors in Taghlidh of lam	0	1	2	3	4	5+	
Errors in Waqf/Ibtida	0	1	2	3	4	5+	

Total out of 20	
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# NASHEED

*Brothers' and sisters' competitions will be separate. Judging will be divided between small group (1-2 people) and large group (3 or more people).*

**Deadline for roster: Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 PM CT**

## Purpose

The purpose of the Nasheed competition is to promote the development of good, halal entertainment and allow students to express themselves by combining their intellectual & vocal skills.

Judging will be based on the following criteria:

1. The performance may be up to 3 minutes and 15 seconds long, WHICH INCLUDES a 15 second introduction. Any performance that goes more than 15 seconds longer than the allotted 3 minutes and 15 seconds time may be automatically disqualified.
2. The lyrics and presentation style must be Islamically appropriate; therefore, no inappropriate words or gestures should take place during the performance.
3. The competitors must explain the background and meaning of the Nasheed prior to their performance.
4. The Nasheed may be presented in a small group of 1-2 people or large group of 3 or more people, and these different group sizes will be judged separately.
  - a. Each individual may compete in a maximum of 1 small group (1-2 people) and 1 large group (3+ people).
5. Extra points will be given for originality, but groups may present Nasheeds written by other people, as long as the source is cited prior to the performance. We encourage competitors to perform traditional nasheeds or get creative and reframe a popular song to make it their own.
6. A competitor may participate at most in one solo and one group performance of any size.
7. There is a limit of 2 small groups and 2 large group performances per gender per school. MSA Presidents must submit a roster on the [LSC website](#) using the "Competitions Roster".
8. Specific performance criteria that will be judged includes: **harmony, vocal style, pronunciation, and body language.**

MSA/Competitor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Nasheed Ballot

The performance may be up to 3 minutes and 15 seconds long WHICH INCLUDES a 15 second introduction. Any performance that goes more than 15 seconds longer than the allotted 3 minutes and 15 seconds time may be automatically disqualified.

*Do the competitors show any of the following criteria and to what extent?*

\_\_\_\_\_ Performance (60 possible points)

\_\_\_\_\_ (15 pts) Harmony

\_\_\_\_\_ (15 pts) Vocal style

\_\_\_\_\_ (15 pts) Pronunciation, enunciation, understandability

\_\_\_\_\_ (15 pts) Rhythm, flow and pitch

\_\_\_\_\_ Lyrics (40 possible points)

\_\_\_\_\_ (10 pts) Explanation of meaning and background of the song

\_\_\_\_\_ (10 pts) Originality/creativity

\_\_\_\_\_ (10 pts) Islamically appropriate

\_\_\_\_\_ (10 pts) Clearly relates to the theme

# TIKTOK TALENT

**Deadline for submissions: Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 PM CT**

## Purpose

The purpose of the TikTok Talent category is to allow MSA members to express their creative interests through short videos on the popular and trending TikTok app.

1. TikToks must **be no more than 60 seconds long**; there is no minimum time required.
2. The TikTok **can be about anything the creator decides**. TikToks can be dramatic, comedic, or include special effects.
3. All TikTok submissions are due by **Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 PM CT**. TikToks received beyond this deadline will not be considered.
4. TikToks can be uploaded either on the MSA's or the individual submitter's TikTok account. All submissions must have the #MSAShowdown2022 and school name as a hashtag.
  - a. Example: [Insert your TikTok's caption] #UNT #MSAShowdown2022  
#MSAShowdown2022TT
5. The account and TikTok video must be public by the deadline. LSC will "like" the video to acknowledge that the TikTok has been submitted and accepted.
6. TikToks must maintain Islamic Adhab. Any TikToks containing **inappropriate scenes, language, or dress code** will not be tolerated and will be disqualified. LSC reserves the right to determine what is appropriate.
7. Songs with lyrics should be Islamically appropriate in content (no swearing, no sexually explicit language or references, etc.). Please use your best judgment, and if in doubt, send an email to [exec@msa-texas.org](mailto:exec@msa-texas.org). LSC reserves the right to determine what is appropriate.
8. Schools may submit as many TikToks as they would like.
9. Winners will be determined **based solely on the number of likes at the time of scoring**, which is the deadline of **Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 PM CT**.

# SHORT FILM

**Deadline for submissions: Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 PM CT**

## Purpose

The purpose of the short film category is to allow MSA members to express their creative interests through film and audiovisual mediums.

1. All film submissions are due by **Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 PM CT**. Films received beyond this deadline will not be considered.
2. Films must be submitted into one of the following categories: **Drama** or **Comedy**. These will be judged separately and will result in awards for the top two of each category.
3. All films must be submitted through YouTube.
  - a. **NOTE:** Copyright rules are strictly enforced on YouTube, so please ensure all audio follows the guidelines or the site will automatically block the content. See [here](#) for more info on copyright laws.
4. Films must include **open captioning** or will be disqualified. Option captioning means that the captions are embedded into the film and viewers are not given the option to close/turn off the captions.
5. Films must be no more than 10 minutes in length, including opening and closing credits. There is a 10 second grace period. If the film exceeds the time limit, it will be automatically disqualified. Films may be considered for placing if the quality and film is exceptional.
6. Films must maintain Islamic Adhab. Any films containing inappropriate scenes, language, or dress code will not be tolerated and will be disqualified. LSC reserves the right to determine what is appropriate.
7. Limiting instruments to the duff is encouraged; however, instrumental music is allowed. Songs with lyrics should be Islamically appropriate in content (no swearing, no sexually explicit language or references, etc.). Please use your best judgment, and if in doubt, send an email to [exec@msa-texas.org](mailto:exec@msa-texas.org). LSC reserves the right to determine what is appropriate.
8. Each film must be submitted along with the submission form (found on the [LSC website](#)) explaining the inspiration for the film, stories of how the MSA achieved unity through making the film, or any other relevant information. Short films must relate to this year's theme: "Restart. Refresh. Reignite!"

9. Teams will be given 2 minutes before the film is viewed to provide an introductory context at the Film Festival, which occurs Sunday morning of Showdown.
  
10. Schools may submit as many films as they would like; however, only the highest scoring video of each category per school will be shown during the Film Festival on Sunday morning (**March 27<sup>th</sup>**).

MSA/Competitor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Category: Comedy/Drama

### Short Film Competition Ballot

Films must be no longer than 10 minutes in length. Any film that exceeds the 10 minute time limit and the 10 second grace period will be automatically disqualified.

\_\_\_\_\_ Story (40)

\_\_\_\_\_ (10) Is the film relevant to the theme?

\_\_\_\_\_ (10) Is the video inspiring?

\_\_\_\_\_ (10) Is the storytelling clear and cohesive?

\_\_\_\_\_ (10) Is there artistic creativity and vision?

\_\_\_\_\_ Acting and Dialogue (20)

\_\_\_\_\_ (10) Does the dialogue effectively contribute to the story/narrative?

\_\_\_\_\_ (10) Are the performers and onscreen talent well directed and utilized?

\_\_\_\_\_ Cinematography (20)

\_\_\_\_\_ (5) Is the film well-lit?

