Academic Festival Division Guidelines 2026

Welcome & Updates

Welcome to the Academic Festival 2026 - Roane State is so excited to welcome your students on Friday, March 27, 2026.

Starting this year, we have made some changes to registration and events, please read all directions on the webpage carefully. [Academic Festival Webpage](#)

In this packet you will find directions for each event. A new coding system is now in place to help navigate the events. Please read all directions for the events you are registering students as each event may have specific directions or limitations on submissions and group size.

Event Key:
- PX-XXX – Live event, must be present to participate.
- NX-XXX – Pre-submission event, do not have to present to participate.
- IND – Individual Event
- GRP – Group/Team (2 or more)
- FLEX – Individual or Group
- BOWL – Bowl Event (requires availability for the full event period due to possible runoff rounds or time restrictions)

New Registration Process:
Registration for Individuals and Groups is now changing to Microsoft Forms, you will not need a Microsoft account to access the form.
- [RSCC Academic Festival 2026 Individual Form – Fill out form](#)
- [Academic Festival Group Registration Form - 2026 – Fill out form](#)

New Pre-judged Submission Process:
Submitting Pre-judged submissions is also moving to Microsoft Form, you will not need a Microsoft account to access the form. This includes music submissions for Dance.

At the end of the form, you'll be directed to a SharePoint upload link. Please follow the file naming directions.
- [Submission form for Pre-Judged Entries – Fill out form](#)

Additional Day of Events

The Academic Festival isn't just about competition — it's also about exploring new interests, building skills, and making memories. Throughout the day, stop by our non-competitive activities for hands-on learning, creativity, and plenty of fun:

- Teach-a-Palooza! – Play games, explore the art of teaching, and win prizes with the Education Department.
- Cornhole in the Courtyard – Relax and unwind with a classic campus favorite.
- Raider Core Scavenger Hunt – Complete challenges across campus and win exciting prizes.
- Early Educator Challenge: An Early Years Skills Face-Off – Test your skills in early childhood education.
- Digging for Clues: Archaeology, Criminal Justice, and Geology Interactive Lab – Step into the shoes of a scientist and uncover discoveries through hands-on exploration.
- Improv Theatre – Jump on stage or enjoy spontaneous performances filled with creativity and laughter.
- Music Jam Session & Karaoke – Sing, play, or just enjoy the show in a fun, relaxed environment.
- Scrubs & Skills: Navigate the Health Science Path to Practice – Try out real-world healthcare skills and see if you have what it takes.
- Science Fair Fun – Explore experiments, demonstrations, and interactive science activities.
- Food Trucks – Refuel and recharge with delicious bites from local vendors.

No sign-ups needed — just drop in, explore, and enjoy everything the festival has to offer!

Questions? Please Contact:

Dr. Cody Miller millersc2@roanestate.edu 865.354.3000 ext. 5312 or
Dr. Jessica Dalton-Carriger dcarrigerjn@roanestate.edu

Art Division

Event Type/Rules:
- This is a pre-submission event all submissions are due on Wednesday, March 11, 2026.
  - Winners' art pieces will be displayed in the Roane State Art Gallery during the festival, see delivery dates and guidelines below.
- All Art Events are IND - Individual Events, no group submissions.
- Each school may submit up to 4 submissions in EACH event category.

Description/Details:
We hope that this process will provide opportunities to educate students on how to properly document their work for juried events. Most opportunities that artists will apply both professionally and academically upon graduation are held to this standard. We feel this is a good introduction to that process.

 NOTE: ALL SUBMITTED WORKS WILL BE DISPLAYED ON A LOOPED SLIDESHOW ON THE ROANE STATE VIDEOWALL LOCATED IN THE VANN STUDENT CENTER (CAFETERIA) THE DAY OF THE FESTIVAL, Friday, March 27, 2026.

Judging:
Judging will be based off digital entries which must be submitted by Wednesday, March 11, 2026.

Winning Art Pieces:
- All 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners will be notified in advance of the festival.
- Artwork must be delivered to Roane State Community College, O'Brien Gallery (O-225), 276 Patton Lane, Harriman, TN, no later than **5:00 PM EST on March 19, 2026**.
  - The art gallery will be unlocked, and the pieces can be placed on the floor out of the way.
  - If the art gallery is not unlocked, please contact the event coordinator or enquire in the Humanities Division office in O-107 to have the gallery unlocked.
- All 2D submissions are required to be matted or framed and wired for hanging.
  - Exceptions to framing or matting will be allowed only when they are integral to the artistic intent.

Submission:
All submissions will be submitted digitally through the Academic Festival Microsoft SharePoint.

File Naming:

Before submitting, rename your file as follows:

EC_LASTNAME_FIRSTNAME_SC_TITLEOFWORK.jpg

 For example: if **John Smith** from school code (SC) **71** is submitting a drawing (EC) **101** entitled "**Fanciful Dreams**" the file would be named as follows and uploaded into the SharePoint:

101_SMITH_JOHN_71_FANCIFULDREAMS.JPG

Art Division Acceptable Files and Naming Examples:

Art (stills)	101_SMITH_JOHN_71_CHAINREACTION.JPG (or .PNG or .PDF)
Art (videos)	109_SMITH_JOHN_71_CHAINREACTION .MOV (or .MP4 or .M4V)

Form and File Submission:

To upload your participant's submission, you will need to:
1. Fill out the [Submission form for Pre-Judged Entries – Fill out form](#)
    a. You do not need a Microsoft account to access the form.
2. On the final section of the form follow the link provided.
    a. It will ask for your name and file submission.
    b. This will upload your file to the Academic Festival SharePoint and be sent to the event coordinator.
    c. You will not be able to access or edit the file once it is submitted.

If you have any issues uploading a file, please contact Dr. Jessica Dalton-Carriger at dcarrigerjn@roanestate.edu

Event Code(s):

Each school may submit up to 4 submissions in EACH of the following categories

Event Codes (EC)	Category	Event Type
NA-101	Photography	IND – Individual
NA-102	Painting – oil, acrylic, or watercolor	IND – Individual
NA-103	Sculpture & Ceramics	IND – Individual
NA-104	Drawing	IND – Individual
NA-105	Printmaking	IND – Individual
NA-106	Two-Dimensional Mixed Media (collage or assemblage	IND – Individual
NA-107	Graphic Design	IND – Individual
NA-108	Digital Art (still image)	IND – Individual
NA-109	Digital Art (animation and motion graphics)	IND – Individual

NA-110	Video	IND – Individual

Contact:

Bryan Wilkerson wilkersonbs@roanestate.edu or call 865.354.3000, ext. 4748. If no one answers, please leave a detailed voicemail.

Business Skills Division
Cyber Security

Event Type/Rules:
- This is a FLEX Event and allows both individuals and groups/teams to participate.
  - Schools submitting groups must submit group registration forms.
- Each school is limited to two individuals or teams for the event.
  - We recommend each school have a runoff competition and send its top two competitors/teams.
- This is a day-of-festival event held on Friday, March 27, 2026.
  - Students will not be allowed to register for any other live day-of-festival events.
  - This is also a BOWL event, and students are required to be available for the entire festival due to possible run-off rounds at the end.

Description/Details:
This competition is made up of three stations. Each station teaches a particular set of skills by solving a specific problem. Once a station is completed, the contestant has captured a "flag" for that skill.
- Station Overview:
  - Station 1: Scanning – Scan a set of five IP addresses to uncover vulnerabilities.
  - Station 2: Reconnaissance I – Conduct an investigation to gather intelligence.
  - Station 3: Reconnaissance II – Use data from standard infrastructure utilities to obtain information about a target.

Participants are encouraged to be familiar with the seven tools listed below. They will be downloaded onto the machines used during the competition.
- Wireshark
- Zenmap
- Nmap
- Autopsy
- Network Miner
- Owasp

Judging:
As participants finish each station, they will need to write their responses out and save them to a Microsoft Word (or other editing software) file to submit for judging.

The winner(s) will be those with the highest score on all stations.

