**ARTWORK – Nebraska State German Convention**

Limit: 2 per school

Individual or group entry

Artwork from current school year only

Any topic related to German-speaking countries

Any size and form

3x5 card attached containing the following information:

Artwork (so that the entry is placed in the proper competition)

Student name(s)

School name (include whether middle or high school in case they are judged separately)

**Judges use the following criteria:** Total points possible = 100

Is the design original? 30 Is it artistic and well balanced? 20

Does it look professional? 20 How well does it represent a German topic? 30

**DIRECTED DIALOGUE – Levels I, II, III– NE German Convention**

Verbally answer 5 conversational questions. (6th question may also be asked.)

Possible themes for German I (all in present tense)

basic personal information family basic likes / dislikes

free time basic foods Wie findest du…?

school time weather

Possible themes for German II (conversational past included)

German I themes with more complex questions clothing

Was fr?, Wen?, Wem?, Warum? travel

Possible themes for German III (past, present, future)

German I and II themes with more complex questions + future plans, health

**Judges use the following criteria:** Total points possible = 100

pronunciation 5 points per question

degree of fluency 5 points per question

knowledge of the topic (vocabulary) 5 points per question

grammatical correctness 5 points per question

**DIRECTED DIALOGUE – Level IV – NE State German Convention**

Talk with the judges on a topic selected by the judges. (time limit – 2 minutes)

After answering the judges’ first question, you continue the discussion by answering additional questions on that topic. You may also ask questions.

Sample topic ideas include:

Free time / Lifestyle / Travel

School / Future plans

Personal information / Family / Relationships

**Judges use the following criteria:** Total points possible = 80

Pronunciation 10

Degree of fluency 25

apparent confidence with the language

degree of dependence on probing questions to keep the conversation going

Knowledge of topic (vocabulary) 25

Grammar and Structure 20

accuracy, level of difficulty of structures used

**INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC– Nebraska State German Convention**

One entry per school - Solo or group

Selection must be from a composer from the German-speaking world.

Music does not have to be memorized.

**Begin the presentation with a memorized introduction (2-3 lines) in German.**

Maximum time - 4 minutes for performance and 2 minutes for set up

Points deducted for going over the time limit.

If you go more than one minute over the time limit, you will be asked to stop in

order to be fair to the next competitor on the schedule.

**Judges use the following criteria:** Total points possible = 100

precision (accuracy, flow) 20 German introduction 10

tone (quality of sound) 10 interpretation (dynamics, style, feeling..) 30

selection (level of difficulty, suitability) 20

general effect (appearance, poise, method of presentation, time limit) 10

**KNOWLEDGE BOWL– Nebraska State German Convention**

**4 competition levels:** Level I, Level II, Level III, Level IV

**Team** 1-4 people - **all** in correct (or lower) level of study

(ex. for Level III– all in German III OR 3 from German III & 1 from German 2)

Level IV may include 4th and 5th year students

May **not** also be on another Knowledge Bowl team

**No** Fortgeschrittene

**Rules**

Two teams per round – Winning team moves to next round

Teams sit facing each other.

Each student has a buzzer.

The first student to buzz in has 10 seconds to begin the answer, without talking to others.

If the first team’s answer is not correct, one student from the other team may buzz in within 10

seconds to answer.

A correct answer scores one point. No points are deducted for incorrect answers.

Each round is 15 questions. All answers are in German, except questions asking for a

translation. Genders must be correct in levels 2 and above. Genders will not be counted

in German 1, except when the question is asking the gender.

In case of a tie, a tie-breaker round will be completed.

A pool of sample questions is available for on-line practice with your teacher

**MUSIC VIDEO – Nebraska State German Convention**

Required for each entry:

1 – Video **2 – paper copy of lyrics in German 3 – paper copy of English translation**

Must be a German language song

Must include the entire song on the video

Include **in the music video** itself:

Song title School name

Artist name Year video was made (must be current year)

Include on the **paper copy of German AND English lyrics**:

Music Video (so that the entry is placed in the proper competition)

School name and year

**German lyrics for the judges to read before watching the video**

**English translation (student, teacher or internet translation)** – not counted in scoring

Format USB flash drive

**Judges use the following criteria:** Total points possible = 70

theme (Communicates the message of the song? Text provided.) 20

organization (Flows well? Filming is good quality? Blocking of scenes well done?) 15

creativity (Interesting and well-chosen backgrounds? Appropriate costuming?) 15

editing quality (Well-edited? Shows different perspectives? Contains title, artist, school,

year? 20

**Entry will be disqualified if it is not a German song.**

A high number of **points** are **deducted** if the **lyrics and translation** are **not provided**. They are essential to the judges in interpreting your video.

