



National Career Fair and Training Conference Competitions

National Society for MANRRS

2017 National Contest Request for Applications

APPLICATION DEADLINES:

Undergraduate, Graduate and General Contests: **January 31st, 2017**

Jr MANRRS Contests: **March 1st, 2017**

National Society for MANRRS

National Career Fair and Training Conference Student Competitions

Introduction

Since its inception, MANRRS has emphasized the importance of the need for strong, effective communication skills. MANRRS has coupled this with an equal commitment to help students learn how to process research information as a necessary component to professional and academic excellence. Through the Cluster Meetings and the National Career Fair and Training Conference, the National Society provides its members with opportunities to develop, refine and express their skills via networking activities and contests.

General Benefits to Participants

- Improved ability to read, understand and handle academic and research information.
- Improved levels of confidence in discussing information in public places, with peers and employers.
- Improved diction, word power, enunciation, critical thinking, and articulation skills.
- Improved ability to speak succinctly, conveying ideas effectively.
- Improved ability to engage in the discussion of important information.
- Development of important social/business skills -- communication courtesies, taking turns in conversation, disagreeing without being disagreeable, questioning, and probing the thoughts of others effectively.

Applications Deadline

All contestants must submit their application package **for the appropriate Contest by 11:59 pm Eastern Time** on January 31st 2017. Applications received after this deadline will not be considered for participation.

Submission

All entries must be submitted electronically at <http://info.manrrs.org/2017-contest-submission>.

Entries submitted to the wrong contest or division will be disqualified. Please read contest instructions carefully. If you have any questions, please contact the contest superintendent prior to the contest deadline.

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2017 National Contest Description

1. Conference Theme Contest

The MANRRS Executive Committee is seeking suggestions from its members for the MANRRS 2018 Conference theme. All MANRRS member is encouraged to enter this contest.

2. Chapter of the Year Award

The MANRRS Chapter of the Year Award (COYA) contest was designed to promote and encourage leadership development for the members of the local chapters. Such development should further the goals and objectives of the National Society, as well as promote professional growth among its members.

3. Undergraduate and Graduate Oral Research Contest

These sessions provide opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students to gain experience in orally presenting their research before an audience. The student's faculty research advisor must certify that the research is the work of the presenter. **Entries may not be duplicated and entered in the Poster Research Contest.**

4. Undergraduate and Graduate Research Poster Contest

This contest provides an opportunity for undergraduate and graduate students to gain experience in presenting their research in poster form before an audience. The student's faculty research advisor must certify that the research is the work of the presenter. Posters can be entered as "**Competitive**" or "**Noncompetitive.**" **Entries may not be duplicated and entered in the Oral Research Contest.**

5. National Written Essay Contest

This contest provides an opportunity for **undergraduate** students to gain experience in expressing themselves, through writing. Essays will be judged and the winners selected, **prior** to the National Contest.

6. National Public Speaking Contest

This contest provides an opportunity for **undergraduate** students to gain experience in expressing themselves orally before an audience.

7. Research Discussion Contest

This contest is for **undergraduate and graduate** students and it focuses on improving the students' interactive communication skills. Its aim is to prepare students to effectively communicate in the work place and in leadership and management positions.

8. Agriculture and Science Photography Contest

This contest is open to **individuals and chapters**. The purpose of the MANRRS Agriculture and Science Photography Contest is to provide MANRRS members and Chapters with the opportunity to express their love for agriculture and science in an artistic fashion.

9. Impromptu Public Speaking

This contest develops the ability of all MANRRS members to express himself or herself on a given subject without having prepared or rehearsed its content in advance. The 1st and 2nd place winners of each Regional competition will be qualified for the National competition

10. Business Pitch Contest

Have an idea for new business or non-profit you'd like to start? Your business doesn't have to exist just yet, but the idea & pitch have to relate to agriculture, natural resources and/or environmental businesses or non-profits. Think "Shark Tank" meets MANRRS!

11. Elevator Speech Contest

Active undergraduate and graduate members of MANRRS who attend the regional cluster are eligible to participate. Elevator speeches are limited to 60 seconds on a topic pre-established by the Contest Superintendent

2017 JR. MANRRS National Contests Description

Deadline for all Contests is March 1, 2017

All contestants must submit their information electronically online at <http://info.manrrs.org/2017-contest-submission> by **11:59 PM EST on March 1, 2017.**

1. Jr. MANRRS Impromptu Speaking Contest

The Jr. MANRRS Impromptu Public Speaking Contest is designed to develop the ability of our high school members to express themselves on a given subject without having prepared or rehearsed its content in advance. This gives the Jr. MANRRS members an opportunity to formulate their remarks for presentation in a very limited amount of time. The contest requires students to “think on their feet,” state their case quickly and persuasively, and to be able to answer relevant questions based upon their presentation.