Event Code(s):

Event Codes (EC)	Category	Event Type
PO-901	Cyber Security	FLEX (Individual or Group) BOWL Event

Contact:

George Meghabghab at 865.354.3000, ext. 2121 or email **meghabghagv@roanestate.edu**

Job Interview

Event Type/Rules:
- This is a IND – Individual event, groups will not be allowed to participate.
- Each school is limited to two entries.
  - We recommend each school have a runoff competition and send its top two competitors.
- This is a day-of-festival event held on Friday, March 27, 2026.
  - Students will not be allowed to register for any other live day-of-festival events.

Description/Details:
This competition is designed to be as close to a "real" interview as possible and will evaluate contestants' understanding of employment procedures that they will face in applying for positions in the occupational areas for which they are training.

- Prior to the festival each contestant will complete a one-page, typewritten résumé and bring three (3) copies to the competition.
- All information must be as accurate as possible and should include the following:
  - Complete contact Information
  - Objective
  - Education and training
  - Membership in civic, community or school organizations
  - Any major accomplishments/awards earned
  - Employers and work experience
  - References (separate page, not on résumé)
- The receptionist (in holding area) will receive copies of the personal résumé and submit them to the interviewing committee (judges). The interviewee will return to waiting area until called.

In a job interview, appearance ranks **very high** for first impressions, influencing perceptions of your competence, judgment, and professionalism within the first few minutes, often impacting hiring decisions before you even speak much. While skills matter, dressing appropriately for the company culture, being well-groomed, and projecting confidence (clean, pressed clothes, good posture) shows you're serious, respect the process, and understand expectations, even though appearance biases exist.

Clothing Suggestions-Dressing well is a compliment to the person(s) with whom you meet. Students should wear business-appropriate attire for both men and women. This would include pressed dress pants (no jeans, t-shirts, hoodies, sneakers) and a dark jacket or a suit. For females, skirts with coordinating blouse or jacket are acceptable.
- Conservative colors / fabric such as navy, dark gray (and black for women) — are safe. Other color trends may come and go; avoid the extremes. Solids or very subtle

weave patterns or plaids (the type that look solid across a room) are safest.
- Everything should be clean and well pressed.
- Carefully inspect clothes for tags, dangling threads, etc.
- Females should either wear pants or hosiery with a skirt/dress. No bare legs.
- Wear a conservative watch.
- Jewelry and scarf styles should lean toward conservative. Avoid extremes of style and color.
- Keep makeup conservative. A little is usually better than none for a polished look. Nails should be clean and well groomed. Avoid extremes of nail length and polish color, especially in conservative industries.
- Shoes should be business appropriate. Choose closed toe regardless of what is in style, avoid extremes, strappy sandals or chunky platforms. Make certain you can walk comfortably in your shoes; hobbling in uncomfortable shoes does not convey a professional appearance.
- Hosiery should be plainly styled (no patterns), sheer is most conservative (not opaque), and in neutral colors complementing your clothing.

Judging:
- After the judges review the personal résumé, the interviewee will be directed to the judges for the interview.
- The interview with the judges will be approximately 10 minutes but due to time constraints will only allow adequate time for four to six questions.
- All contestants will be asked identical questions. Such questions might include the following but will be determined by the judges:
  - What are your occupational objectives?
  - What do you like most about this occupation?
  - What are your hobbies?
  - What would you like to be doing five years from now? Ten years?
  - What two accomplishments have given you the most satisfaction?
  - What are your extracurricular activities?
  - How would you describe your ideal job?
  - What do you think determines a person's progress within a company?
  - What do you consider to be your outstanding job-related personal characteristics or strengths?
  - What qualifications and characteristics do you have that make you feel you'll succeed in your work?
- Upon completion of the interview, contestants are finished and may leave the holding area.
- Participants will be scored on:
  - Professional Appearance
  - Proper greeting, handshake, introduction, and closing.
  - Displayed poise, maturity, and positive attitude.
  - Answered questions completely with confidence.

- o Expressing him/herself clearly.
- o Displaying appropriate body language and eye contact.
- The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners will be determined by overall score.

Event Code(s):

Event Codes (EC)	Category	Event Type
PO-903	Job Interview	IND - Individual

Contact:

David Rath phone: 865.354.3000 ext. 4333 or email rathd@roanestate.edu

Creative Writing Division

Event Type/Rules:
- This is a pre-submission event due on Wednesday, March 11, 2026.
- All Creative Writing categories are IND - Individual Events, no group submissions.
- Each school is limited to three entries per pre-submitted event and two entries for day-of-performance events.
- All submissions need to be submitted electronically see directions below.
  - **Only instructors should send in submissions (submissions should not be sent in via individual students).**

Writing Submission Guidelines:
- Entries must be double-spaced, typed with size 12 of a standard font.
- Each individual entry should be its own document.
- Individual entries requiring multiple pages should have each page numbered.
- Each entry must have the following information on the top, right corner of the front page and each page thereafter. Any work not properly identified will not be judged or scored.

  Student Name: Jane Doe
  School Code: 21 (Number only, do not list school name)
  Event Code: NC-201

- Do not include anything in the entry that indicates in any way **or** discusses the nature of the original assignment or mentions the name of the school. It's a given that some entries are written as part of a school assignment.
- Entries limited to:
  - Poetry (25 lines or less)
  - Fiction (1500 words or less)
  - Non-Fiction (1500 words or less)

Judging:
- Judges selected by Roane State will judge all work according to the standards set on the appropriate score sheets. All judging is final. (Please be sure each work is submitted under the appropriate category.)
- Note that all entries will be scanned for AI usage; entries that incorporate AI-generated material will not be considered.

Submission:
All submissions will be submitted digitally through the Academic Festival Microsoft SharePoint.

File Naming:

Before submitting, rename your file as follows:

EC_LASTNAME_FIRSTNAME_SC_TITLEOFWORK.jpg

 For example: if **John Smith** from school code (SC) **71** is submitting a drawing (EC) **101** entitled "**Fanciful Dreams**" the file would be named as follows and uploaded into the SharePoint:

101_SMITH_JOHN_71_FANCIFULDREAMS.JPG

Creative Writing Division Acceptable Files and Naming Examples:

Creative Writing	201_SMITH_JOHN_71_FANCIFULDREAMS.PDF (or .DOCX or .TXT or .RTF)

Form and File Submission:

To upload your participant's submission, you will need to:
1. Fill out the Submission form for Pre-Judged Entries – Fill out form
   a. You do not need a Microsoft account to access the form.
2. On the final section of the form follow the link provided.
   a. It will ask for your name and file submission.
   b. This will upload your file to the Academic Festival SharePoint and be sent to the event coordinator.
   c. You will not be able to access or edit the file once it is submitted.

If you have any issues uploading a file, please contact Dr. Jessica Dalton-Carriger at dcarrigerjn@roanestate.edu

Event Code(s):

Event Codes (EC)	Category	Event Type	Description
NC-201	Poetry Traditional	IND-Individual	Lyric or narrative but having set rhyme and/or meter.
NC-202	Poetry: Free Verse	IND-Individual	With no rhyme and no regular meter.
NC-203	Fiction: Science Fiction/Fantasy	IND-Individual	Science Fiction - actual or potential scientific developments form part of the plot. Fantasy - creative use of fantastic and illusory characters and situations.
NC-204	Fiction: Realistic	IND-Individual	Literature which deals with that which exists in fact.

NC-205	Non-fiction: Personal Narrative	IND-Individual	An essay that relates to a personal event.
NC-206	Non-fiction: Literary Analysis	IND-Individual	An essay that explores a specific phenomenon within a work of fiction.

Contact:

Elizabeth Genovise at 865.354.3000 ext. 4337 or email at genoviseev@roanestate.edu.