\_\_\_\_\_ (5) Is the camera-work efficient?

\_\_\_\_\_ (5) Is the picture clear and in focus?

\_\_\_\_\_ (5) Does the film include a variety of shots/angles?

\_\_\_\_\_ Editing and Audio (20)

\_\_\_\_\_ (5) Does the film avoid jump-cuts and unnecessary edits?

\_\_\_\_\_ (5) Does the editing enhance the quality of the film?

\_\_\_\_\_ (5) Is the audio easy to understand?

\_\_\_\_\_ (5) Does the music and sound effects enhance the quality of the film?

## ART: GENERAL & CALLIGRAPHY

*Competitors can submit, at most, one piece per category. Categories will be judged separately.*

**Deadline for submissions: Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 PM CT**

### Purpose

The purpose of this category is to encourage artistic expression of Islamic concepts, teachings and thoughts.

1. Artwork should aim to capture this year's theme, "Restart. Refresh. Reignite!".
2. Be as creative as possible, but please ensure your art conforms to Islamic guidelines. A general shape of a human or animal is allowed; however, specific features such as eyes and nose are not allowed. Plants, landscapes, and inanimate objects are allowed. Please use your best judgment, and if in doubt, send an email to [exec@msa-texas.org](mailto:exec@msa-texas.org). Abstract art is definitely encouraged.
3. This may be a collaborative or individual piece. Please indicate the names of all the individuals who created the piece, if it was done collaboratively.
4. You may bring art that you have made in the past, or make art just for this competition.
5. Please limit your art to 1 submission per category per person (up to 2 submissions if they are in different categories). If the pieces are small (ex: tiny sculptures, small paintings that are at most 8 in x 4 in.), then you can **bring up to 3** to be judged as a collective entry.
6. If you are unsure which category to submit a piece through, please contact LSC at [exec@msa-texas.org](mailto:exec@msa-texas.org).
7. All artists must complete the art submission form (found on the [LSC website](#)) by the deadline for approval. Be sure to pay close attention to the "Art Piece Explanation" and the guidelines for this section, as listed on Art Ballot. This section counts for 40 points of the overall score.
  - a. **DO NOT** include your name on the art itself; only write your name in the submission form and the email for submission.
8. Judging will take **place in person** so please bring your art piece to Showdown.

***Important Note:*** Art may be left without supervision at times. Table space will be provided to place your art piece. Make sure to bring the appropriate tools/materials you need to mount your submission. If your submission needs to be put on an easel, bring it with you. Make sure it can get through the door. All artwork will be checked again at the door for final approval.

MSA/Competitor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### General Art Ballot

\_\_\_\_\_ Written Explanation (40 possible points)

\_\_\_\_\_ (10 pts) Purpose and motivation for artwork is explained

\_\_\_\_\_ (10 pts) Decision-Making: How did the person go about making the submitted piece, i.e. what steps were taken to create the piece?

\_\_\_\_\_ (10 pts) Creativity and Expression: In what ways does this artwork represent your individual point of view, imagination, creativity, and individuality?

\_\_\_\_\_ (10 pts) How does the artwork relate to the theme?

\_\_\_\_\_ Artwork (60 possible points)

\_\_\_\_\_ (10 pts) Purpose: There is evidence in the artwork of the student's effort to achieve the stated purpose.

\_\_\_\_\_ (10 pts) Technique: The artist chooses and controls media and tools effectively to enhance the appearance of the work.

\_\_\_\_\_ (10 pts) Organization: Uses elements and principles of art effectively, choosing those which enhance the overall appearance of the work.

\_\_\_\_\_ (15 pts) Personal Expression: Expression is unique & fully developed to present original concepts in imaginative and inventive ways.

\_\_\_\_\_ (15 pts) Visually Appealing: Does the piece catch one's eye and portray a message?

*Rules and ballot adapted with permission from Muslim Interscholastic Tournament (MIST).*

MSA/Competitor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Calligraphy Art Ballot

\_\_\_\_\_ Written Explanation (40 possible points)

\_\_\_\_\_ (10 pts) Purpose and motivation for artwork is explained

\_\_\_\_\_ (10 pts) Decision-Making: How did the person go about making the submitted piece, i.e. what steps were taken to create the piece?

\_\_\_\_\_ (10 pts) Creativity and Expression: In what ways does this artwork represent your individual point of view, imagination, creativity, and individuality?

\_\_\_\_\_ (10 pts) How does the artwork relate to the theme?

\_\_\_\_\_ Artwork (60 possible points)

\_\_\_\_\_ (10 pts) Purpose: There is evidence in the artwork of the student's effort to achieve the stated purpose.

\_\_\_\_\_ (10 pts) Technique: The artist chooses and controls media and tools effectively to enhance the appearance of the work.

\_\_\_\_\_ (10 pts) Organization: Uses elements and principles of art effectively, choosing those which enhance the overall appearance of the work.

\_\_\_\_\_ (15 pts) Personal Expression: Expression is unique & fully developed to present original concepts in imaginative and inventive ways.

\_\_\_\_\_ (15 pts) Visually Appealing: Does the piece catch one's eye and portray a message?

*Rules and ballot adapted with permission from Muslim Interscholastic Tournament (MIST).*

# PHOTOGRAPHY

**Deadline for submissions: Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 PM CT**

## Purpose

The purpose of this category is to encourage artistic expression of Islamic concepts, teachings, and thoughts through the medium of a camera.

1. The photographer should try to aim to capture this year's theme, "Restart. Refresh. Reignite!".
2. Be as creative as possible, but please ensure your photography conforms to Islamic guidelines. Humans or animals are allowed. Please use your best judgment, and if in doubt, send an email to [exec@msa-texas.org](mailto:exec@msa-texas.org). Abstract photography is definitely encouraged.
3. This will be judged as an individual participant submission (not group).
4. You may bring photos that you have shot in the past, or take new photos just for this competition.
5. Competitors must submit 3-5 photographs to be counted as one submission.
6. All artists must complete the photography submission form (found on the [LSC website](#)) in its entirety for their submission to be approved.
  - a. Be sure to pay close attention to the "Photography Explanation" and the guidelines for this section, as listed on the Photography Ballot. This section counts for 30 points of the overall score.
  - b. **DO NOT** include your name on the photography itself; only write your name in the submission form.
7. Judging will take **place in person** so please bring your photography pieces to Showdown.

*Important Note:* Art may be left without supervision at times. Table space will be provided to set each piece; however, you may bring a stand to mount your submission, if you'd like. If your submission needs to be put on an easel, bring it with you. Make sure it can get through the door. All photography will be checked again at the door for final approval.

MSA/Competitor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Photography Ballot

\_\_\_\_\_ Written Explanation (30 possible points) (200 words or less)

\_\_\_\_\_ (15 pts) Purpose/Vision: Purpose and motivation for photo is explained

\_\_\_\_\_ (15 pts) Decision-Making: How did the person go about making the piece, i.e., what steps were taken to create the piece?

\_\_\_\_\_ Artwork (60 possible points)

\_\_\_\_\_ (15 pts) Purpose/Vision/Concept: There is evidence in the photo of the participant's effort to achieve the stated purpose. Is the concept of the photo original or is it a rendition of an original? Does it express the photographic vision intended/explained?