2. Jr. MANRRS Research Poster Display

This contest provides an opportunity for **high school** students to gain experience in presenting their research in poster form before an audience. The student’s faculty research advisor must certify that the research is the work of the presenter.

3. Jr. MANRRS Written Essay Contest

This contest provides an opportunity for **high school** students to gain experience in expressing themselves, through writing. Essays will be judged and the winners selected, **prior** to the National Contest.

4. Jr. MANRRS Public Speaking Contest

This contest provides an opportunity for **high school** students to gain experience in expressing themselves orally before an audience.

Contest Application Procedure

1. A completed MANRRS Submission Form for Contests is required for each individual entry - <http://info.manrrs.org/2017-contest-submission>
2. Electronic submission is required for all contests, with the exception of the Impromptu Speaking and Elevator Speech Contests, which contestants pre-qualified at the regionals.
3. All entries must be RECEIVED by 11:59 PM EST **January 31, 2017**. Late entries will not be accepted. Participants will be notified of receipt of their items no later than February 4, 2017.
4. Presenters are required to be undergraduate or graduate student members and must be in attendance at the conference. Entrants' names must appear on the national register in the office of the membership chair by **January 31st**. No waiver of conference registration fees will be granted to participants. The student's chapter advisor or faculty research advisor must certify that the research is the work of the presenter.
5. The top ten finalists for the following contests will present at the National Conference competitively: Oral Research and Research Poster. Participants not in the top ten will have the option to present to present their workshop at the conference during the Research Symposium for training purposes.
6. **PLEASE FOLLOW THE ABSTRACT GUIDELINES FOR PREPARATION OF YOUR ABSTRACT.** Abstracts must be submitted electronically to the Contest Superintendent. All abstracts should be in Microsoft Word format. The Superintendent reserves the right to reject any submission if the abstract does not meet the established guidelines as shown by the sample abstract or fail to meet the minimum score required for competitive presentation. Abstracts and questions should be directed to Contest Superintendents for the appropriate Divisions.

MANRRS Abstract Guidelines

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARATION OF ABSTRACTS

1. Abstracts must be typed, with one-inch margins and single spacing except between title and authors and between the bodies of abstract. See attached sample abstract. Must be in Microsoft Word format.
2. Abstracts **MUST** be submitted via e-mail to the appropriate Contest Superintendent. For email submissions, please use the following format for the Subject line: **Contest Name-Division-Participant's name.**
3. Capitalize entire title as shown on the sample abstract.
4. Type speaker's initials and surname in capital letters. For all other authors, capitalize only the initials and the first letter of the surnames. Show current mailing address for speaker. Note the author presenting the paper by an asterisk (*) at the end of his/her full name. The College/University and location should be listed following the name. Skip one line before starting the text.
5. Abstract must be 300 words or **LESS** and must include:
 - a. *Introduction/statement of problem*
 - b. *Objective*
 - c. *Methodology*
 - d. *Results and Conclusion section that includes significant findings and implications.*The text should cite quantitative data from representative experiments.
6. Do not include graphs, charts, plots, tables, illustrations or references in your abstract.
7. Enter three keywords as indicated in the sample abstract. At least one of the keywords must be taken from the title of your paper.
8. Use standard format set forth for scientific publication journals.
9. A contest cover sheet must be faxed to the contest superintendent.

Sample Abstract

OFFICIAL ABSTRACT SAMPLE: 300 WORD ABSTRACT Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS)

CONSUMER PERCEPTIONS AND DEMAND FOR MUSCADINE GRAPES AS TABLE FRUIT: A SUPERMARKET STUDY

L. THEODORE and S. Leong, Center for Viticultural Sciences, Florida A & M University, Tallahassee, FL 32307

Among the different varieties of grapes grown in Florida, the muscadine grapes are the most popular among grape growers because of their resistance to diseases and pests. They also have a unique flavor and aroma that are not found in other kinds of grapes. Unfortunately, muscadine grapes also possess certain inherent disadvantages such as a thick skin and seeds that tend to discourage some consumers from buying them. A market study was conducted at three Winn Dixie Stores in 1995, to determine consumers' perceptions of muscadines as fresh fruit, and their willingness to purchase them at various retail prices. Three hundred and fifty three supermarket customers were randomly selected to participate in the study.