Dance Division

Event Type/Rules:
- All Dace Events are day-of-festival events on Friday, March 27, 2026.
- Each Dance type has solo, duo, or group options.
    - Please read the guidelines and Event Codes sections carefully to choose the appropriate event.
    - Events are listed as FLEX or GRP.
    - Groups will need to submit a group registration form.
- This is a BOWL event; participants will be required to available for the entire festival due to performance scheduling.
    - Students will not be allowed to register for any other live day-of-festival events.

Note to Dance Sponsors about Music Selection:
- To help you determine song lyrics, we recommend using a couple of free apps. "Shazam" or "Soundhound" will identify the title and artist by playing a small portion of the song and can pull up the lyrics so you can read them while listening. No computer hookup required. Most smartphones and all iPads support these free apps.
- Check lyrics carefully and if in doubt what a phrase means, ask a teenager who isn't part of your dance team or contact the event coordinator. Lyrics often have double meanings.
- For music compilations – be sure to check all music within the compilation, not just the first one you hear.
- Roane State reserves the right to reject any music if it is deemed inappropriate.

Performance Guidelines:
- Total set-up time and performance should not exceed three minutes.
- The performance area is the size of half-court on a gym floor.
    - All performances are done on the gym floor.
    - No tap dancing, clogging or "River Dance" is allowed.
    - No building or tumbling is allowed.
- Performance times will be pre-assigned, and the time communicated to the high school sponsor through email.
- Performers and teams need to be prepared to perform at least 15 minutes in advance of their pre-assigned time in case competitions run ahead of schedule.
- We have adapted some UDA guidelines for choice of music, costuming, and dance movements to address school concerns about inappropriate music, costumes, and dance movements. Roane State reserves the right to stop any performance it deems is in violation of these guidelines. Performers will be disqualified from the competition and asked to leave the floor. Suggestive, offensive, or vulgar choreography, and/or music is inappropriate for family audiences and therefore lacks audience appeal. (See note at top of page for assistance in determining music.)

- Routine choreography should be appropriate and entertaining for all audience members. Vulgar or suggestive material is defined as any movement or choreography implying something improper or indecent, appearing offensive or sexual in content, and/or relaying lewd or profane gestures or implications. Inappropriate choreography, costuming, and/or music may affect the judges' overall impression and/or score of the routine.
    - Please make sure that all choreography is age appropriate.
- All costuming and makeup should be age appropriate and acceptable for family viewing.
    - All costume malfunctions resulting in team members being exposed are grounds for disqualification. Please make sure that you have several dress rehearsals prior to competition to work out any costume problems.
    - It is recommended that any hot pants or excessively short shorts have tights underneath.
    - Costumes other than cheerleader uniforms are preferred.
    - When dancers are standing at attention, all costumes/uniforms must cover the midriff area completely. The midriff includes the entire midriff section from the bra line down all the way around the body. Nude body liners are acceptable. All male dancers' costumes must include a shirt that is fastened; however it can be sleeveless. (Adapted from UDA Rules & Regulations) varsity.com/uda/
- Dressing areas are available on the gym floor level. Lockers are available in the gymnasium dressing rooms. Please bring a combination lock for locking up your clothes and valuables. (RSCC is not responsible for lost or stolen items.)

Judging:
- Entries will be judged for technical merit, interpretation and originality.

Music Submission:
Prior to the festival, all dancers/teams must:
- Submit an .mp3 or .wav file of the music to be used in their performance by Wednesday, March 11, 2026.

All submissions will be submitted digitally through the Academic Festival Microsoft SharePoint.

File Naming:

Before submitting, rename your file as follows:

EC_LASTNAME_FIRSTNAME_SC_TITLEOFWORK.jpg

 For example: if **John Smith** from school code (SC) **71** is submitting a drawing (EC) **101** entitled "**Fanciful Dreams**" the file would be named as follows and uploaded into the SharePoint:

101_SMITH_JOHN_71_FANCIFULDREAMS.JPG

Music Division Acceptable Files and Naming Examples:

Dance (music files only)	403_HARRIMAN_CHEERSQUAD_71_MUSICMIX.MP3 (or .WAV or .AIFF)

Form and File Submission:
To upload your participant's submission, you will need to:
1. Fill out the [Submission form for Pre-Judged Entries – Fill out form](#)
   a. You do not need a Microsoft account to access the form.
2. On the final section of the form follow the link provided.
   a. It will ask for your name and file submission.
   b. This will upload your file to the Academic Festival SharePoint and be sent to the event coordinator.
   c. You will not be able to access or edit the file once it is submitted.

If you have any issues uploading a file, please contact Dr. Jessica Dalton-Carriger at dcarrigerjn@roanestate.edu

Event Music:
- Music will be queued/played from the file submitted in advance.
- We will not accept new music on the day of the festival.
  o No CDs need to be brought with you.
  o However, performers must bring a copy of their music to the festival for backup purposes on a digital device that can be plugged into the sound system (ex. smart phone) or a USB Drive.
- If music entries are submitted and there is not a response from the dance competition coordinator within a week of the submission, it is the responsibility of the school/performer to call or email a follow up to inquire. Sometimes files are too large to be sent over email, and the email does not get delivered.

Event Code(s):

Event Codes (EC)	Category	Event Type
PD-401	Ballet – Solo, Duo, or Group	FLEX – Individual or Group BOWL Event
PD-402	Modern – Solo or Duo	FLEX – Individual or Group BOWL Event
PD-403	Modern – 3+ Group	GRP – Has to be a group of 3 people or more. BOWL Event
PD-404	Jazz – Solo, Duo, or Group	FLEX – Individual or Group BOWL Event

PD-405	Hip Hop – Solo or Duo	FLEX – Individual or Group BOWL Event
PD-406	Hip Hop – 3+ Group	GRP – Has to be a group of 3 people or more. BOWL Event

Contact:

Melody Kees at keesm@roanestate.edu or call and leave a detailed message at 865.354.3000, ext. 4387.

Film Division

Event Type/Rules:
- This a GRP – Group Event
  - Schools submitting groups must submit group registration forms.
- This is a pre-submission event due on Wednesday, March 11, 2026.
- One entry per student filmmaker (group leader). Students may participate in multiple projects but lead only one.
- Open to all high school students, regardless of grade level.

Film Guidelines:
- No filmmaking experience is necessary!
- This event is particularly suited for students in audio/video production, English, art, theatre, drama, music, and other creative disciplines.
- Original Work: Student filmmakers should develop, plan, record, and edit their own video projects.
  - Teachers/advisors may provide instruction, guidance, and suggestions but should not perform production tasks.
- Genre: No restrictions. Student filmmakers may choose any theme or style, including:
  - Original content
  - Remake of a known work
  - Spoof or satire
  - Experimental or artistic concepts
- Content Standards:
  - Avoid suggestive, offensive, lewd, profane, or vulgar language/actions.
  - Maintain appropriateness for a general audience.
  - Roles: Submissions may include any number of speaking or non-speaking roles. Students may work on videos alone or in teams of up to four people.
- Technical Specs:
  - Duration: 1–5 minutes
  - Format: MOV or MP4
  - Orientation: Horizontal or vertical
  - Recording devices: Smartphones, tablets, DSLRs, or video cameras
  - Editing tools: Free or paid software (e.g., Edits, ClipChamp, iMovie, CapCut)
  - Safety: Entrants are responsible for the safety and liability of all participants during filming and editing.
  - Ownership: Student filmmakers retain full ownership and control. Roane State will not share films publicly without permission.

Judging:
- Panel: Roane State professors and staff.
- Each submission will receive a total score, a score breakdown, and written feedback.

- Judging Criteria:
  - Technical Quality: Audio/video clarity, editing precision, ability to meet video length requirements.
  - Storytelling: Ability to tell a compelling story or convey a clear point of view.
  - Visual Composition: Framing, lighting, and overall aesthetic.
  - Performance Quality: Acting, voice delivery, or effective use of non-verbal elements.
  - Emotional Impact: Ability to engage or move the audience.
  - Overall Cohesion: How well all elements (sound, visuals, narrative) work together.

Submission:

Submission:

All submissions will be submitted digitally through the Academic Festival Microsoft SharePoint.