\_\_\_\_\_ (15 pts) Composition: Is there a sense of order & balance that helps to lead the eye through the composition? The subject is clear and not competing with other elements of the photograph. Are there any erroneous elements included that take away from the subject? Does the depth of field, focus/sharpness, detail, lighting, angle, crop and perspective enhance the composition?

\_\_\_\_\_ (15 pts) Technique: The participant chooses and controls photographic elements and tools effectively to enhance the appearance of the work. Does the exposure/contrast/saturation/color help enhance the overall appearance of the photo?

\_\_\_\_\_ (15 pts) Creativity/Expression: Expression is unique & fully developed to present original concepts in imaginative and inventive ways. Does the photo disclose more about the subject, or show it in unexpected ways? Is the photo interesting and fresh? Does it elicit emotion/awe factor?

\_\_\_\_\_ Theme (10 possible points)

\_\_\_\_\_ (10 pts) Clearly relates to/incorporates the theme.

*Rules and ballot adapted with permission from Muslim Interscholastic Tournament (MIST).*

# SHOWDOWN EVENT PHOTOGRAPHY

**Deadline for submissions: Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 AM CT**

1. The photography should aim to capture this year's theme, "Restart. Refresh. Reignite!".
2. This competition takes place during Showdown. Be as creative as possible, but please ensure your photography conforms to Islamic guidelines. As with general photography, humans or animals are allowed. Please use your best judgment, and if in doubt, send an email to [exec@msa-texas.org](mailto:exec@msa-texas.org). Abstract photography is definitely encouraged.
3. This is meant to be a collaborative piece from each school; therefore, only ONE submission is allowed per school.
  - a. All participants can take pictures but they will have to collaborate with their respective MSA president on which picture to submit for their school.
4. If you happen to use people as objects in your photograph, please consult them for permission to submit that photograph.
5. DSLR, SLRs, point and shoot, film, and phone cameras are allowed.
6. **NO** computer editing of photography is allowed.
7. Please submit all photography by emailing [exec@msa-texas.org](mailto:exec@msa-texas.org) no later than Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 AM CT. Be sure to include your name and your MSA's name.

**Again, no computer photo editing is allowed.**

MSA/Competitor Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Showdown Event Photography Ballot

\_\_\_\_\_ Content (100 possible points)

\_\_\_\_\_ (20 pts) Captures the essence of the theme

\_\_\_\_\_ (20 pts) Creativity/Originality

\_\_\_\_\_ (20 pts) Relates to theme

\_\_\_\_\_ (20 pts) Written explanation on submission form supports paragraph

\_\_\_\_\_ (10 pts) Clarity of idea and image

\_\_\_\_\_ (10 pts) Technique

## PERFORMANCE POETRY

*Poetry submissions will be performed in front of the general audience. Only 3 competitors per registered MSA can compete.*

**Deadline for roster: Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 PM CT**

**Deadline for submissions: Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 PM CT**

### Purpose

The earliest Muslim poets can be dated back to the 6<sup>th</sup> century or before. The purpose of this competition is to reflect on Islam—precisely, the theme of showdown—through the recitation of poetry and provide insight into topics that are best understood and interpreted through poetic mediums.

1. Poems must be in English and should relate to the theme, “Restart. Refresh. Reignite!”.
2. 3 participants per school will be allowed to perform. Their names must be submitted on the “Competitions Roster” found on the [LSC website](#).
3. A poetry submission form is **REQUIRED** to be submitted by the performer themselves. A typed copy of the poem to be performed must also be submitted with this submission form, which can be found on the [LSC website](#). Submissions received beyond this deadline will not be considered, unless otherwise decided by the judging panel.
4. Poems must be original; thus the author and presenter must be the same person. They can be performed in any meter or style.
5. Poems must adhere to Islamic beliefs and customs. Those who do not meet this criterion will be disqualified.
6. A performance component is part of the judging ballot. If you do not feel comfortable performing in front of a mixed audience, you might consider submitting the piece as a written poetry submission.
7. Competitors will be given timeslots to perform in front of the audience and panel. Failure to appear on time will result in disqualification.
8. Competitors will have up to 30 seconds to introduce themselves and their poem, and up to 4 minutes to perform their piece. Performances (including introductions) over 4 minutes will be stopped.

***Please note:*** If entering both Poetry Performance and Written Poetry, your pieces must be different poems. Dual submissions are subject to disqualification.

MSA/Competitor Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Performance Poetry Ballot

The competitor has up to 4 minutes for introduction and complete poem delivery.

\_\_\_\_\_ Poem Considerations (65 possible points)

*Poem Content and Appropriateness (55 points)*

\_\_\_\_\_ (10 pts) With the knowledge available, is the poem an original work, written, and presented by the author?

\_\_\_\_\_ (15 pts) Is the poem thoughtful and holds a deeper meaning?

\_\_\_\_\_ (15 pts) Does the material have literary merit?

\_\_\_\_\_ (15 pts) Is the poem coherent and reflective of the theme?

*General Poetic Elements (10 points)*

\_\_\_\_\_ (5 pts) Is the mood for the poem set?

\_\_\_\_\_ (5 pts) Is the information relevant and sufficient to the meaning of the poem?

\_\_\_\_\_ Delivery (35 possible points)

*Tone of Voice (15 points)*

\_\_\_\_\_ (15 pts) Tone: Did the speaker's tone match that of the poem?

*Interest and Demeanor (20 points)*

\_\_\_\_\_ (10 pts) Was the performance captivating?

\_\_\_\_\_ (5 pts) Understandability in terms of pronunciation/enunciation.

\_\_\_\_\_ (5 pts) Confidence

*Rules and ballot adapted with permission from Muslim Interscholastic Tournament (MIST).*

# WRITTEN POETRY

**Deadline for submissions: Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 PM CT**

Poetry submissions will be **pre-judged before Showdown**.

## Purpose

The earliest Muslim poets can be dated back to the 6th century or before. The purpose of this competition is to reflect on Islam through poetry and provide insight into topics that are best understood and interpreted through poetic mediums.

1. Poems should relate to the theme, "Restart. Refresh. Reignite!" and can be written in any style or meter.
2. This competition is NOT a team effort. Competitors must individually complete their submission form found on the [LSC website](#).
  - a. **DO NOT** include your name on the poem itself; only write your name in the submission form and the email for submission.
  - b. Poems must be submitted in PDF format.
3. The written version must be single-spaced in 12-point font. Poems can be designed in any manner and can incorporate different shapes, if needed.
4. Poems must be original. Plagiarism will result in disqualification.
5. Poems must be in English. Any non-English words must have context to its usage so that the judges may understand its meaning.
6. The written poetry composition will be a maximum of 750 words. All abbreviations, acronyms (excluding a, an, the) will be counted. Only the first 750 countable words will be judged.
7. Poems must adhere to Islamic beliefs and customs. Those that do not meet this criterion will be disqualified. Obscene language will not be tolerated and will result in disqualification.
8. Only 1 entry is allowed, per competitor.