The survey revealed that about 50% of the 353 consumers surveyed had a favorable perception of the muscadine taste after eating the fruit. Thirty eight percent of Blacks and 29% of Whites liked the taste and flavor. By gender, 51% of males and 24% of females liked the taste after eating the fruit. Consumers' willingness or likelihood to purchase muscadine grapes was determined by using a logit function to estimate likelihood probabilities with respect to sex, race, age and household size. The projected probabilities showed that there is a relatively good fresh fruit market potential for muscadine grapes in the local supermarket stores.

KEY WORDS—Muscadines, Consumer Perception, Logit Analysis

*Abstract Source: Lucinda Theodore, First Place Winner of MANRRS 1996 Graduate Research Competition, Texas A & M University, College Station, Texas.

Theme Contest: MANRRS 2018 Conference

The MANRRS Executive Committee is soliciting your recommendations for the theme of the 2018, 33rd National Annual MANRRS Conference. Every MANRRS member is encouraged to enter this contest.

The guidelines and rules for submitting a theme are as follows:

1. All suggested themes should be related to the goals and objectives of MANRRS as the organization begins its next 30 years.
2. **A 500-word essay elaborating on what the theme means to the contestant and how does it fit the MANRRS mission, history and future needs to be submitted via e-mail when applying to this contest.**
3. Only one submission per member is allowed.
4. The MANRRS member that submits the winning theme will be awarded **\$200.00**.
5. All theme submissions and their accompanying essay must be RECEIVED by 11:59 PM EST on **January 31, 2017**.
6. All submissions should be submitted electronically through the MANRRS Contest Portal
7. Any questions regarding this contest should be directed to Ebony Webber at (404) 347-2975.

The theme for the 2018 conference will be announced at the 2017 national conference.

Chapter of the Year Award (COYA)

Presented by John Deere

General Description

The MANRRS Chapter of the Year Award (COYA) competition was designed to promote leadership development among local chapters. Such development should further the goals and objectives of the National Society as well as promote professional growth among local student members.

Requirements for Entry

Based on certification by the Membership Committee Chair, each chapter awarded "**Chapter of Excellence**" is eligible to submit an entry form for the COYA competition. A new Chapter is defined as a Chapter that has been active for two years or less since the issuance of the original charter and in "**Good Standing**" during the period of activity and at the time of submission of the COYA entry form.

Application Procedures

Report Chapter activities conducted from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016. Attach supporting documents as required.

Submit electronically vis the MANRRS Contest Portal by **January 31, 2017**. Late entries will not be accepted. Participants will be notified of receipt of their items by February 4, 2017.

Completed packets should be saved and submitted as a .pdf format.

Submission Link: <http://info.manrrs.org/2017-contest-submission>

Questions should be submitted to:

Ashley Holt

Graduate Student President

Mobile: 502-345-0419

manrrs.grad.pres@gmail.com

AWARDS

Five Regional Winners - \$200 and a certificate

National COYA Winner:

\$1,000, Trophy, and John Deere swag

Judging Points Guidelines

A. Introduction

MANRRS “Chapter-of-the-Year” Award (COYA) will be based on a points system. The COYA application will be divided into two categories: Club Activities and Involvement Report, and the Annual Report. The MANRRS Chapter of the Year Award (COYA) competition was designed to promote leadership development among local Chapters. Such development should further the goals and objectives of the National Society, as well as promote professional growth among local student members.

B. Requirements for Entry

Based on the certification by the Membership Committee Chair, each Chapter in “good standing”, as discussed in the Constitution, is eligible to submit an entry form for the COYA competition. A new Chapter is defined as a Chapter that has been active for three years or less, since the issuance of the original charter and in “good standing” during the period of activity and at the time of submission of the COYA entry form.

C. Application Procedures

- a. Complete the Contest Submission Form.
- b. Attach the supporting Annual Report that includes the Club Activities and Involvement Report.
- c. All entries must be RECEIVED, by January 31, 2017. Late entries will not be accepted. Participants will be notified of their participation at the National Contest Superintendent by February 28, 2017.

D. Regional

Preliminary round of judging for all COYA entries shall be based on a regional competition. One judging panel shall be formed and it will comprised of three to five judges. The Judging Panel will score the entries from all six Regions. Judging of the entries will be completed by February 24th. The Chapter with the highest score in each region will be designated the “Outstanding Chapter of the Region.” All competing Chapters will receive a letter announcing the Regional COYA winners.

E. National

The Annual Report, Club Activities and Involvement Report, and the Presentation/Interviews at the National Conference will determine the National COYA winner. The finalists will be comprised of the winners from the six regions with the three highest ranked scores. This will form the New COYA competition at the national level. The score from the presentation/interview will then be added to the regional scores to determine the overall COYA winner. Finalists will be contacted regarding the process of evaluation.

F. Reporting Dates

The dates for the activities shall be from January 1st to December 31st of the previous year. For example, the 2017 COYA will be based on the dates of January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016.