File Naming:

Before submitting, rename your file as follows:

EC_LASTNAME_FIRSTNAME_SC_TITLEOFWORK.jpg

For example: if **John Smith** from school code (SC) **71** is submitting a drawing (EC) **101** entitled "**Fanciful Dreams**" the file would be named as follows and uploaded into the SharePoint:

101_SMITH_JOHN_71_FANCIFULDREAMS.JPG

Film Division Acceptable Files and Naming Examples:

Film (videos)	070_SMITH_JOHN_71_CHAINREACTION .MOV (or .MP4 or .M4V)

Form and File Submission:

To upload your participant's submission, you will need to:
1. Fill out the Submission form for Pre-Judged Entries – Fill out form
   a. You do not need a Microsoft account to access the form.
2. On the final section of the form follow the link provided.
   a. It will ask for your name and file submission.
   b. This will upload your file to the Academic Festival SharePoint and be sent to the event coordinator.
   c. You will not be able to access or edit the file once it is submitted.

If you have any issues uploading a file, please contact Dr. Jessica Dalton-Carriger at dcarrigerjn@roanestate.edu

Event Code(s):

Event Codes (EC)	Category	Event Type
NF-070	Short Film	GRP – Group

Additional Opportunities:

Public Viewing: All submitted video projects will be available for viewing in a classroom on the day of the Academic Festival, March 27, 2026.

Roane State Film Festival: Students who enter the Academic Festival may choose to have their films automatically entered in for the Roane State Film Festival, featuring a public film screening and a live audience vote on Saturday, April 11, 2026, at 3 PM ET at the Princess Theatre, Harriman. Details: roanestate.edu/filmfestival

Contact:

Dr. Matt Waters at (865) 354-3000 ext. 4429 or watersmh@roanestate.edu

French Division

Event Type/Rules:
- NL-504 – NL-506, NL-510, and NL-511 are pre-submission events and are due on Wednesday, March 11, 2026.
  - NL-504- NL-506 are GRP – Group events and will require a group registration form.
  - NL-510 and NL-511 are FLEX Events and allow both individuals and groups to enter.
    - If submitting as a group, a group registration form is required.
- PL-501 – PL-503 and PL-507 – PL-509 are day-of-festival events held on Friday, March 27, 2026.
  - All day-of-festival French event are IND – Individual events and groups will not be allowed to participate.
  - Students will not be allowed to register for any other live day-of-festival events.

Description/Details:
Limits:
- Due to the size of this competition, schools are limited to a maximum of four entries per level.
  - One video counts as one entry.
- Both the French Food Videos and Francophone Travel Brochures events will accept both individual participants and groups not exceeding four members.

Eligibility:
- Native speakers of French are not eligible for these competitions.
- Students may enter multiple French competitions. On the day of the Academic Festival, the French 40-Word Dash and Translation competitions will be scheduled to allow participation in both in-person events at the appropriate level.

French Division Events:
French 40-Word Dash (Day of Festival Event March 27, 2026; Individual Event)
- Description: This is a timed writing event held in person on the day of the Academic Festival. Students have 10 minutes to write a descriptive passage of 35-45 words in French.
- Competitions are divided into three levels based on the current year of study:
  - Level A: First course of French
  - Level B: Second course of French
  - Level C: Third course or beyond
- Each level will have a different object or group of related objects as the focus of description, selected to match students' general proficiency.
- Examples of objects used in previous years' competitions include a colorful umbrella, a

spread of candies and chocolates, and a collection of items typically used for a day at the beach (e.g., a swimsuit, sunglasses, a towel, and a book).

- Students may choose to describe one item or write descriptively about the group of items.
- Students are encouraged to write what they know by using familiar vocabulary such as colors, shapes, and verbs rather than focusing on words they may not know in French. Students earn points for solid effort!
- Judging criteria:
  - Accuracy of French grammar
  - Correct spelling and punctuation
  - Creativity of description
  - Word count

Creative Videos (Pre-sumbission event, GRP – Group Event)

- Description: Students create original two-minute videos in French that creatively explore this year's theme of friends through any format, such as a skit, story, commercial, or music video.
- Competitions are divided into three levels based on the current year of study:
  - Level A: First course of French
  - Level B: Second course of French
  - Level C: Third course or beyond
- Each group may include up to four students with speaking roles. Additional individuals may appear in non-speaking background roles.
- Each group will produce an original video in French, no longer than two minutes, in any creative format (e.g., music video, commercial, skit, story).
- This year's creative video theme is friends.
  - Possible topics: friendship dynamics, caring for others, chosen families, challenges in friendships, similarities in friend groups, with fictional or true-life elements.
- Each group is limited to one video entry.
- Judging criteria:
  - Quality of spoken French (grammar and pronunciation)
  - Creativity of presentation
  - Audio clarity (voices must be clearly audible)
  - Videos may be recorded in one take or edited from multiple scenes. Horizontal or vertical orientation is acceptable.
  - Students may use any available recording and editing tools (e.g., smartphones, tablets, DSLRs; editing software such as iMovie, CapCut, Edits, ClipChamp).
- Prohibited content: Unnecessarily suggestive, offensive, lewd, profane, or vulgar language or actions.
- Safety: Entrants are responsible for the safety and liability of all participants during filming and editing.
- Ownership: Student filmmakers retain full ownership and control. Roane State will not share films publicly without permission.

- Group identification form required.
- Participants can view an example video here: https://youtu.be/ryn1DeXpUOU

Translation (Day of Festival Event March 27, 2026; Individual Event)

- Description: This is a writing event held in person on the day of the Academic Festival. Exercises are written translations from English to French and from French to English, along with French verb conjugation tasks.
- Competitions are divided into three levels based on the current year of study:
  - Level A: First course of French
  - Level B: Second course of French
  - Level C: Third course or beyond
- Exercises are written translations both from English to French and from French to English as well as French verb conjugations, selected to match students' general proficiency.
- Judging criteria:
  - Accuracy
  - Grammar
  - Spelling and punctuation
  - Synonyms and near translations will be evaluated holistically.

French Food Videos (Pre-sumbission event, FLEX Event – Individuals or Groups)

- Description: Students will select a dish from a French-speaking country or region, prepare it on video, and provide a short reflection on the experience.
- Both individuals and groups (max of 4) are allowed for this event.
  - If competing as a group a Group Registration Form is required.
- Requirements:
  - Choose a dish and recipe. Possible dishes: marzipan, flammekueche, croissants, fried plantains.
  - Gather ingredients and record the preparation process, including narration in English of key steps.
  - Record a brief reflection in English addressing:
    - Why you chose the dish
    - Would you recommend it
    - What you learned about the dish's cultural origin
    - What you learned from the project overall
- Judging criteria:
  - Creativity of presentation
  - Description of the food preparation process, including showing and explaining the steps involved
  - Thoughtfulness in responses to the required reflection questions
  - Audio clarity (voices must be clearly audible)
- Videos may be recorded in one take or edited from multiple scenes. Horizontal or vertical orientation is acceptable.
- Students may use any available recording and editing tools (e.g., smartphones, tablets, DSLRs; editing software such as iMovie, CapCut, Edits, ClipChamp).

- Students are responsible for ingredients, cooking tools, and safety precautions.
- Ownership: Student filmmakers retain full ownership and control. Roane State will not share films publicly without permission.

Francophone Travel Brochures (Pre-submission event, FLEX Event – Individuals or Groups)

- Description: Students will design travel brochures featuring their choice of two out of three destinations -- one in France, one in French-speaking Canada, and one in another Francophone region.
- Both individuals and groups (max of 4) are allowed for this event.
    - If competing as a group a Group Registration Form is required.
- Requirements for each destination brochure:
    - Include text and visual images about attractions, foods, cultural events, currency, climate, travel tips, and/or other information important to the region.
    - Assume the brochures are targeted to American tourists. Include helpful basic French phrases but rely on English for most of the descriptive text.
    - Each student or group will create two brochures selected from three categories:
        - A city or region in France, e.g., Marseille
        - A city or region in French-speaking Canada, e.g., Montreal
        - Another Francophone city, area, or nation, e.g., Vanuatu
- Judging criteria:
    - Creativity of each brochure, including attractiveness and cohesion of the overall design
    - Accuracy of information in each brochure
    - Effort shown in each brochure, including minimal (if any) use of AI tools
- Submissions may be digital (created on a computer, app, or website), hand drawn, or with elements of each.
- Students may use any available design tools, including Adobe Express, Canva, and Photoshop.