***Please note:*** If entering both Poetry Performance and Written Poetry, your pieces must be different poems. Dual submissions are subject to disqualification.

MSA/Competitor Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Written Poetry Ballot

\_\_\_\_\_ Poem Content and Appropriateness (35 points)

\_\_\_\_\_ (5 pts) Is the title clearly stated?

\_\_\_\_\_ (15 pts) Is the poem thoughtful and holds a deeper meaning? Does it tell a story?  
Is the message/meaning clear?

\_\_\_\_\_ (15 pts) Is the poem inclusive/reflective of the theme?

\_\_\_\_\_ Word Choice & Voice (35 points)

\_\_\_\_\_ (15 pts) Does the writer use appropriate words to set the mood/tone of the poem?  
Do the words used help to paint a story in the reader's mind? Do they stir  
emotion?

\_\_\_\_\_ (10 pts) Are words utilized to communicate both a literal and suggested  
meaning? Do the chosen words help convey the main idea of the poem?

\_\_\_\_\_ (10 pts) The poet displayed passion through the word choice and voice of the  
poem about his/her topic.

\_\_\_\_\_ Technical Poetic Elements (30 points)

\_\_\_\_\_ (5 pts) Correct use of grammar, spelling, or punctuation as it flows with the poem

\_\_\_\_\_ (5 pts) Do the chosen words create a rhythm, beat and/or pattern that flows naturally?  
Does it create a tempo that matches the message of the poem?

\_\_\_\_\_ (20 pts) Use of creative language such as rhyme, metaphors, similes,  
personification, alliteration, etc.

*Rules and ballot adapted with permission from Muslim Interscholastic Tournament (MIST).*

# WRITING

**Deadline for submissions: Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 PM CT**

Writing submissions will be **pre-judged before Showdown**.

## Purpose

The purpose of this competition is to encourage Muslim students to express their beliefs and opinions through words.

1. Competitors will select one prompt from below to guide their writing entry. Only one writing prompt may be chosen for composition.
2. This competition is NOT a team effort. Competitors must individually complete their submission form found on the [LSC website](#).
  - a. Competitors will submit their form and attach a copy of their writing entry by the deadline.
  - b. **DO NOT** include your name on the entry itself; only write your name in the submission form.
  - c. Entries must be submitted in PDF format.
3. The written composition must be double-spaced in 12-point Arial or Times New Roman font in essay format.
4. The written composition will be a maximum of 2000 words. All abbreviations, acronyms will be counted. Only the first 2000 countable words will be read.
5. Compositions can be editorial/opinion pieces, fictional stories, autobiographical accounts or personal narrative, but must be in the form of an essay.
6. Compositions must adhere to Islamic beliefs and customs. Those that do not meet this criterion will be disqualified. Obscene language will not be tolerated and will result in disqualification.
7. Compositions must be in English. Any non-English words must have context to its usage so that the judges may understand its meaning.
8. Only 1 entry is allowed, per competitor.

## Writing Prompts

### Prompt A:

No matter where you've ended up, as the year begins, remember that growth is not a linear process; good things take time and are 100% worth waiting for. Even if it feels like you're walking miles in the opposite direction, the more action you take, the greater chance you'll have at connecting the dots and understanding the path you need to take. Describe an area of your life that you could radically transform into something good.

### Prompt B:

We spend a lot of our life on autopilot. It's actually a helpful feature of the human mind. Your brain focuses on actions that are new, but automates the "known" to be more efficient with its resources. But while autopilot is a helpful feature in terms of resource conservation, it can keep us in a reactive mode, rather than a proactive mode. Write a letter to yourself, describing what changes you want to see in your life in five years.

*\*Note: Do not include your name in the letter. Simply put your initial.*

### Prompt C:

In his speech, Dr. King famously said, *"I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character."* Consider what it means to be judged by the content of your character. Write a scene in which an individual is not judged by the color of their skin, but by something else entirely. Be sure to tie in the theme, "Restart. Refresh. Reignite!"

Please keep in mind that:

- Only individual submissions are allowed.
- All necessary information should be submitted before the deadline (Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 PM CT) to the [LSC website](#) using the appropriate form.
- Judging will take place before Showdown.
- Winners will be announced at the award ceremony.

Any violation of the rules stated in the Competitions Packet regarding the writing competition is subject to disqualification by the judges or the Lone Star Council.

MSA/Competitor Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Writing Ballot

\_\_\_\_\_ Ideas and Development (20 possible points)

\_\_\_\_\_ (5 pts) Writer addressed one of the above prompts with sufficient detail

\_\_\_\_\_ (5 pts) Writer used a balance of showing and telling to paint a picture in the reader's mind

\_\_\_\_\_ (5 pts) Writer took a unique approach and writer stayed on topic throughout the entire essay

\_\_\_\_\_ (5 pts) The theme or message was clear

\_\_\_\_\_ Organization (25 possible points)

\_\_\_\_\_ (5 pts) The introduction grabbed the reader's attention with a unique start, a clear thesis statement, and concise controls

\_\_\_\_\_ (5 pts) There was an adequate amount of details, examples, and support for each control

\_\_\_\_\_ (5 pts) Supporting details reflected the thesis statement

\_\_\_\_\_ (5 pts) The conclusion linked back to the introduction and left a lasting impression on the reader

\_\_\_\_\_ (5 pts) Writer tied the essay together in his/her conclusion and there was a note of finality

\_\_\_\_\_ Word Choice (15 possible points)

\_\_\_\_\_ (3 pts) Writer used thoughtful adjectives that helped create an image in the reader's mind

\_\_\_\_\_ (3 pts) Writer used strong action verbs that help support the essay's message

\_\_\_\_\_ (3 pts) Writer used precise nouns that helped present a clear and distinct message

\_\_\_\_\_ (3 pts) The overall usage of words created color and texture in the description. Was it clear that this writer took risks with their word choice?

\_\_\_\_\_ (3 pts) Writer used transition words to move from one topic to another

\_\_\_\_\_ Sentence Fluency (12 possible points)

\_\_\_\_\_ (3 pts) Writer varied sentence types by using a mixture of simple and complex sentences

\_\_\_\_\_ (3 pts) Most sentences begin with different words

\_\_\_\_\_ (3 pts) When read aloud, it flows smoothly and has a rhythm to it

\_\_\_\_\_ (3 pts) There was a logical progression of ideas

\_\_\_\_\_ Voice (9 possible points)

\_\_\_\_\_ (3 pts) The reader displayed passion about his/her topic

\_\_\_\_\_ (3 pts) The tone was natural and consistent, reflecting original thinking and expression

\_\_\_\_\_ (3 pts) Writer captured a tone or mode with his/her words

\_\_\_\_\_ Conventions (15 possible points)

\_\_\_\_\_ (4 pts) Free of spelling mistakes

\_\_\_\_\_ (4 pts) Free of punctuation mistakes

\_\_\_\_\_ (4 pts) Free of grammatical mistakes

\_\_\_\_\_ (3 pts) Free of capitalization mistakes

\_\_\_\_\_ Presentation (4 possible points)

\_\_\_\_\_ (1 pt) Essay is typed

\_\_\_\_\_ (1 pt) Essay is double-spaced

\_\_\_\_\_ (1 pt) Essay has a cover page

\_\_\_\_\_ (1 pt) Essay is 2000 words or less

*Rules and ballot adapted with permission from Muslim Interscholastic Tournament (MIST).*

# EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING

**Deadline for rosters: Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 PM CT**

## Purpose

The purpose of extemporaneous speaking is to deliver an engaging and coherent speech, without the help or guidance of preparation.