G. Club Activities and Involvement Report

The Club Activity and Involvement Report is the Chapter’s Annual Plan of Work and Calendar of Activities for the year. This report should be in chronological order and should list all activities, events, meetings that the club participated in or hosted. It can be in either list form or in calendar form.

Guidelines for Chapter of the Year Award Annual Report

A committee determined by the COYA Chair will judge the report. The Annual Reports for each club must follow these guidelines:

- 1- Contents of the Annual Report will be from January 1, 2016, to December 31, 2016.
- 2- The Annual Report will be limited to a maximum of 20-typed pages. This may include charts and pertinent pictures. Appendices with the Chapter's pictures, flyers, etc.
- 3- White background
- 4- Annual Report must be separate in a standard 8 ½" x 11" size in a **single .pdf file**.
- 5- Must include a cover page with the following information:
 - Chapter's Name
 - Region
 - Year of Annual Report
 - MANRRS Logo
- 6- All titles of sections must be in 14 point black font, bold, underlined.
- 7- All contents must be in 12 points black font.

Criteria for Judging Annual Report

Section 1 – Building Chapter Membership (10 points)

- Club organization – Chapter Officers
- Overview of recruitment activities
- Chart with membership by year in school and corresponding percentages (e.g. 20 freshman out of 100 members = 20%)
- Special awards for outstanding members
- Brief description of major club activities or events that define the club
- Overview of guest speakers who visited the club
- Brief summary of the program content and key points
- Number of people attending the general meetings
- Overview of communications, including newsletters, reports, and presentations about chapter activities to:
 - Student members
 - Faculty and college administrators
 - Industry and alumni

Section 2 – Leadership Development (15 points)

- Activities that promote and develop leadership among members.
- Activities that promote and develop leadership among officers.
- Activities or events that promote and develop leadership among the college and university.

Section 3 – Community Service (15 points)

- Participation in activities or events hosted by the organization.
- Participation in activities or events sponsored by the college, university, or community.

Section 4 – Promotion of the National Society (15 points)

- National Conference
- Regional Workshop
- Participation in National Offices

Section 5 – Fund Raising and Financial Management (10 points)

- Overview of fund raising activities
- Brief financial report of income, expenses, and balance

Section 6 – Organization/Creativity (10 points)

- Layout/Design/Presentation
- Clarity/Legibility
- Grammatically correct

Section 7 – Oral Presentation (25 points)

This section is to be determined by the club. It can include pictures of events, samples of newsletters, special articles written about the club, etc.; anything that you feel can help show or explain to the judges what your club is about. Pictures, flyers, etc. may be attached in the Appendix.

Awarding of Points

Determined by the Annual Report (75 points) and Oral Presentation/Interview (25 points). Points shall be awarded based on the following scale:

A. Annual Report - 75 points

- **Building Chapter Membership - 10 points**

Examples: Internet newsgroups, new students' night, activity fairs, etc.

1. Club Meetings - Clubs are expected to hold regular meetings throughout the year.
2. Executive Meetings - Clubs are expected to hold regular executive meetings.
3. Club Events - This category is to include any club events or activities that were hosted by the club. It could include social or professional events that the club sponsored or in which it was directly involved.
4. College Activities - These include events that were hosted by the University or College in which your Chapter participated.

- **Leadership Development-15 points**

Examples: Etiquette workshop, mentoring program, time management seminar, etc.

- **Community Service-15 points**

Examples: food drives, Adopt-A-Highway, volunteer host for the college, etc.

- **Promotion of the National Society-15 points**

Examples: chapter banquet, national conference, web pages, etc.

- **Fundraising and Financial Management-10 points**

Examples: fundraising events, grants, sponsorships, etc.

- **Annual Report Creativity-10 points**

B. Oral Presentation and Interview - (25 points)

Points will be awarded for the Presentation/Interview at the National Conference.

- Chapters that qualify to present at the National Conference will be given the opportunity to make a presentation and answer questions at the Conference. This score will be determined by the quality of the presentation, the originality of the presentation, its content, and the responses to the questions asked. The focus of the report should be on the accomplishments of the Chapter, the activities in which its members participated during the previous year, and how the Chapter plans to continue its success.
- The presentation will consist of a **10-minute** formal presentation and a **5-minute** question/answer session.

Undergraduate and Graduate Oral Research Contest

General Description

These sessions provide an opportunity for undergraduate and graduate students to gain experience and exposure before an audience, while highlighting their research.