Submission:

All submissions will be submitted digitally through the Academic Festival Microsoft SharePoint.

File Naming:

Before submitting, rename your file as follows:

EC_LASTNAME_FIRSTNAME_SC_TITLEOFWORK.jpg

 For example: if **John Smith** from school code (SC) **71** is submitting a drawing (EC) **101** entitled "**Fanciful Dreams**" the file would be named as follows and uploaded into the SharePoint:

101_SMITH_JOHN_71_FANCIFULDREAMS.JPG

French Division Acceptable Files and Naming Examples:

| French (word files) | 510_SMITH_JOHN_71_FANCIFULDREAMS.PDF (or .DOCX or .TXT or .RTF) |
| French (videos) | 504_SMITH_JOHN_71_CHAINREACTION .MOV (or .MP4 or .M4V) |

Form and File Submission:

To upload your participant's submission, you will need to:
1. Fill out the [Submission form for Pre-Judged Entries – Fill out form](#)
   a. You do not need a Microsoft account to access the form.
2. On the final section of the form follow the link provided.
   a. It will ask for your name and file submission.
   b. This will upload your file to the Academic Festival SharePoint and be sent to the event coordinator.
   c. You will not be able to access or edit the file once it is submitted.

If you have any issues uploading a file, please contact Dr. Jessica Dalton-Carriger at dcarrigerjn@roanestate.edu

Event Code(s):

Event Codes (EC)	Category	Event Type
PL-501	French Word Dash Level A	IND – Individual
PL-502	French Word Dash Level B	IND – Individual
PL-503	French Word Dash Level C	IND – Individual
NL-504	Creative Video Level A	GRP – Group
NL-505	Creative Video Level B	GRP – Group
NL-506	Creative Video Level C	GRP – Group
PL-507	Translation Level A	IND – Individual
PL-508	Translation Level B	IND – Individual
PL-509	Translation Level C	IND – Individual
NL-510	French Food Videos	FLEX – Individual or Group
NL-511	Francophone Travel Brochures	FLEX – Individual or Group

Contact:

Dr. Matt Waters at (865) 354-3000, ext. 4429, or email watersmh@roanestate.edu.

Health Science Division

Medical Terminology Spelling Bee

Event Type/Rules:
- This is an IND – Individual event, groups will not be allowed to participate.
- This is a day-of-festival event held on Friday, March 27, 2026.
  - Students will not be allowed to register for any other live day-of-festival events.
  - This is also a BOWL event, and students are required to be available for the entire festival due to possible run-off rounds at the end.

Description/Details:
- The Medical Terminology spelling bee will have multiple rounds.
  - The first round will be an approximately forty-five-minute written test given to all prospective participants.
  - The second and subsequent rounds will be the oral spelling bee.
- Books and outside resources are not permitted for the written test or the oral round.
- All electronic devices, including phones and smart watches, are prohibited during both competition rounds.
- Schools may only register up to two students to compete in round one of the spelling bee.
- The highest twenty scoring contestants from round one will participate in the oral spelling bee.
- All contestants should check in at least 15 minutes before their round or risk disqualification.
- All rounds will follow the previous round.

Oral Spelling bee:
- The oral spelling bee is conducted in rounds. Each speller remaining in the spelling bee at the start of a round spells one word.   If the speller correctly spells their word, they will move on to the next round.
  - Pronouncers' role:
    - They will pronounce the medical term (terms may be built from word parts or may not be built from word parts).
  - Spellers' role:
    - Students should face the judges when spelling the term.
    - Students should repeat the medical term, spell the medical term, repeat the medical term again.
    - Students may request a definition of the medical term.
    - Students may request the medical term be repeated.

- Students may request the medical term be used in a sentence.
- If the speller misspells the term, they will be eliminated from the bee

Judging:

- The judge will determine whether words are spelled correctly.
  - The judge participates in the exchange of information between the speller and pronouncer if they feel clarification is needed.
  - The judge's decision is final.
- End of bee procedure:
  - If all spellers in a round misspell their word: If none of the spellers remaining in the spelling bee at the start of a round spells a word correctly, all remain in the competition and a new spelling round begins.
  - If only one speller in a round spells correctly: If only one speller spells correctly in a round, a new one-word spelling round begins and the speller is given an opportunity to spell an anticipated championship word. If the speller succeeds in correctly spelling the anticipated championship word in this one-word round, the speller is declared the champion.
  - If a speller misspells the anticipated word in a one-word round: A new spelling round begins with ALL the spellers who participated in the previous round. These spellers spell in their original order.

Event Code(s):

Event Codes (EC)	Category	Event Type
PH-060	Medical Terminology Spelling Bee	IND – Individual BOWL – Bowl Event

Contact:

April Insco, inscoam@roanestate.edu, 865-354-3000, ext. 4922.

History Division
History Jeopardy

Event Type/Rules:
- This is an IND – Individual Event, groups are not allowed to participate.
- Schools may only register up to three students to potentially compete in both rounds. Registration details are listed below.
- This is a day-of-festival event held on Friday, March 27, 2026.
  - Students will not be allowed to register for any other live day-of-festival events.
  - This is also a BOWL event, and students are required to be available for the entire festival due to possible run-off rounds at the end.

Description/Details:
Guidelines:
- All potential contestants must provide a cell phone number where they can be contacted on the day of the competition, in case one of the eighteen highest scoring contestants drops out.
- Round 1:
  - The first round will be an approximately forty-five-minute written test given to all prospective participants.
    - The highest eighteen scoring contestants from round one will be randomly assigned a time slot for their game.
- Round 2:
  - The second round will be the History Jeopardy competition between the eighteen contestants with the highest scores on the first round written test.
    - If a tie occurs in determining the contestants to participate, a tie test will be used. If either one of the first eighteen contestants does not return for their jeopardy round, then the contestant(s) with the next highest score(s) will participate in the bowl.
  - This round will consist of six, approximately fifteen-minute rounds, each with three contestants.
- All contestants must check in at least 15 minutes before their round or risk disqualification.
- If a contestant fails to check in 15 minutes before their game, an alternate will be notified via their provided cell phone number. If that alternate cannot be reached, another alternate chosen at random on the list will be notified. This will continue until an alternate player is established and present.
- All rounds will follow the previous round after a five-minute break.
- This game will function like Jeopardy, but without double jeopardy. Students will select clues from a variety of categories and must answer in the form of a question. Clues will vary in point value.

- The questions used may cover any aspect of World History, American History, or Tennessee and local history, from prehistory to the present. The difficulty of the questions will be at the level of college textbooks.
- Round Guidelines:
  - All rounds will be 15 minutes, with no breaks.
  - At the end of 15 minutes a round is completed and the contestant in the lead wins. The game will end after 15 minutes regardless of whether all questions have been asked and answered.
  - All contestants must wait for the question to be fully read before they can buzz in.
  - The person who triggers the buzzer first can answer the question and must do so within 5 seconds of the question being read.
  - If the person who buzzed in cannot answer the question the other contestants may attempt to answer.