1. A limit of two (2) students from each MSA may register for this competition. Presidents must submit these names on the "Competitions Roster" found on the [LSC website](#).
2. Each student competes individually, so collaboration is not permitted.
3. Paper and pen/pencil will be provided, but students may bring their own. Competitors are **not allowed** to bring any outside material, with the exception of a mobile device or laptop.
4. Out of three randomly selected topics presented at the time of competition, students must choose one topic for their speech. The topics will be relevant to the theme.
5. Topics are to be phrased in the form of a question. Topics will not necessarily require reference materials, but will require an understanding of contemporary issues affecting Muslims domestically and internationally.
  - a. Example topic: Does a significant rift exist between African-American Muslims and immigrant Muslim communities?
6. Participants may, if they choose, use references (books, the Quran, etc.) provided onsite. If any reference is used, the participant **MUST** cite the reference during his or her speech. The use of reference material is *optional*.
7. 15 minutes before the contest is to begin, the first speaker shall draw three topics, choose one, and return the others. The other competitors shall draw in a similar manner, in their speaking order, at seven-minute intervals. A competitor drawing a topic on which they have spoken previously in the tournament shall return that topic and draw again.
8. After the competitor has chosen a topic, the competitor shall withdraw to the preparation area and have 15 minutes to plan his/her speech without conferring or exchanging information with anyone. **No prepared notes or outlines will be allowed in the preparation room.** Reference to books, websites, magazines and a bibliographical file is permitted. Once a competitor has chosen a topic, she/he may neither change from nor alter that topic. No visual aids may be used in the delivery of the speech.
9. A note card may be used.
10. Time limit is seven minutes maximum with a *30-second grace period*. Violation of this rule will result in the competitor being ranked last in the round when visible time signals have been given by the judge or by the authorized timekeeper.
11. Electronic device usage is not permitted during the speech.
12. This competition will have one round only.

MSA/Competitor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Extemporaneous Speaking Ballot

\_\_\_\_\_ Section A: Technical (10 possible points)

\_\_\_\_\_ (5 pts) Participant is on time for the competition and looks dressed for an interview.

\_\_\_\_\_ (5 pts) Did the speech last less than seven minutes? If yes, did it end before the 30 second grace period finished?

\_\_\_\_\_ Section B: Content (35 possible points)

\_\_\_\_\_ *Introduction* (10 possible points)

Did the speaker get the audience's attention? Was the topic clearly stated/addressed? Did the speaker preview and give focus to the key ideas?

\_\_\_\_\_ *Body* (15 possible points)

Was adequate time devoted to each division within the 7-minute time limit? Was there a logical progression of ideas?

\_\_\_\_\_ *Conclusion* (10 possible points)

Did the speaker tie the speech together? Was the answer to the question clear? Was there a note of finality?

\_\_\_\_\_ Section C: Presentation (45 possible points)

\_\_\_\_\_ *Analysis & Content* (15 possible points)

Did the speaker answer the question? Was the content informative? Was there sufficient use of logic, facts, examples, and/or expert opinion? Was the information pertinent to the selected topic?

\_\_\_\_\_ *Delivery* (15 possible points)

Was the delivery natural, lively, and spontaneous? Was volume appropriate? Did the speaker exhibit poise and confidence? Were gestures varied, movement motivated, and eye contact direct?

\_\_\_\_\_ *Language* (15 possible points)

Was the language precise, grammatically correct, and vivid? Did the speaker exhibit command of conversational style?

\_\_\_\_\_ Section D: Speech Ranking (10 possible points)

Rate the entire experience from 1 to 10 (1 being very poor; 4 to 6 being average; 10 being exceptional).

*Rules and ballot adapted with permission from Muslim Interscholastic Tournament (MIST).*

# SCRAPBOOK

*Each university may submit only one scrapbook.*

**Deadline for submissions: Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 AM CT**

## Purpose

The purpose of the Scrapbook competition is to allow students to display the achievements of their MSA and help present ideas from which other MSAs may benefit. These scrapbooks will be put on display so that other students have a chance to see what your MSA has accomplished!

Judging will be based on the following criteria:

1. Cover: The name of the university must be clearly displayed on the cover, and the book must be constructed with durable materials.
2. Content: The creativity and organization of the content will be assessed, and there must be enough explanations provided (in the form of captions, short blurbs, or titles) for the judges to understand what each page is representing.
3. Artistic Quality: neat lettering, balance, style & design, and overall aesthetic appeal will be judged.
4. Points will be given for presenting a variety of events that demonstrate the activity of the MSA.
5. Scrapbook should include recent events from the past two full semesters.
6. The scrapbook cannot exceed \$250 in value. Anything above \$250 will be disqualified.
7. Each item (purchased or otherwise) must be included in an inventory with an estimated price and a grand total. Bring this document with your scrapbook on Showdown weekend. Scrapbooks will not be accepted without the inventory.

*\*Make sure to seek permission from your MSA members before including their pictures in the scrapbook.\**

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Receipts documentation state \$250 or less? Yes/No  
If no, the scrapbook is disqualified.

### Scrapbook Ballot

\_\_\_\_\_ Cover (10 possible points)

\_\_\_\_\_ (2 pts) Does the name of the MSA appear on the cover page?

\_\_\_\_\_ (4 pts) Is the scrapbook attractively designed?

\_\_\_\_\_ (4 pts) Is the construction of the scrapbook sturdy?

\_\_\_\_\_ Content (35 possible points)

\_\_\_\_\_ (5 pts) Are visual materials appropriately used?

\_\_\_\_\_ (5 pts) Is there sufficient coverage of activities?

\_\_\_\_\_ (5 pts) Is there a variety in the content of the materials and events presented?

\_\_\_\_\_ (5 pts) Is the method or style of organization appropriate?

\_\_\_\_\_ (5 pts) Are there titles on appropriate pages?

\_\_\_\_\_ (10 pts) Is there sufficient journaling to understand what was going on?

\_\_\_\_\_ Artistic Quality (25 possible points)

\_\_\_\_\_ (8 pts) Is there an appropriate balance of artwork and lettering?

\_\_\_\_\_ (6 pts) Are the materials color coordinated?

\_\_\_\_\_ (6 pts) Are the style and design aesthetically pleasing?

\_\_\_\_\_ (5 pts) Are the pages creatively laid out?

\_\_\_\_\_ Overall Effect of Submission and Team (30 points)

\_\_\_\_\_ (20 pts) Activity level of the school's MSA

\_\_\_\_\_ (10 pts) Completeness and thoroughness of the scrapbook

## T-SHIRT DESIGN COMPETITION

**Deadline for submissions: Saturday, February 26<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 PM CT**

Members from MSAs across Texas are encouraged to submit t-shirt designs for the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual MSA Showdown, which are to be worn by all early registrants.

