Student Competition Quick Guide

Roane State Academic Festival 2027
Festival Date: April 2, 2027
Registration & Submission Deadline: March 19, 2027 by 11:59 p.m. EST

Not sure what you want to compete in? Use this quick guide to find events that match your interests and skills.

Your teacher or school sponsor will complete your official registration and submit any required materials for you.

Before you start preparing, make sure you check the **full event rules** for your competition.

Art

ART01 – Photography

Pre-Submission, Individual

Love taking pictures? Submit an original photo and show off your eye for lighting, framing, creativity, and visual storytelling.

ART02 – Painting: Oil, Acrylic, or Watercolor

Pre-Submission, Individual

Submit an original painting and show what you can do with color, technique, composition, and creativity.

ART03 – Sculpture & Ceramics

Pre-Submission, Individual

Create something three-dimensional using clay, wood, wire, paper, found objects, or other materials.

ART04 – Drawing

Pre-Submission, Individual

Submit an original drawing created with pencil, charcoal, ink, colored pencil, marker, or similar materials.

ART05 – Printmaking

Pre-Submission, Individual

Create an original print using a real printmaking process such as linocut, woodcut, screen printing, etching, or block printing.

ART06 – Two-Dimensional Mixed Media

Pre-Submission, Individual

Mix materials and techniques to create an original mostly flat artwork, such as collage, paint with drawing, fabric, layered paper, or other combinations.

ART07 – Graphic Design

Pre-Submission, Individual

Create an original poster, logo, cover, advertisement, infographic, branding project, or other graphic design.

ART08 – Digital Art: Still Image

Pre-Submission, Individual

Create an original digital artwork such as digital painting, illustration, concept art, collage, character design, or artistic photo manipulation.

ART09 – Digital Art: Animation and Motion Graphics

Pre-Submission, Individual

Bring your digital art to life with animation, motion graphics, animated illustrations, character animation, or another moving-image project.

Business Skills

BUS01 – Job Interview

Day-of-Festival, Individual

Think you can impress an interview panel? Bring a one-page résumé and take part in a realistic job interview where judges look at your preparation, communication, confidence, and professionalism.

Creative Writing

CW01 – Poetry: Traditional

Pre-Submission, Individual

Write an original poem using structure such as rhyme, rhythm, meter, or storytelling.

CW02 – Poetry: Free Verse

Pre-Submission, Individual

Write an original poem in your own style. It does not have to rhyme or follow a regular beat.

CW03 – Fiction: Science Fiction/Fantasy

Pre-Submission, Individual

Create an original story involving futuristic ideas, science fiction, magic, fantasy worlds, or other imaginative elements.

CW04 – Fiction: Realistic

Pre-Submission, Individual

Write an original story with believable people, situations, conflicts, and events that could happen in real life.

CW05 – Nonfiction: Personal Narrative

Pre-Submission, Individual

Tell a true story from your own life and explain why the experience was meaningful.

CW06 – Nonfiction: Literary Analysis

Pre-Submission, Individual

Choose a story, novel, play, or other literary work and make a clear argument about a theme, character, symbol, conflict, or other element.

Cyber

CYBER01 – Cyber Security

Day-of-Festival, Individual or Group

Put your cybersecurity skills to the test with hands-on challenges involving scanning, reconnaissance, network investigation, and problem solving.

CYBER02 – AI Prompt Injection Challenge

Day-of-Festival, Group

Think you can outsmart an AI? Work with a team of up to four students to solve AI challenges using clever prompts, roleplay, strategic questions, creativity, and teamwork. No coding experience is required.

Dance

DAN01 – Ballet: Solo, Duo, or Trio

Day-of-Festival, Individual or Group

Perform a Ballet routine by yourself, with a partner, or as a trio.

DAN02 – Ballet: Group 4+

Day-of-Festival, Group

Bring a group of four or more dancers and perform a Ballet routine.

DAN03 – Modern: Solo, Duo, or Trio

Day-of-Festival, Individual or Group

Perform a Modern Dance routine by yourself, with a partner, or as a trio.

DAN04 – Modern: Group 4+

Day-of-Festival, Group

Bring a group of four or more dancers and perform a Modern Dance routine.

DAN05 – Hip Hop: Solo, Duo, or Trio

Day-of-Festival, Individual or Group

Perform a Hip Hop routine by yourself, with a partner, or as a trio.

DAN06 – Hip Hop: Group 4+

Day-of-Festival, Group

Bring a group of four or more dancers and perform a Hip Hop routine.

Film

FILM01 – Short Film

Pre-Submission, Individual or Group

Create a 1–5 minute film using your own ideas, recording, and editing. Work alone or with a team of up to four students and tell your story through film.

French

FR01 – French Translation Level A

Day-of-Festival, Individual

Put your first-year French skills to the test with English-to-French translation, French-to-English translation, and verb conjugation.

FR02 – French Translation Level B

Day-of-Festival, Individual

Challenge your second-year French skills with translation and verb-conjugation exercises.

FR03 – French Translation Level C

Day-of-Festival, Individual

Use your advanced French skills to complete translation and verb-conjugation challenges.