Judging:

The three highest scoring contestants of the entire second round will be listed in order of their score as winners for this aspect of the Academic Festival. In the event of a tie among the top three contestants a final jeopardy round will determine the final order of the winners. Registration details:

Event Code(s):

Event Codes (EC)	Category	Event Type
PW-030	History Jeopardy	IND – Individual BOWL – Bowl Event

Contact:

Steven Carriger at 865.354.3000, ext. 4944 or email (preferred means of communication): carrigersp@roanestate.edu

Elizabeth Kitts at 865.354.3000, ext. 4227 or email (preferred means of communication): kittsea@roanestate.edu

Journalism Division

Event Type/Rules:
- All Journalism events are pre-submission events.
  - NJ-301 Yearbook
    - Digital submissions are due on Wednesday, March 11, 2026.
    - Mailed or drop-off submissions are due on Thursday, March 19, 2026.
  - NJ-302 – NJ-305 are due Wednesday, March 11, 2026.
- All Journalism Events are FLEX Events – both individuals and groups can submit entries.
- Individual entries should be limited to one per student, per category.
- Entries may be submitted by the journalism department rather than by an individual.
  - When a department enters, it should submit one issue of the school newspaper, yearbook, or magazine. The school is to register by its school name instead of as an individual.
  - If submitting as a journalism department a group registration form is required.
- Each school may submit a total of 3 entries per event.

Description/Details:
All entries must be submitted or received by Wednesday, March 11, 2026.
- Entries may have appeared in the school newspaper or other media outlet (student website, blog, etc.).
- Entries must be clipped/printed from the publication in which they originally appeared. Printouts from a website, blog, etc. are acceptable.
- Each article should be on a separate sheet.
- Each entry must have the following information on the back of each entry:
  - Student Name:
  - First Last (or school name if entering as such)
  - School Code: 21 (example number only, do not include school name)
  - Category Code: NJ-301 (example, codes are listed below)
  - Attach your entry in one of these formats: .doc, .docx, .rtf, .txt or pdf.
  - Any work not properly identified will not be judged or scored.

Judging:
Entries will be judged on creativity, format and organization, plus journalistic excellence of content.

Submission:
All submissions will be submitted digitally through the Academic Festival Microsoft SharePoint.

File Naming:

Before submitting, rename your file as follows:

EC_LASTNAME_FIRSTNAME_SC_TITLEOFWORK.jpg

 For example: if **John Smith** from school code (SC) **71** is submitting a drawing (EC) **101** entitled "**Fanciful Dreams**" the file would be named as follows and uploaded into the SharePoint:

101_SMITH_JOHN_71_FANCIFULDREAMS.JPG

Journalism Division Acceptable Files and Naming Examples:

Journalism	302_SMITH_JOHN_71_FANCIFULDREAMS.PDF (or .DOCX or .TXT or .RTF)

Form and File Submission:
To upload your participant's submission, you will need to:
1. Fill out the [Submission form for Pre-Judged Entries – Fill out form](#)
    a. You do not need a Microsoft account to access the form.
2. On the final section of the form follow the link provided.
    a. It will ask for your name and file submission.
    b. This will upload your file to the Academic Festival SharePoint and be sent to the event coordinator.
    c. You will not be able to access or edit the file once it is submitted.

If you have any issues uploading a file, please contact Dr. Jessica Dalton-Carriger at dcarrigerjn@roanestate.edu

Yearbook:
- May be submitted electronically or mailed (postmarked) or delivered to the Harriman Campus.
- Mail Option must have a postmark on or before March 19, 2026. Please address the envelope to: Raane State Community College, Marketing and Communication, Atten: Sarah Self, 276 Patton Lane, Harriman, TN 37748.
- If hand delivering, drop off at the Roane County Campus One Stop office between the hours of 8 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. ET and mark your entry "Deliver to Marketing & Communication, Atten: Sarah Self." All entries must be delivered by March 19, 2026.

Event Code(s):

Event Codes (EC)	Category	Event Type
NJ-301	Yearbook	FLEX – Individual or Group
NJ-302	News Story/Investigative News (no sports)	FLEX – Individual or Group
NJ-303	Feature Story (no sports)	FLEX – Individual or Group

NJ-304	Editorial	FLEX – Individual or Group
NJ-305	Sports/Sports Feature	FLEX – Individual or Group

Contact:

Sarah Self at selfs1@roanestate.edu or 865.882.4505

Mathematics/Physics Division
College Bowl

Event Type/Rules:
- This is a GRP – GROUP event.
    - A group registration form is required for this event.
- The College Bowl is limited to two teams per school.
- This is a day-of-festival event held on Friday, March 27, 2026.
    - Students will not be allowed to register for any other live day-of-festival events.
    - This is also a BOWL event, and students are required to be available for the entire festival due to possible run-off rounds at the end.

Description/Details:
- The College Bowl competition consists of two rounds.
    - The first round will be a 45-minute written test given to all teams.
    - The second round will be the College Bowl competition between the two teams with the highest scores on the first round written test.
    - If a tie occurs in determining the teams to participate in the bowl, a tie breaker problem will be used.
    - If either one of the first two place teams does not return for the bowl, then the team with the third highest score will participate in the bowl.
- A team must have no more than four members, and all members of the team must be present when the written test begins.
- The written test is a team test with one set of answers accepted at the end of the 45 minutes. Team members are permitted to use textbooks, reference books and non-symbolic logic calculators.
    - Specifically excluded: TI-89, TI-92 & TI-Nspire CAS.
- Students should bring pencils and paper with them to use in taking the written test.
- Questions for both rounds will be from mathematics and physics.
    - Questions may include historical or current events pertaining to mathematics and physics as well as definitions and problems.

Judging:
The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners will be based on final scores.

After the bowl, each team captain will receive a copy of the answers; however, answer sheets are not returned to participants. Jot down your answers if you wish to keep them.

Event Code(s):

Event Codes (EC)	Category	Event Type
PP-040	College Bowl	GRP – Group BOWL – Bowl Event

Contact:

Josephine Branstetter 865. 354.3000 ext. 4186 or branstetterje@roanestate.edu

Calculator Olympics

Event Type/Rules:
- This is an IND – Individual event, groups are not allowed to participate.
- Calculator Olympics is limited to three individuals per school.
- This is a day-of-festival event held on Friday, March 27, 2026.
  - Students will not be allowed to register for any other live day-of-festival events.

Description/Details:
- Calculators should be in the category of TI-83, TI-86 or TI-89; however, no calculator is banned on this test. Multiple calculators are allowed.
- Questions will test calculation ability including sine, cosine, log, matrix computation, statistical calculations, graphing, etc.
- The test will be a timed 30-minute test with answers placed in the blanks.

Judging:
Winners will be the top three students with the best score.

Event Code(s):

Event Codes (EC)	Category	Event Type
PP-041	Calculator Olympics	IND – Individual

Contact:
Jimmy Miller: millerje4@roanestate.edu or 865.354.3000, ext. 4908.

Music Division

Event Type/Rules:

- All music categories are pre-submission events due on Wednesday, March 11, 2026.
- NM-601 and NM-602 are IND – Individual events and will not allow group participation.
- NM-603 and NM-604 are GRP – Group events and will require a groups registration form, please see more details below for ensembles and choirs.
- A student or ensemble may not submit more than one entry in any category.

Description/Details:

- Groups are required to submit a Group Registration form.
  - Larger ensembles need only register the name of their group on the Pre-Judged Submission Form and do not need to register individual members on the regular Academic Festival website
  - Individual names of soloists are included in print certificates
  - For ensembles and choirs, the name of the group submitted is included in print certificates
- Accompaniment (digital, mp3, CD, piano, guitar) is acceptable for all categories and does not make an ensemble when added to a soloist. (*If you use a live accompanist, you are not required to register them*)
- **Solos**
  - Create a video of your vocal or instrumental solo song performance.
    - A student may not submit more than one entry in any category
  - Videos must last 4 minutes or less (trimming to just the song is encouraged)
  - Submissions may be in any genre
  - Submissions may be with or without accompaniment
  - All submissions are unedited single takes and should include clear, complete. view of the performer (including accompanist) and clear uninterrupted sound.
  - Submissions are judged by Roane State Music Faculty on the musical quality of the performance.
  - Each submission receives a total score, score breakdown, and comments.
- **Ensembles**
  - Create a video of your vocal or instrumental ensemble song performance.
  - An ensemble may not submit more than one entry in any category
    - Videos must last 4 minutes or less (trimming to just the song is encouraged).
  - Submissions may be in any genre
  - Submissions may be with or without accompaniment
  - All submissions are unedited single takes and should include clear, complete. view of all performers (including accompanist) and clear uninterrupted sound.
  - Submissions are judged by Roane State Music Faculty on the musical quality of the performance.

       o   Each submission receives a total score, score breakdown, and comments.