The competition is subdivided into two divisions:

- Division I – Biological, Chemical, and Physical Sciences
- Division II – Education, Social Sciences, and Business

Requirements for Entry

Presenters are required to be undergraduate or graduate student members and must be in attendance at the conference. Entrants' names must appear on the national register in the office of the membership chair by December 31st. No waiver of conference registration fees will be granted to contest participants. The student's chapter advisor or faculty research advisor must certify that the research is the work of the presenter. Each presentation will be limited to 10 minutes. PLEASE FOLLOW THE GUIDELINES FOR PREPARATION OF YOUR ABSTRACT. A completed MANRRS Contest Submission Form must accompany your Abstract. Abstract must be submitted electronically to the Contest Superintendent by the deadline. All abstracts should be in Microsoft Word format. The Superintendent reserves the right to reject a submission if it does not meet the established guidelines as shown by the sample abstract.

Application Procedures

All entries must be received by 11:59 PM EST on January 31st. Participants will be notified by February 4th of the acceptance of their abstract. Contestants are asked to be familiar with their equipment and usage. A penalty (deduction of three points) will be imposed on those who do not know how to use their equipment properly. Detailed application procedures are attached.

Submission Link: <http://info.manrrs.org/2017-contest-submission>

Awards

1st Place - \$300; 2nd Place - \$200; 3rd Place - \$100

Abstracts and questions shall be directed to Contest Superintendents for the appropriate Division.

CONTEST JUDGES	
<p>Undergraduate Division I - Biological, Chemical, and Physical Sciences</p> <p>Candiss Williams, Ph.D. USDA NRCS Phone: (402) 309-5264 Email: cwilliam78@gmail.com</p>	<p>Undergraduate Division II - Education, Social Sciences, and Business</p> <p>Lorraine Weatherspoon, Ph.D. Michigan State University Phone: (517) 355-8474, ext. 136 Email: weathe43@anr.msu.edu</p>
<p>Graduate Division I - Biological, Chemical, and Physical Sciences</p> <p>Jodi P. Williams, Ph.D. USDA - National Institute of Food & Agriculture Phone: (202) 720-6145 Email: jwilliams@nifa.usda.gov</p>	<p>Graduate Division II – Education, Social Sciences, and Business</p> <p>Natasha Saunders, M.S. University of Kentucky Phone: (859) 257-1637 Email: natasha.saunders@uky.edu</p>

Contest Evaluation

The abstract will be evaluated prior to selecting the finalists who will compete at the National Conference. The abstract provides a brief overview of your research in no more than 300 words, arranged in a single paragraph. The abstract should briefly state the research problem, how the problem was evaluated (methods), what was observed/found (results), and how the results are related to the research problem (discussion and conclusion). The abstract should stand on its own and NOT include citations or references within the abstract.

Abstracts submitted will be evaluated by at least three judges on the content of the abstract. The abstracts will be assigned 0-50 points based on:

- (10 pt.) Proper spelling, grammar, complete sentences, readability
- (10 pt.) Well written introduction
- (10 pt.) Methods are discussed
- (10 pt.) Results are summarized
- (10 pt.) Conclusions are presented

GRADING RUBRIC FOR RESEARCH ABSTRACT	6 - 10	1 - 5	0
	Fully meets all requirements and expectations	Partially meets requirements	Does not meet minimum requirements
<p>Mechanics. The abstract contains proper spelling, grammar, complete sentences, syntax, diction, and is readable.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contains no spelling, usage, grammar, or mechanics mistakes. • Defines all acronyms except the very common ones. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contains two or fewer mistakes in grammar, usage, spelling, or mechanics. • Contains one or more undefined acronym or key terms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contains three or more mistakes • Contains numerous undefined terms.
<p>Introduction. The abstract briefly states the subject of investigation purpose of project and its context.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gives concise, thorough introduction to provide context and background of project. • Includes statement of the problem being studied. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not define key terms or uses them incorrectly. • Does not give enough information or provides unclear context or background. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contains no introduction. • Starts with either methods or results.
<p>Methods. The abstract identifies how the problem was studied and defines all jargon or acronyms.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discusses what tests/procedures were used in an organized, clear, and concise manner. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discusses methods, but is disorganized, vague, or verbose, or uses lots of jargon. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contains no discussion of the method or procedure.
<p>Results. The abstract has provided an explanation of what was discovered or produced using concise, and specific detail.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refers and connects results to the methods. • Presents results independently of methods. • Gives a justification if no data/results are possible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merely states results [Qualitatively]. • If no results are possible, then only says "No results." 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gives no results or doesn't even mention results.
<p>Conclusion. The abstract interprets the results, evaluates what the results mean to the project, and defines the context within the field.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearly interprets results and concisely reflects the purpose of the investigation. • Suggests further work (if applicable). • Provides meaning and context to work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflects the purpose or only suggests further research without providing context. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides no conclusion.