**MUSIC VIDEO WILL NOT BE RETURNED.**  Please keep a copy for yourself.

**POETRY WRITING AND RECITATION– NE State German Convention**

Recite **by memory** a poem you have written

Beginning level = German I or II limit of 5 per school

Advanced level = German III, IV or V limit of 5 per school

Turn in two copies of the poem at the registration desk **upon arrival on convention day**

labeled with 4 items:

-student name -level of competition (Beginning, Advanced, Fortgeschrittene)

-school name -level of study (German I, II, III, IV or V)

Requirements for writing the poem:

-an original work by the student **You will sign a statement that in writing your poem you:**

**-got no help from a speaker of German (teacher, family, student of a higher level,…)**

**-did not use a translation site**

**-used a dictionary only to look up individual words**

-a title representing any topic (not necessarily the theme of the convention)

-format Beginning level: Formats include but not limited to: Elfchen, Haiku, Acrostic

Advanced level and Fortgeschrittene: -at least 12 lines in length – any format

Preparation for the recitation should include:

-saying the poem enough times to have memorized it and to provide a meaningful interpretation

-practicing pronunciation for accuracy

**Judges use the following criteria** Total points possible = 80

Recitation - Pronunciation (diction, enunciation, rhythm) 30

Interpretation / Presentation (emotion, feeling, mood, poise) 20

Written Poem 30

Originality (creative, original); Word choice (precise words, creates vivid images/emotions); Organization and grammar (spelling and grammar, effective rhythm and flow, topic is clear)

POETRY VIDEO INTERPRETATION NASG

Make a video by recording your own voice reciting a poem by a German author and creating

visuals on the video to represent the poem.

Limit: 3 students per school

Students of all levels will be judged together. Fortgeschrittene may participate.

Required for each entry:

--Video (on USB drive)

-include title and author of poem, and the year video was made (must be current year)

--Paper copy of poem in German, including title and author (German author)

-clearly label as **Poetry Video Interpretation**

-label with student name, school name, level of German study

**-**label with year video was made (must be current year)

**Judges use the following criteria:** Total points possible = 100

Recitation - Pronunciation (diction, enunciation, rhythm) 30

Interpretation (emotion, feeling, mood) 20

Video representation –

Communicates the message of the poem (well-chosen backgrounds) 35

Editing quality (well-edited, well-organized) 15

**Entry will be disqualified if it is not a German poem and if a copy of the poem is not provided.**

**POSTER– Nebraska State German Convention**

Limit: 2 per school

One piece (22x28) of flat poster board

**No** three-dimensional designs

Must contain at least 10 German words

Reflects the theme of the convention for this year – Please check with teacher for current theme.

3x5 card attached labeled with the following information:

Poster High School OR Poster Middle School (judged separately)

School name

Student name(s)

**Judges use the following criteria:** Total points possible = 100

Words written clearly and legibly in proper German? 30

Convention theme well-represented? Original design? 30

Artistic, well balanced, eye-catching and colorful design? 20

Proper size? 10

Looks professional? 10

**SKIT– Nebraska State German Convention**

One entry per school

Written by students, teacher or German-speaking author

Multiple level students may participate (**No native or Fortgeschrittene speakers**)

Lines must be memorized. Papers, books, etc., used as **props must contain no writing**.

Time limit, including set up time – 4-8 minutes (points deducted for going over or under)

**Suggestions for preparing**:

Practice on a stage if possible to work on sound level, etc. You will **NOT** be able to practice on

the stage before the competition on convention day.

**Judges use the following criteria:** Total points possible = 100

accuracy of vocabulary and grammar 20

selection (interesting, sufficiently difficult for level) 15

preparation / memorization (no scripts/reading from props) 15

blocking and movement (adequate use of stage, poise) 10

pronunciation (pronunciation, enunciation, volume, inflection) 20

overall effect (4-8 minute time limit including set up time,

left a lasting impression, costumes/props enhanced rather

than detracted, maintained mood and pace) 20

**Automatic 5 point deduction for each minute over time limit.**

**SPELLING – Nebraska State German Convention**

Two competition levels:

Beginning Level I and II limit 6 students

Advanced Level III and IV limit 6 students

Students from same school are not allowed to sit or stand next to each other.

You are eliminated when you spell a word incorrectly.

Final 6 students must remain in the room until the all winners have been determined.

The word will be said twice. You may also ask the judge to use the word in a sentence.

You have 10 seconds to begin spelling the word. (no writing allowed)

German alphabet must be used. For umlauts, say “a umlaut”, etc. You do not need to indicate

capital letters.