Judging will be based on the following criteria:

1. The design must creatively pertain to this year's theme: "Restart. Refresh. Reignite!".
2. The design must include the words "MSA Showdown".
3. The design should not be handwritten and must be done on the computer (so the printing of the t-shirts is as close to the design submitted as possible).
4. The submission should include the design for the front of the t-shirt **only**.
5. The design must be at most in two colors; the color of the shirt does not count as a color.
6. The font used should be easy to read.
7. The design and text must be Islamically appropriate.
8. The designer's name cannot be on the design (to ensure no biases). Any identification information found on the design will be removed prior to judging.
9. Multiple submissions are accepted.
10. Please anticipate requests from LSC for certain changes to a design if it wins, such as color changes or additions of logos or other information.
11. The t-shirt should not contain Quranic ayahs (in English or Arabic) so people can wear the shirts anywhere without it being disrespectful to the Quran (i.e. the restroom or in a place of uncleanness)
12. Submissions **MUST** be received via the submission form on the [LSC website](#) by the deadline. Designs submitted after the deadline will not be accepted. Have fun with this competition! It's meant to be an exchange of creative ideas.

# PROMO VIDEO

**Deadline for submissions: Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 PM CT**

## Purpose

The purpose of the promo video is to allow MSA members to express their creative interests and represent their school to stir excitement and awareness of Showdown.

1. Videos must be no more than 1 minutes in length including opening and closing credits. There is a 10 second grace period. Videos exceeding the 1:10 time limit will automatically be disqualified.
2. All promo videos must be submitted on the MSA's official Instagram handle as an IGTV video, as well as on YouTube.
  - a. NOTE: Copyright rules are strictly enforced on YouTube, so please ensure all audio follows the guidelines or the site will automatically block the content. See [here](#) for more info on copyright laws.
  - b. If an MSA is experiencing issues with posting on their MSA's Instagram account, please contact the LSC.
3. After posting the video on both YouTube and Instagram, use the hashtag #MSAShowdown2022 to submit your entry. Be sure to tag @msalsc on Instagram.
4. All promo video submissions are due by Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 PM CT.
5. Promo videos must maintain Islamic Adhab. Any video containing inappropriate scenes, language, or dress code will not be tolerated and will be disqualified. LSC reserves the right to determine what is appropriate.
6. Schools may only submit one promo video.
7. Videos must include open captioning for any non-lyrical dialogue or will be disqualified.

# TEAM SPIRIT

## Purpose

The purpose of this category is to promote unity and brotherhood/sisterhood among MSA chapters. When MSAs exhibit teamwork, anything can be accomplished.

Team Spirit is split into three categories. Each category will have one school as its winner, and the winning school will receive 5 Showdown points. LSC will be the ultimate judge of this.

- **Best Chant (5 points)**

Schools will be judged based on chants performed during Roll Call. Schools should aim to exhibit creativity and uniqueness. Schools who chant out of turn at Roll Call WILL receive negative points based on LSC's discretion.

- **Best Sportsmanship (5 points)**

Schools will be closely monitored throughout the Showdown weekend and judged based on their conduct involving fair and honest competition, courteous relations and graceful acceptance of results.

- **Most School Spirit (5 points)**

This category will be evaluated on the student's representation of their school by their spirit gear, participation, and other school related paraphernalia. Schools utilizing prohibited material (as outlined in General Guidelines) will receive negative points.

Any derogatory remarks or actions made toward other teams or any other sort of unacceptable behavior will result in teams LOSING POINTS OFF OF THEIR OVERALL SCORE. MSA officers from each school will be notified if there is an issue before disqualification.

## #RACETOSHOWDOWN2022

### Purpose

The purpose of this competition is to promote MSA engagement by encouraging MSA members to travel to cities other than their own & meet members from different MSAs across Texas.

1. MSAs race across Texas to complete challenges set by local MSAs & are awarded points based on the challenges they complete.
2. Only registered MSAs can participate in Showdown & the #RaceToShowdown2022 competition.
3. Each MSA is considered one team.
4. The MSA that completes all challenges first wins the competition. If no MSA completes all challenges by the deadline, then the MSA that earns the most points during #RaceToShowdown2022 is the competition winner & is awarded **35 points** toward their overall Showdown score. The second-place MSA in points is awarded **25 points** to their overall Showdown score. The third-place MSA in points is awarded **15 points** to their overall Showdown score.
  - a. In the event of a tie in points: the team that completes the race the fastest is awarded the highest place.
5. LSC reserves the right to deduct or withhold points in times of uncertainty or displays of unIslamic behavior.
6. The competition will end on March 20, 2022 at 11:59 PM CT.

### Awarding Points

1. Participants must be current MSA members in their respective MSAs.
2. Photos/videos taken at each location must have participants in their MSA shirt OR a shirt from their university. Shirts must be clearly visible or points will not be given.
3. Each team is required to take a picture/video at each challenge destination & upload them from their MSA's Instagram handle. Tag @msalsc in each submission & include the hashtag #RaceToShowdown2022 in the caption. MSA profiles must be public for it to be counted as a submission. One post per challenge & submissions accepted only from a registered MSA's Instagram handle.
4. LSC will "like" the photo to indicate that an MSA's submission for that challenge has been accepted & points have been awarded.
5. Throughout the race, teams may encounter "detours" along the way. Detour challenges give teams an opportunity to replace an existing challenge for points.

- a. Detours occur for a limited time & are announced without prior notice on official LSC social media accounts (@msalsc) or on the official Showdown 2022 Facebook event page.
- b. Once a detour has been completed & points are awarded, the challenge being replaced can no longer be completed for points. Detour points may not always be worth the same as an existing challenge.
- c. The same rules apply to detour challenges; however, teams must include #RTSDetour2022 in their post & a hashtag that reflects the challenge they wish to be replaced (team discretion; be creative).

## The #RaceToShowdown2022 Challenges

School	Challenge	Points
Collin County Community College	Hold the globe in front of the Spring Creek Campus library in your hands.	5
Rice University	Visit the prayer room at RMC Chapel 2.	5
Southern Methodist University	Play a round of ping pong at the Klyde Warren Park.	5
Texas A&M University - College Station	Hang out at the Student Center at ICBCS. Bragging rights if you can spot an MSA member!	5
Texas Tech University	Check out the art galleries at <u>Lubbock's Cultural District</u> & take a photo with your favorite piece.	10
University of North Texas	Visit the Recycled Books in Denton & snap a photo of an interesting read!	5
University of Houston	Go to M&M Grill (it's Halal!) and order something off the menu. Take a food pic & caption it with your best food pun.	5
UT - Arlington	Take a pic in front of AT&T Stadium & throw up your school sign!	5
UT - Austin	Attempt to do a couple of cartwheels at the main lawn (UT Tower).	5
UT - Dallas	Go to Olive Burger (it's Halal!) & order something off the menu. Take a pic & caption it with your best dad joke.	5
UT - Rio Grande Valley	Find the Bronc statue & give us your best world leader pose.	20
UT- El Paso	Go for a hike & take a picture at the Lost Dog Trailhead.	20
Lamar University	Take a snap in front of the Mirabeau B. Lamar statue & strike your best thinking pose.	10
UT - San Antonio	Visit the Alamo & strike your best victory pose! Share a fun fact about Texas in the caption.	5
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>110</b>

# PROJECT SADAQA: FOSTER SAFE SACRED SPACES

## Purpose

Created by the MSA Lone Star Council (LSC), Project Sadaqa is an annual collaborative effort from all MSAs to give back to those in need. This initiative started in 2013, when Texas MSAs came together at the state capitol to volunteer. The goal of Project Sadaqa is to build relations with our community by volunteering our time and efforts to help those in need. From now until Showdown 2022, MSA members will raise money for Facing Abuse in Community Environments (FACE), which focuses on developing safe sacred spaces for Muslim communities.