Judging:

Each submission receives a total score, score breakdown, and comments. Judges will consider level of difficulty and appropriateness for the performer(s) skill level in addition to technical and artistic quality. The top three scorers will determine the winners.

Submission:

All submissions will be submitted digitally through the Academic Festival Microsoft SharePoint.

File Naming:

Before submitting, rename your file as follows:

EC_LASTNAME_FIRSTNAME_SC_TITLEOFWORK.jpg

  For example: if **John Smith** from school code (SC) **71** is submitting a drawing (EC) **101** entitled "**Fanciful Dreams**" the file would be named as follows and uploaded into the SharePoint:

101_SMITH_JOHN_71_FANCIFULDREAMS.JPG

Music Division Acceptable Files and Naming Examples:

Music (videos)	601_SMITH_JOHN_71_CHAINREACTION .MOV (or .MP4 or .M4V)
	or
	607_HARRIMAN_CHOIR_71_CHAINREACTION .MOV (or .MP4 or .M4V)

Form and File Submission:

To upload your participant's submission, you will need to:
1. Fill out the Submission form for Pre-Judged Entries – Fill out form
   a. You do not need a Microsoft account to access the form.
2. On the final section of the form follow the link provided.
   a. It will ask for your name and file submission.
   b. This will upload your file to the Academic Festival SharePoint and be sent to the event coordinator.
   c. You will not be able to access or edit the file once it is submitted.

If you have any issues uploading a file, please contact Dr. Jessica Dalton-Carriger at dcarrigerjn@roanestate.edu

Additional Opportunities:

LIVE Events on the day of the festival
- Jam Session - Bring your instrument (*No registration necessary*)
- Music Jeopardy (*No registration necessary*)

Event Code(s):

Event Codes (EC)	Category	Event Type
NM-601	Vocal Solo (any style)	IND – Individual
NM-602	Instrumental Solo (any style)	IND – Individual
NM-603	Vocal Ensemble (2 or more singers, not counting accompaniment)	GRP – Group
NM-604	Instrumental Ensemble (2 or players, not counting accompaniment)	GRP – Group

Contact:

Geol Greenlee at greenleega@roanestate.edu or 865.882.4580 or
Brenda Luggie at luggieb@roanestate.edu or 865.354.3000 ext. 4236

Philosophy Division

Event Type/Rules:
- This is an IND – Individual event and group participation is not allowed.
- This is a pre-submission event, all submissions are due Wednesday, March 11, 2026.
- Each school is limited to three entries per event.

Description/Details:
Non-fiction: Argumentative Essay is a researched, documented essay that supports a strong or sometimes controversial stand or thesis
- Entries limited to 1500 words or less.
- Entries must be TYPED
- Each entry must have the following information on the top, right corner of the front page and each page thereafter. Any work not properly identified will not be judged or scored.
  - Student Name: Jane Doe
  - School Code: 21 (Number only, **do not list school name**)
  - Event Code: NP-050
- Do not include anything in the entry that indicates in any way **or** discusses the nature of the original assignment **or** mentions the name of the school. It's a given that some entries are written as part of a school assignment.

Judging:
Judges selected by Roane State will judge all work according to the standards set on the appropriate score sheets. All judging is final.

Submission:
All submissions will be submitted digitally through the Academic Festival Microsoft SharePoint.

File Naming:

Before submitting, rename your file as follows:

EC_LASTNAME_FIRSTNAME_SC_TITLEOFWORK.jpg

 For example: if **John Smith** from school code (SC) **71** is submitting a drawing (EC) **101** entitled "**Fanciful Dreams**" the file would be named as follows and uploaded into the SharePoint:

101_SMITH_JOHN_71_FANCIFULDREAMS.JPG

Philosophy Division Acceptable Files and Naming Examples:

Philosophy	050_SMITH_JOHN_71_FANCIFULDREAMS.PDF (or .DOCX or .TXT or .RTF)

Form and File Submission:

To upload your participant's submission, you will need to:

1. Fill out the [Submission form for Pre-Judged Entries – Fill out form](#)
   a. You do not need a Microsoft account to access the form.
2. On the final section of the form follow the link provided.
   a. It will ask for your name and file submission.
   b. This will upload your file to the Academic Festival SharePoint and be sent to the event coordinator.
   c. You will not be able to access or edit the file once it is submitted.

If you have any issues uploading a file, please contact Dr. Jessica Dalton-Carriger at dcarrigerjn@roanestate.edu

Event Code(s):

Event Codes (EC)	Category	Event Code
NP-050	Non-fiction Argumentative Essay	IND – Individual

Contact:

Ted Stryk strykt@roanestate.edu or call 865.354.3000 x2243. If no one answers, please leave a detailed voicemail.

Science Division
Science Trivia Game

Event Type/Rules:
- This is a GRP – GROUP event.
    - A group registration form is required for this event.
- This event is limited to one team per school. Each team may have up to four players.
- This is a day-of-festival event held on Friday, March 27, 2026.
    - Students will not be allowed to register for any other live day-of-festival events.
    - This is also a BOWL event, and students are required to be available for the entire festival due to possible run-off rounds at the end.

Description/Details:
Trivia Overview:
- Twelve teams will compete in the Science Trivia Game. Registration will be on a first-come, first-served basis, i.e. if more than twelve teams register to compete, only the first twelve teams that registered will be allowed to compete.
- The twelve teams will compete simultaneously in a trivia-style game in which all teams write down and submit their answers to the questions at designated times throughout the game.
- The four rounds will be divided up into the following categories:
    - Chemistry
    - Biology
    - Physical sciences (excluding chemistry)
    - Potpourri (a mixture of all sciences)
- All rounds will follow the previous round as quickly as possible.
- The difficulty of the questions will be at the level of introductory college textbooks.

Trivia Guidelines:
- Each team will be given an answer sheet for each subject round.
- Each round will be 15 minutes. No breaks will be allowed.
- Each round will consist of 10 questions with approximately one minute between each question.
    - Questions will be read two times only.
- After a question is read, a team records their answer on the subject answer sheet. A team may discuss/change answers during a given round if needed prior to submitting the sheet to game administrators.
- At the end of the 15-minute round, each team will turn in their subject answer sheet for that round, and points will be tallied for that round (1 point per correct answer.) There is no penalty for wrong answers.
- These steps will be repeated for each of the four subject rounds.
- At the end of the four rounds, a "Final Trivia Question" will be given in which all teams

will be given the opportunity to make a point wager (from zero to their total point earnings). The wagers will be submitted to the game administrators. The final question will be read, and teams will have 90 seconds to submit their answer.

- If a team has zero points at the end of four rounds the team will not be able to participate in the Final Trivia Question and is eliminated from the competition.
- Following the final question/answer submissions, points will be determined. If a team answers incorrectly, their wager will be deducted from their total points. If they answer correctly, their wager will be added to their total points.
- In the event of a tie a five-question short answer tiebreaker quiz will be given (three minutes to complete). The team with the best score on the tiebreaker wins.
- USE OF PHONEs OR SMART WATCHES (or any other aid) IS PROHIBITED. If these are seen at a team's table, they will automatically be disqualified.

Judging:
The team with the highest score is the winner (second and third place will be awarded as well.)