FR04 – French Food Video

Pre-Submission, Individual or Group

Choose a dish from a French-speaking culture, prepare it on video, and explain what you learned about the food and its cultural background.

FR05 – Francophone Travel Brochures

Pre-Submission, Individual or Group

Create two travel brochures that help American travelers explore destinations in the French-speaking world.

Health Science

HS01 – Medical Terminology Spelling Bee

Day-of-Festival, Individual

Think you know medical terminology? Start with a written qualifying test and try to advance to the live spelling bee.

History

HIST01 – History & Geography Jeopardy

Day-of-Festival, Individual

Test your knowledge of World History, American History, Tennessee and local history, and Geography. Start with a written qualifying round that includes map and geography questions, then compete for a spot in live Jeopardy-style rounds.

Journalism

JOUR01 – Yearbook

Pre-Submission, Individual or Group

Show off your best yearbook work through a complete yearbook or a selection of pages you helped create.

JOUR02 – Written Journalism

Pre-Submission, Individual

Submit your best journalistic writing, including news, investigations, features, editorials, opinion pieces, profiles, reviews, or other non-sports journalism.

JOUR03 – Sports Journalism

Pre-Submission, Individual

Go beyond the final score and tell a strong sports story through reporting, analysis, interviews, profiles, or feature writing.

JOUR04 – Digital Still Image Journalism

Pre-Submission, Individual

Create a still image that tells a story, shares information, or promotes something connected to your school or school community.

JOUR05 – Digital Media Journalism

Pre-Submission, Individual or Group

Tell a real story using audio, video, or multimedia. Projects might include podcasts, interviews, social media videos, news packages, mini-documentaries, or explainers.

Math/Physics

MATH01 – Calculator Olympics

Day-of-Festival, Individual

Put your calculator skills to work in a 30-minute challenge involving topics such as trigonometry, logarithms, matrices, statistics, graphing, and other math problems.

MATH02 – Math/Physics College Bowl

Day-of-Festival, Group

Work with your team to answer math and physics questions and try to advance from the written qualifying test to the live competition.

Music

MUS01 – Vocal Solo

Pre-Submission, Individual

Submit your best vocal solo for judging. First-, second-, and third-place performers will be invited to perform live at the Academic Festival.

MUS02 – Instrumental Solo

Pre-Submission, Individual

Submit your best instrumental solo for judging. First-, second-, and third-place performers will be invited to perform live at the Academic Festival.

MUS03 – Vocal Ensemble

Pre-Submission, Group

Perform with a vocal group of at least two singers and submit your performance for judging. The top three ensembles will be invited to perform live at the Festival.

MUS04 – Instrumental Ensemble

Pre-Submission, Group

Perform with an instrumental group of at least two players and submit your performance for judging. The top three ensembles will be invited to perform live at the Festival.

Philosophy

PHIL01 – Argumentative Essay

Pre-Submission, Individual

Choose a philosophical question or issue and make a strong case for your position using clear reasoning, evidence, research, and thoughtful analysis.

Science

SCI01 – Science Trivia Game

Day-of-Festival, Group

Grab up to three teammates and test your science knowledge with questions from chemistry, biology, physical science, and other science topics.

Spanish

SPAN01 – Spanish Bowl Level A

Day-of-Festival, Group

Team up with three classmates and test your Spanish I skills with questions about grammar, vocabulary, geography, and culture.

SPAN02 – Spanish Bowl Level B

Day-of-Festival, Group

Work with three teammates to put your Spanish II language and culture knowledge to the test.

SPAN03 – Spanish Bowl Level C

Day-of-Festival, Group

Put your advanced Spanish skills to work with three teammates in a live language and culture competition.

SPAN04 – Spanish Creative Video Level A

Pre-Submission, Group

Work with up to three classmates to create an original two-minute Spanish video based on this year's theme, **Environment and Our Future**.

SPAN05 – Spanish Creative Video Level B

Pre-Submission, Group

Use your Spanish II skills and creativity to make an original two-minute video with your team based on the annual theme.

SPAN06 – Spanish Creative Video Level C

Pre-Submission, Group

Use your advanced Spanish skills and creativity to create an original two-minute video with your team based on the annual theme.

Speech

SPCH01 – Persuasive Oratory

Day-of-Festival, Individual

Choose an issue you care about and convince your audience using strong evidence, credible sources, visual elements, and a clear call to action.

SPCH02 – Storytelling: Fairy Tales

Day-of-Festival, Individual

Choose a fairy tale or folk tale and bring it to life through strong description, voice, and body language. You may adapt or shorten the story to fit the time limit.

Theatre

THEA01 – Solo Acting

Day-of-Festival, Individual

Perform a solo scene or monologue from a published play and bring your character to life in four minutes or less.

THEA02 – Duo Acting

Day-of-Festival, Group

Choose a scene from a published play and perform it with a partner. Show the judges how well you create your characters, work together, and bring the scene to life.

Ready to Compete?

Talk to a teacher, counselor, coach, club advisor, or Academic Festival sponsor at your school about the events that interest you.

Your sponsor will register you and submit any required materials.

Remember to read the **full competition rules** before you start preparing so you know exactly what your event requires.

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