## Who is FACE?

Facing Abuse in Community Environments (FACE) was formed in 2017 to create a framework by which to address the leadership accountability gap within the United States and Canada. Their mission is to foster safe community environments by holding abusive religious and community leadership accountable for the communities in which they serve. Their vision is to create safe sacred spaces based on prophetic values that support spiritual and personal growth for all.

FACE operates on four areas of focus:

1. Sexual Abuse - Abusive sexual behavior by one person upon another.
2. Physical Abuse - Any intentional act causing injury or trauma to another person by way of bodily contact.
3. Financial Abuse - The illegal or unauthorized use of a person or institution's property, donations, money, investments, or valuables for one's personal gain.
4. Spiritual Abuse - Using religion to manipulate, control, and bully through the guise of religion, religious principles, or claims to spirituality.

## What are we funding?

The mission of FACE is to serve as an independent first line of defense for victims in the Muslim community experiencing abuse and neglect at the hands of religious and community leaders and the institutions protecting them. This will be accomplished by providing reliable and professional avenues of reporting abuse, investigation, education, and resolution services to address claims. By providing FACE with donations, it will allow them to conduct investigations, hold education training for staff and volunteers, publish educational materials, and fund data security. Donations will also be used to protect victims of abuse through therapy and counseling, as needed.

Rules:

1. All Texas MSAs participating in Showdown are encouraged to create a Project Sadaqa campaign through Launchgood by **Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 PM CT**.
2. For information about creating a Launchgood page as well as tips on fundraising, click [here](#) to view the Project Sadaqa 2022 toolkit.
3. The first place school *in each bracket* will win 15 Showdown points and second place will win 10 showdown points. LSC will be monitoring the progress of each MSA periodically on the MSA Launchgood Page to learn about your progress.
4. First place is determined by the total money raised through an MSA's respective [Launchgood campaign](#) (including online & offline donations).
5. The total amount of funds collected per MSA will be determined through the Launchgood Page total by **Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 PM**. Please be sure the MSA LaunchGood page reflects the funds that have been collected (online & offline).
6. All offline donations (cash & checks) will need to be turned in by **Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 PM** to any LSC officer or via Venmo (@msalsc). Please be sure the MSA LaunchGood page reflects the funds that have been collected offline as well.
7. Use #ProjectSadaqa2022 to be featured on LSC's social media platforms!

## Project Sadaqa Brackets

Because some MSAs may have more resources and members than others, the LSC has divided schools into three groups depending on the number of members in each MSA and the MSA's activities. You will only be competing with schools in your group. These brackets will ONLY be used for Project Sadaqa and not for all of Showdown.

### Bracket 1

University of Houston  
 Texas A&M University  
 University of Texas  
 University of Texas at Dallas  
 University of Texas at Arlington

### Bracket 2

University of North Texas  
 Texas Tech University  
 Collin College  
 Southern Methodist University  
 University of Texas at San Antonio

### Bracket 3

Rice University  
 University of Texas Rio Grande Valley  
 University of Texas at El Paso  
 Lamar University  
 St. Edward's University  
 University of Houston-Clear Lake  
 University of Texas at Tyler  
 University of the Incarnate Word  
 Prairie View A&M University  
 University of Memphis  
 New Jersey Institute of Technology

# CHARITY PROJECT PITCH

## Purpose

The purpose of the Charity Project Pitch is to encourage charitable giving through creative ideas and the building of leadership and speaking skills.

## Description

The Charity Project Pitch is a new competition where teams will develop innovative projects to solve specific problems in their communities. The proposal should describe a project that is inventive and useful, **whether currently active or still in development - you do not need to have an active project to apply.** Check out some project ideas [here](#). This competition is in collaboration with Salaam Foundation, Salaam Foundation is a nonprofit accelerator dedicated to amplifying the impact of minority leaders. We hope to promote collaboration and the sharing of ideas to create positive change in our communities. In addition to our resource toolkits and nonprofit network, we provide curated support and advisory services to help nonprofit organizations achieve their fullest potential.

This competition will have 3 rounds:

- **Round 1:** Teams must complete the preliminary application to the best of their ability by **Wednesday, March 16th @ 1:00 PM CT**. All applications will be judged, and the top five (5) will proceed to Round 2.
- **Round 2:** The top 5 teams will present to a panel of judges at Showdown. Based on the rubric, the top three (3) highest scoring teams will receive Showdown points, and the highest-scoring team will be selected as the *Judges' Choice Winner*.
- **Round 3:** The top 3 teams from above will move on to the final round, where they will present their pitches to Showdown attendees for a chance to be selected as the *Peoples' Choice Winner*.

## Process

1. **Round 1:** Teams must submit a full application with all necessary materials by **Wednesday, March 16th @ 1:00 PM CT** using this link [here](#).
  - a. Applications will be reviewed and the top 5 teams will be contacted to present at Showdown.
2. **Round 2:** The top 5 teams from above will present their project to a panel of judges with any kind of presentation. These 3-5 minute pitches/interviews will be scheduled for the **Saturday morning of Showdown**.
  - a. *Judge's Choice* winner will be determined by the highest scoring rubric. The top 3 highest scoring teams will also be awarded 15 Showdown points.
  - b. From the top 5 projects, the top 3 will be selected for Round 3 (final round).
3. **Round 3:** The top 3 teams will present their pitches to Showdown attendees on **Sunday Morning of Showdown**.
  - a. Teams will also have their social media content posted on The Salaam Foundation's social media account for the *People's Choice* vote. Voting will be on **Sunday, March 27th after all presentations**.

- b. *People's Choice* winner will be determined by the highest number of comments by unique users on social media and will be awarded.
4. *Judges' Choice* and *People's Choice* winners will receive a \$500 prize for the project team directly. One team cannot be both *Judges'* and *People's* winner.
5. Winners are awarded the amount needed to execute their individual project. Each project is allowed a maximum budget of \$500.
6. A standard rubric will be used by each of the judges to assess each of the projects for a fair, standard, and objective process.