Oral Research Presentation Rubric

Category	0-3	4-6	7-8	9-10	SCORE
Abstract	Unable to connect abstract to oral presentation.	Somewhat able to see connection of abstract to presentation. Abstract did not contain sufficient support of topic.	Abstract adequately presented purpose of study. More information would have been beneficial.	Abstract strongly presented the purpose of the study. Clearly supported topic presented and contained important points.	ABSTRACT
Content	Presentation did not convey development of argument, ideas, or point of research.	Development and support of ideas/argument difficult to follow and understand. Either points did not sufficiently relate to topic or presenter got off topic.	Sufficient development and support of ideas/argument. Most topic points shared were understood.	Strong material. Clear development and support of ideas/argument. Presenter clearly shared supporting points. Points appear to be accurate.	CONTENT
Preparedness	Not prepared.	Somewhat prepared, but clear that rehearsal was lacking.	Relatively prepared, but more rehearsal would have been beneficial.	Completely prepared and obviously rehearsed.	PREPAREDNESS
Visual Support	Did not use visual aid OR use of visual aid was ineffective.	Use of visual aid was not clearly effective or supportive of material presented.	Effectively utilized visual aid which improved presentation of material.	Utilized visual support that showed considerable work and greatly enhanced presentation.	VISUAL SUPPORT
Presentation	Presenter did not connect with audience. Speaking volume was monotone or audience unable to hear speaker clearly.	Adequate posture and eye contact. Speaking volume was inconsistent.	Presenter mostly had good posture and eye contact. Volume could probably be heard by most of audience.	Presenter was poised, confident, and established eye contact with audience. Speaking volume clearly loud enough to be heard by all.	PRESENTATION
TOTAL SCORES IN RIGHT COLUMN TO OBTAIN TOTAL SCORE (MAXIMUM TOTAL OF 50)					

Undergraduate and Graduate Research Poster Contest

General Description

This session provides an opportunity for graduate and undergraduate students to gain experience and exposure before an audience, while highlighting the research in which they are currently involved. The student's faculty Research Advisor must certify that the research is the work of the presenter. Posters can be entered as "Competitive" or "Non-Competitive." Entries cannot be duplicated and **also** entered in the Student Oral Research Contest.

The competition is subdivided into two divisions:

- Division I – Biological, Chemical, and Physical Sciences
- Division II – Education, Social Sciences, and Business

Requirements

Presenters are required to be graduate or undergraduate student members at the time of the conference and must be in attendance at the conference. Entrants' names must appear on the national membership register by **January 31, 2017**. There will be no waiver of conference registration fees for participants.

Ph.D. candidates will be allowed to compete competitively in the Poster Contest.

A Power Point of the poster's graphics will also need to be submitted the contest superintendent.

Application Procedures

The deadline for entries is **11:59 PM EST on January 31, 2017**. All entries must be submitted, as instructed on the Student Research Poster Contest Abstract Form. Selected contest participants will be notified by February 15, 2017.

Submission Link: <http://info.manrrs.org/2017-contest-submission>

Awards

1st Place - \$300; 2nd Place - \$200; 3rd Place - \$100

E-mail entries to:

Graduate Submissions

Colmore Christian, Ph.D.

MANRRS Forestry, Ecology and Wildlife Program

Alabama A&M University

Tel. (256) 372-4335

Email: colmore.christian@aamu.edu

Undergraduate Submissions

Marcus Coleman

MANRRS Forestry, Ecology and Wildlife Program

Southern University and A&M University

Tel. (225) 771-3922

Email: marcus_coleman@subr.edu

Research Poster Competition

The MANRRS research poster competition contains two divisions. All participants will have a designated time to be present their poster for attendees to learn more about their research:

- Undergraduate Symposium – all undergraduate students
- Graduate Symposium – all students pursuing master's and doctoral students

Each competition in each symposium is subdivided into two divisions:

- Division I – Biological, Chemical, and Physical Sciences
- Division II – Education, Social Sciences, and Business

General Description

The research poster competition provides an opportunity for undergraduate and graduate (master's and doctoral) students to highlight the research in which they are currently involved. The student's faculty research advisor must certify that the research is the work of the presenter. Entries may not be duplicated and entered in the Student Oral Research Contest.

Eligibility Requirements

Presenters are required to be student members of MANRRS by the competition submission deadline and must be in attendance at the conference. Entrants' names must appear on the national membership register by **January 31st**. There will be no waiver of conference registration fees for participants.