Event Code(s):

Event Codes (EC)	Category	Event Type
PB-801	The Science Trivia Game	GRP – Group BOWL – Bowl Event

Contact:
Katie Wibking at 865.354.3000, ext. 5413 or email (preferred means of communication): wibkingkr@roanestate.edu
Athena Baranowski at 865.354.3000, ext. 4235 or email (preferred means of communication): baranowskiam@roanestate.edu

Spanish Division

Event Type/Rules:

- All Spanish Division events are GRP – Group Events.
    - A group registration form is required for every group.
    - Due to the size of the festival, schools are limited to a maximum of two Spanish Bowl teams per level, and a total of four entries per level in all events. (One video counts as one entry).
- NL-518 – NL-520 are pre-submission events and are due by Wednesday, March 11, 2026.
- PL-512 – PL-514 are day-of-festival events held on Friday, March 27, 2026.
    - Students will not be allowed to register for any other live day-of-festival events.
    - These are also BOWL events, and students are required to be available for the entire festival due to possible run-off rounds at the end.

Description/Details:

- Native Spanish speakers are not eligible to compete in Bowl levels I or II.
- Native Spanish speakers must be identified during the competition. Failure to identify native speakers may disqualify the student or group from the competition.

Spanish Bowl:

- Trivia-style competition over Spanish grammar, vocabulary, geography, and culture.
- Students will compete in teams of four.
- Competition will be in three groups according to current year of study:
    - Level A (currently taking Spanish I)
    - Level B (currently taking Spanish II)
    - Level C (currently taking Spanish III, IV, or beyond)
- Competitions will be match-by-match, tournament-style, as participation numbers permit.

Spanish Creative Video:

- Creative Video will need to be submitted by Wednesday, March 11, 2026.
- Competition will be in three groups according to current year of study:
    - Level A (currently taking Spanish I)
    - Level B (currently taking Spanish II)
    - Level C (currently taking Spanish III, IV, or beyond).
- Students may participate in groups of up to four speaking roles apiece.
- Each group will produce an original, creative video of two minutes maximum, in Spanish, presented in a format of students' choosing, such as but not limited to a commercial, a show-and-tell, a prepared story, or a skit.
    - The topic is the Environment and Our Future: Local environmental issues, personal eco-habits, climate anxiety, community activism, imagined future worlds, generational perspectives. Content may be fictional or non-fictional.
- Each group is limited to one video entry.
- Suggestive, offensive, lewd, profane or vulgar language and/or actions are inappropriate for this competition, and videos in violation will be disqualified.

Judging:

- Bowl events will be judged by overall points, and the top three scoring groups will win.
- The creative videos will be judged on the quantity and quality of Spanish spoken by all participants as well as the creativity put into the video.

Submission:

All submissions will be submitted digitally through the Academic Festival Microsoft SharePoint.

File Naming:

Before submitting, rename your file as follows:

EC_LASTNAME_FIRSTNAME_SC_TITLEOFWORK.jpg

 For example: if **John Smith** from school code (SC) **71** is submitting a drawing (EC) **101** entitled "**Fanciful Dreams**" the file would be named as follows and uploaded into the SharePoint:

101_SMITH_JOHN_71_FANCIFULDREAMS.JPG

Spanish Division Acceptable Files and Naming Examples:

Spanish (videos)	518_SMITH_JOHN_71_CHAINREACTION .MOV (or .MP4 or .M4V)

Form and File Submission:

To upload your participant's submission, you will need to:
1. Fill out the [Submission form for Pre-Judged Entries – Fill out form](#)
   a. You do not need a Microsoft account to access the form.
2. On the final section of the form follow the link provided.
   a. It will ask for your name and file submission.
   b. This will upload your file to the Academic Festival SharePoint and be sent to the event coordinator.
   c. You will not be able to access or edit the file once it is submitted.

If you have any issues uploading a file, please contact Dr. Jessica Dalton-Carriger at dcarrigerjn@roanestate.edu

Event Code(s):

Event Codes (EC)	Category	Event Type
PL-512	Spanish Bowl – Level A	GRP – Group BOWL – Bowl Event

PL-513	Spanish Bowl – Level B	GRP – Group BOWL – Bowl Event
PL-514	Spanish Bowl – Level C	GRP – Group BOWL – Bowl Event
NL-518	Spanish Creative Video – A	GRP – Group
NL-519	Spanish Creative Video – B	GRP – Group
NL-520	Spanish Creative Video - C	GRP – Group

Contact:

Rachel Denton: dentonra@roanestate.edu or 865-354-3000 ext. 5405

Speech & Theatre Division
Speech

Event Type/Rules:
- These events are IND – Individual events and groups are not allowed to participate.
- Due to the size of the competition, each school may only send 3 individuals for each competition.
    - We recommend that each school has a run-off and send their top three competitors.
    - Students may only participate in only one (1) Speech/Communication event or Acting/Theatre event.
- These are day-of-festival events held on Friday, March 27, 2026.
    - Students will not be allowed to register for any other live day-of-festival events.

Description/Details:
General Guidelines:
- All entries must be limited to 4 minutes.
    - Anything over 4 minutes will have a point deduction.
- Costumes are not permitted.
- Dual enrollment and Middle College students can participate in the competitions.

Persuasive Oratory:
- 3 Visual elements will need to be included in the speech.
    - These can include pictures, videos, or graphs/charts. We will have a computer and projector available in the classroom for you to use during the speech.
- 3 credible sources will need to be stated during your speech.
- You will need to bring a typed MLA works cited page that includes your 3 sources. This will be submitted to judges before the speech begins.
- A maximum of 4 cue cards (index cards) can be used during your speech.
- You will need to have a call to action included in the speech.
- Speech is limited to 4 minutes.

Storytelling: (TBD in January 2026)
- Students will need to find a non-fiction (Theme TBD) themed story to re-tell. Anything that keeps the audience on the edge of their seats wanting to hear more would be a great choice! There are a lot of books, movies, and documentaries that would possibly fit this topic.
- No visuals may be used.
- No cue cards may be used.
- There will be an emphasis on word choice/description and body language. However, this is not an acting competition.
- Your story will be limited to 4 minutes.

Judging:

We will judge on content and organization. Vocal elements such as tone, volume, rate, articulation, etc. and visual elements such as eye content, body language, poise, gestures, confidence, etc. will be considered as well.

Event Code(s):

Event Codes (EC)	Category	Event Type
PS-702	Oratory (persuasive)	IND – Individual
PS-703	Storytelling	IND – Individual

Contact:

Deborah Magill 865.354.3000 or email magilldr@roanestate.edu

Theatre

Event Type/Rules:
- There are IND – Individual and GRP – Group Acting options.
  - If competing in Dual Acting a group registration form is required.
- Due to the size of the competition, each school may only send 3 individuals for each competition.
  - We recommend that each school has a run-off and send their top three competitors.
  - Students may only participate in one (1) Speech/Communication event or Acting/Theatre event.
- These are day-of-festival events held on Friday, March 27, 2026.
  - Students will not be allowed to register for any other live day-of-festival events.

Description/Details:
General Guidelines:
- All entries must be limited to 4 minutes. Anything over 4 minutes will have a point deduction.
- Costumes are not permitted.
- Material should be chosen from a published play.
- Dual enrollment and Middle College students can participate in the competitions.

Judging:
Acting competitors will be judged on the following:
- Choice of material - suitability to audience and performer
- Physical movement - body movement, gesture, expression
- Vocal technique - articulation, projection, expression, character development - interpretation and understanding of text
- Content and organization
- Vocal elements such as tone, volume, rate, articulation, etc. and visual elements such as eye content, body language, poise, gestures, confidence, etc. will be considered as well.

Event Code(s):

Event Codes (EC)	Category	Event Type
PS-701	Acting – Solo	IND – Individual
PS-704	Dual Acting	GRP – Group

Contact:
Valeria Roberson at 865.354.3000 ext. 4914 or e-mail: robersonv@roanestate.edu

Questions?

If you have any questions concerning the events please reach out to the individual event coordinators, there contact information is listed at the bottom of each event.

If you have other questions, please contact:
Dr. Cody Miller millersc2@roanestate.edu 865.354.3000 ext. 5312 or
Dr. Jessica Dalton-Carriger dcarrigerjn@roanestate.edu