### **Rules and Procedures**

- Each MSA may register as many teams as they wish by **Wednesday, March 16th @ 1:00 PM CT** by completing the [application](#).
  - All team members must be [registered](#) by the above deadline.
  - A team must consist of a minimum of 2 members. **Teams may be composed of members of different MSAs.** If points are to be awarded, it will be up to the discretion of LSC to split points as needed between schools.
- All teams/team members competing must be able to present on the **Saturday morning of Showdown**, if selected for Round 2. Teams will schedule interviews prior to Showdown.
- Each project is allowed a maximum budget of \$500 and should be executable within 1 year after Showdown.
- Projects can be geared towards the Muslim or non-Muslim community, but should not contain elements that would be considered outside of the bounds of Islam.
- Only complete applications will be considered. Completed applications include the [online application](#) and project budget..
  - Any unfair practices during the *People's Choice* voting period, such as voting from fake accounts, may result in disqualification from the competition.
- Only Round 3 presentations are open to audience observation.
- LSC reserves the right to make any changes to the stated rules and regulations, as deemed necessary.
- For any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact [hello@salaamfoundation.org](mailto:hello@salaamfoundation.org).

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Charity Project Pitch Ballot

Criteria	Scale	Score 1	Score 3	Score 5
<i>Societal Impact</i>	1-5	Unclear or limited social impact	Believable impact at a modest scale	Potential for exceptional impact to a high-need population
<i>Issue</i>	1-5	Sees a problem but only scratches the surface in addressing it	Moderately addresses the issue at hand	Addresses the root of the problem rather than only the symptoms
<i>Solution / Innovation</i>	1-5	Interesting but not fundamentally or differentially innovative	Unique or improved application of an existing solution	Breakthrough innovation that provides powerful, scalable impact
<i>Sustainability</i>	1-5	Unclear how venture will be sustained after current resources spent	Believable model for sustainability	Innovative model that provides improved sustainability vs. current
<i>Leadership Team</i>	1-5	Lack of demonstrated leadership or gaps in skills & capabilities on the team	Balanced team that appears able to launch & lead venture, and follows a clear vision	Exceptional team, with Clear experience and passion to succeed
<i>Presentation &amp; Clarity of Concept</i>	1-5	Weak presentation and / or weak content	Good presentation and content with good coverage of key topics	Exceptional presentation & content with a coherent story that leaves a lasting impression

**Final Checklist of All Items Needed**

- Completed Application
  - Initial Proposed Budget
- Pitch Presentation to use **IF** selected to present to the Judges (Round 2)
- Fully registered team

# #Showdown15

## Purpose

The purpose of this competition is to promote MSA engagement by encouraging MSA members to complete a list of social media challenges leading into Showdown. #Showdown15 is a celebration of the 15th Annual MSA Showdown, a long-lasting tradition of the MSA Lone Star Council.

1. MSAs across Texas will complete a list of challenges that are based on the Showdown theme *"Restart. Refresh. Reignite!"*.
2. Only registered MSAs can participate in Showdown & the #Showdown15 competition.
3. Each MSA is awarded **1 Showdown point for each completed challenge**.
  - Completing all 15 challenges is **not** a requirement to participate in #Showdown15. For example, if an MSA completes only 2 out of the 15 challenges, they still receive 6 points for what they completed.
4. The first three MSA's that complete all 15 challenges will be recognized as the respective 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners. Completing all 15 challenges will award an MSA 15 total Showdown Points. In addition to this, **1st place will get 10 additional points, 2nd place gets 7 additional points, and 3rd place gets 5 additional points**.
5. LSC reserves the right to deduct or withhold points in times of uncertainty or displays of unIslamic behavior.
  - Many challenges require a caption or a voice over to discuss the challenge topic. If an MSA does not fulfill the full requirements of the challenge, their submission may not be accepted.
6. The competition will end on **March 23rd, 2022 at 11:59 PM CT**.

## Awarding Points

1. Participants must be current MSA members in their respective MSAs.
  - **Bracket 1 and Bracket 2 schools must have a new member in each video submission.** This rule does not apply to Bracket 3 schools.
2. Each team is required to take a picture/video for each challenge & upload them from their MSA's Instagram handle. **Tag @msalsc** in each submission & include the hashtag **#Showdown15** in the caption. MSA profiles must be public for it to be counted as a submission. One post per challenge & submissions are only accepted from a registered MSA's Instagram handle.
3. Teams must upload their submission as an **Instagram Reel**.
4. LSC will "like" the photo to indicate that an MSA's submission for that challenge has been accepted & points have been awarded.

## The #Showdown15 Challenges

<b>Restart</b> A Good Habit	Document yourself restarting an old good habit such as working out, starting a new diet, sleeping early, etc. Record a voice over or write a caption discussing this good habit and why you started it.	1
<b>Restart</b> Studying	Talk about an assignment or exam that you're studying for and tell us about your studying strategy!	1
<b>Restart</b> An Old Passion	Do an activity or old hobby that you haven't done in a while (reading, knitting, playing a sport, etc.) and talk about the nostalgia attached to it.	1
<b>Restart</b> Ramadan Habits	Show us how you're preparing for Ramadan this year! Fast for a day, go to the Masjid, donate, eat a meal with your friends and family, or do anything that brings you closer to the spirit of Ramadan.	1
<b>Restart</b> A Prayer	Do any voluntary prayer or act of worship (pray 2 Rakat Nafil, give sadaqa, read the Quran, etc.)	1
<b>Refresh</b> Your Body	Go to the salon, get a haircut, do a skin-care routine, or even get a massage! Do anything to refresh yourself physically.	1
<b>Refresh</b> Your Muscles	Go to the gym or do a home workout! Tell us a little bit about your workout routine and show us how you're making those gains!	1
<b>Refresh</b> Your Drip	Buy new clothes for yourself or for someone else.	1
<b>Refresh</b> With The Ummah	Document your experience at any Muslim gathering (Jummah, Masjid Event, etc).	1
<b>Refresh</b> A Space	Organize or clean an area (such as your room, car, etc) and show us the before and after!	1
<b>Reignite</b> A Candle	Take a video of yourself lighting a candle! Tell us about the scent of the candle and why you chose it.	1
<b>Reignite</b> Nostalgia	Go visit any one of your alma mater (previous school) and tell us about your favorite teacher or professor!	1
<b>Reignite</b> Your Inner Child	Do an activity that you loved to do as a child (go to the arcade, go to the park, play on the swings, play an old video game, etc).	1
<b>Reignite</b> Your Heart	Share one of your favorite Ayat or Surahs in the Quran and discuss what it means to you.	1
<b>Reignite</b> An Old Relationship	Call and check up on an old friend or family member that you haven't spoken to in a while.	1

## Competition Brackets

### Bracket 1

University of Houston  
Texas A&M University  
University of Texas  
University of Texas at Dallas  
University of Texas at Arlington

### Bracket 2

University of North Texas  
Texas Tech University  
Collin College  
Southern Methodist University  
University of Texas at San Antonio

### Bracket 3

Rice University  
University of Texas Rio Grande Valley  
University of Texas at El Paso  
Lamar University  
St. Edward's University  
University of Houston-Clear Lake  
University of Texas at Tyler  
University of the Incarnate Word  
Prairie View A&M University  
University of Memphis  
New Jersey Institute of Technology

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