Competition/Symposium Guidelines

The graduate and undergraduate research poster competitions are judged separately by independent judges. After the submission deadline, abstracts in each competition are evaluated, and the top 10 abstracts in each competition proceed to the national competition. The national conference features two sections for research posters:

- **Competitive Division:**
Features the top 10 submitted abstracts/posters from the undergraduate and graduate competitions in each discipline division. Participants will be scheduled a time to present their information. Presenters in this division are eligible for cash prizes.
- **Non-Competitive Division:**
This symposium is designed for research poster submissions that do not make the top 10 in their respective competitions. This division provides a forum for students to get feedback from professionals and peers. Participants will be scheduled a time to present their information. Participants in this division are not eligible for cash prizes.

Abstract Requirements

Abstracts must be prepared according to the general guidelines for MANRRS abstract submissions. Specifically, research poster abstracts must meet the following criteria:

- The author presenting the paper must be denoted by an asterisk (*) at the end of his/her full name. The College/University and location should be listed following the name.
- Abstract text should cite quantitative data from representative experiments.
- Do not include graphs, charts, plots, tables, illustrations or references in the abstract.
- Enter three keywords to describe the project. At least one of the keywords must be taken from the title of the paper.
- Abstracts will be evaluated by a panel of judge sand scored on a 0-25 scale.

Poster Requirements

Posters must be prepared according to the following general guidelines:

- The posters are to be no larger than 3 feet high by 4 feet wide (36 x 48).
- The poster must be carefully planned, clear and concise. It should contain a brief statement of the purpose of the work, experimental methodology and design, and the major results of the findings and their implications.
- A label showing the title, authors and sponsoring institution must be positioned at the top of the poster. Lettering for the heading must be at least 1 inch in height. Lettering for authors, and sponsoring institution must be at least ¾ inch high. All other type must be at least ¼ inch high. The poster must be readable from a distance of 4 or more feet. The text should be printed from a laser printer, in a font size large enough to read from that distance. When preparing the poster, do not use free hand printed lettering.
- Numerals and letters, included in the figures and tables, must be at least ¼ inch high. The final size any figure or table will depend on the complexity of the information, but it should not be less than 8" x 10".
- Back lighted photographs, sound or projection equipment, freestanding displays are prohibited.

These requirements are for both the competitive and non-competitive divisions. Posters in the competitive division are scored on a 0-75 scale. Presenters DO NOT submit a copy of the poster with the initial submission.

Conference/Symposium Tips

- Presenters are assigned an ID number. At the conference symposium, posters are to be placed on the display stand corresponding to the presenter's ID number. Display stands are provided. DO NOT print the ID number on the actual poster.
- Presenters must provide their own materials, such as "dots" with adhesive on one side and Velcro on the other, stick pins or any other materials needed to set up their poster. The contest superintendent will NOT provide supplies.
- Presenters must be sure to have all their materials prepared before they leave home. The time allocated during the conference is not the appropriate time for preparing or designing the poster.
- Presenters should not stand directly in front of their poster, please allow viewing space for spectators and judges.
- Presenters should carry their poster using tubular packaging or a portfolio case. It is not a good idea to mail posters to the conference, to avoid potential damages to the poster.
- Presenters must come prepared with any relevant handouts they may wish to share (such as a copy of the poster printed on 8.5" x 11" paper) and business cards.
- Presenters must be prepared with a (brief) one and a half minute overview and discussion of their project.

Entry Information

After the submission deadline, all submissions will be reviewed by the contest superintendent, who reserves the right to reject any abstract submission. The main criteria that will be considered by the contest superintendent when reviewing abstracts for acceptance are:

1. Strict adherence to formatting guidelines
2. A minimum of two authors in the author block (a submission with one author will result in an automatic rejection)
3. Demonstration of a scientific problem (submissions must contain hypothesis and/or statement of problem, methods/methodology used, the results, and a conclusion)
4. Writing quality

Appeal of Decision

All decisions of the contest superintendent are final. There is no appeal process or opportunity to resubmit once an abstract is rejected. Therefore, students are encouraged to closely follow the instructions and view the sample abstract in the contest guidelines prior to submission. After the initial review, abstracts are then forwarded to the respective judges.

Submission Guidelines

The deadline for entries is **January 31st, 2017 at 11:59 pm EST**. The following information must be submitted via electronically to: <http://info.manrrs.org/2017-contest-submission>

- Poster Abstract in Microsoft in PDF Format

Submissions not submitted in these formats will not be accepted nor will late submissions be accepted. Errors in submission (i.e. submitted entry to wrong contest superintendent) or other excuses (i.e. my advisor was not available) are not valid. All entries must be submitted by the deadline.

Faxed or emailed submissions will NOT be accepted.