**Practice the German alphabet.**

Practice spelling aloud to someone the words from your vocabulary list, textbook, or dictionary. You are not allowed to write the words during the competition.

**THEME DISPLAY – Nebraska State German Convention**

one entry per school

Each school will receive one table (size to be sent out by host school) on which to place a display after arriving on convention day. **Although the display should not be larger than the table, it may be made with props to create a three-dimensional display.**

Label the **back** of the display with 3 items:

-Topic

-Name of school

-Name of students

Select a theme that relates to the theme of the convention – *Wunderbar together*

Possible themes include but are not limited to:

-history of German / US relationship -international study/scholarships -business / products / inventions -career opportunities US/Germany

-German heritage in US

-shared culture (customs, holidays, festivals, foods, sports, …)

**Judges use the following criteria:** Total points possible = 100

-appearance- is appealing to the eye and is catchy 35

-neat and assembled with care

-uses appropriate materials

-content -demonstrates thorough understanding of the topic 50

-demonstrates well thought out plan

-detailed and accurate facts

-visuals and props relate wholly to the topic and enhance the presentation

-mechanics -proper grammar, mechanics and spelling 15

**TORTE UND KUCHEN – Nebraska State German Convention**

Individual or group entry – 3 entries per school allowed (3 **different** cakes)

Choose one of the recipes in German provided to your teacher by the convention coordinator.

**Required**: (cakes without these required elements will not be judged)

--3 sentences in German about your cake-making experience, including school name and student

name(s) on this page

--a picture of student(s) making the cake

**DISPOSABLE CONTAINER ONLY** (up to 10 pts. deducted if non-disposable container used)

**Judges use the following criteria:** Total points possible = 100

taste 40 3 sentences in German 20

appearance/authenticity 30 picture of student(s) making cake 10

**T-SHIRT DESIGN – Nebraska State German Convention**

Design should identify the school (No identification cards required with the entry.)

Enter a shirt (not a paper design)

**Judges use the following criteria:** Total points possible = 60

Design is eye-catching 30

Design represents a German Club theme 15

Design represents the school 15

**VIDEO SKIT – 1st or 2nd Year – Nebraska State German Convention**

One 1st year and one 2nd year video skit per school

Written by students, teacher or German-speaking author

May be edited

**Lines must be memorized.**

-no props (books, papers, etc.) containing writing or scripts (points deducted for reading)

-signs with basic language may be used to enhance the skit

Time limit 3-5 minutes (points are deducted for going over or under time limit)

Format: USB flash drive labeled with the following information:

Video Skit 1 or Video Skit 2 (to make sure entry gets to proper judges)

School name

Year

**VIDEO SKIT WILL NOT BE RETURNED**

**Judges use the following criteria:** Total points possible = 100

accurate vocabulary and grammar 20

selection (interesting, sufficiently difficult) 15 preparation / memorization (no scripts, no obvious reading from props) 15

blocking and movement (poised, good use of set) 10

pronunciation (pronunciation, enunciation, audible, inflection) 20 overall effect (time limit of 3-5 minutes, lasting impression, set & maintain mood,

costumes/set enhanced rather than detracted, pace) 20

**VIDEO WERBUNG - Nebraska State German Convention**

One entry per school – individual or group entry – any level of German study

Video may include still shots and animation in addition to live taping

Length of video: 30 seconds to 1 minute

The video should promote German. Possible topics include, but are not limited to:

Deutsch macht Spaß! German in your school

Warum Deutsch? (business, travel, study,…) famous German Americans

German heritage in Nebraska Language similarities and cognates

cultural contributions to the U.S. by German immigrants

German cultural contributions to the world in art, music, sports, etc.

Format Your entry must be submitted in advance. Get details from your teacher.

Include on the end of your video: -Video Werbung

-School name and student name(s)

The target audience is a non-German speaker. English, German or a combination of languages may be used in the video. .

You may participate in both this competition and the Video Skit competition.

**All Video Werbung entries will be shown during the opening ceremony. Convention attendees will vote for the most effective video.**

**VOCAL MUSIC – Nebraska State German Convention**

One entry per school - Solo or group

Must be memorized and sung in German

With or without accompaniment (live or recorded).

**Give a copy of the lyrics for your song to the judges as you enter the room.**

(Label with student name(s) and school name.)

Say your name(s) and school before beginning your performance.

Maximum time: 4 minutes for performance and set up

(Points will be deducted for going over the time limit.)

**Judges use the following criteria:** Total points possible = 100

tone (quality, intonation) 30

interpretation (dynamics, style,...) 20

pronunciation (understandable and authentic) 30

general effect (maximum time of 4 minutes, spirit and interpretation) 20