National Written Essay Contest

General Description

This contest provides an opportunity for students to gain experience in expressing themselves through writing. Essays will be judged and winners selected prior to the conference.

Requirements for Entry

The national essay contest will be open to undergraduate students who are current members of MANRRS through chapter membership or individual membership. Entrants' names must appear on the national register in the office of the membership chair by **January 31st**. A completed MANRRS Contest Submission Form must be submitted for each entry.

Application Procedures

All entries must be RECEIVED by 11:59 PM EST on **January 31, 2017**. Electronic submission is required. Detailed application procedures are attached. All entries must be submitted as instructed on the attached page. In addition, essays must be submitted via e-mail with the essay topic and contestant name on the subject line. Participants will be notified upon receipt of their packets by February 4th. Direct any questions to the contest superintendent.

Submission Link - <http://info.manrrs.org/2017-contest-submission>

Awards

1st Place - \$300; 2nd Place - \$200; 3rd Place - \$100

Superintendent

Sonia G. Morales Osegueda, Ph.D.
Extension Educator & Faculty
Agriculture/4-H Youth Development
WSU Cooperative Extension, King County
Phone: (206) 205-3133
E-mail: sgmorales@wsu.edu

Instructions for Essay Preparation

- Develop a clear, concise, and well-thought-out essay. All essays shall be written on the following topic: *“MANRRS: Sculpting Minds, Nurturing Hearts, and Creating Diverse Leaders”*
- Essays should be typewritten with one-inch margins and saved in Microsoft Word file. Essays must be RECEIVED by 11:59 PM EST **January 31, 2017.**
- Submit the Contest Submission Form for electronic submissions
- **Submission Link** - <http://info.manrrs.org/2017-contest-submission>
- To assure anonymity in reviewing, repeat only the title at the top of the first page. Number the pages of the essay. The body of the essay is limited to six (6) typewritten, double-spaced pages. The title page (cover sheet) and the references or endnotes pages are not included as one of the pages.
- Appropriate documentation must appear in the text citing ideas and statements, which are not the author's. Use one of the manuals below and indicate in the reference section which manual was used.
- A minimum of three references should be used.
- Essay format must conform to the American Psychological Association (APA) writing style. For more information, please consult the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association. Additionally, Purdue University’s writing center website has a freely available tips for APA writing (<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>)

Judging

Essays will be judged on the basis of style and content (opening and closing paragraphs, clarity of expression, logic, and references). A copy of the judge’s score sheet is enclosed. Three to five professionals shall serve as judges. All essays will be sent to judges for evaluation. Names of author (cover sheet) will be removed and each paper assigned a number. Judges will score contestants as noted in these guidelines and return score sheets to the Contest Superintendent for final ranking.

Scoring/Ranking

Each judge will rank the essays in numerical order (i.e., 1 = first place, 2 = second place...). In case of a tie in the ranking, the contestant who has the highest grand total shall be rated higher. The winners will be announced at the Awards Ceremony during the National Conference.

Judge's Score Sheet Sample

Contestant's Name:		
	Maximum Points	Points Received
Content Related to Topic	10	
Style	10	
Opening Paragraph	10	
Organization and Logic	30	
Clarity of Expression	30	
Use of References	10	
Total Points	100	
Rank of Contestant:		
Judge's Comments:		

Point System Explanation

1. Content related to topic includes the appropriateness of the essay's content to the topic selected and the extent to which the author addressed the topic selected. **(10 points)**
2. Style includes the adherence to the rules of style listed in the Rules for Essay Preparation and Submission. **(10 points)**
3. Opening paragraph includes how well the opening catches the attention of the reader and how it leads into the body of the essay. **(10 points)**
4. Organization and logic includes the organization of the content, unity of thought, logical development, language used, sentence structure, accomplishment of purpose/conclusions, and material related to subtopic. **(30 points)**
5. Clarity of expression includes the clarity and conciseness of writing; conveyance of thought and meaning; the extent to which the essay was interesting, understandable, convincing, enjoyable, and held the reader's attention. **(30 points)**
6. Use of references includes the importance and appropriateness of the references, suitability of the material used, and the accuracy of the statements included. **(10 points)**

National Public Speaking Contest

General Description

This session provides an opportunity for undergraduate students to gain experience in expressing themselves verbally before an audience.

Requirements for Entry

The national public speaking contest will be open to undergraduate students who are members of MANRRS through chapter or individual membership. Entrants' names must appear on the national register in the Executive Office by **January 31st**.

Applications Procedure

- A. All speeches must pertain to the 2017 conference theme: “*MANRRS: Sculpting Minds, Nurturing Hearts, and Creating Diverse Leaders.*” Complete and include an accurate bibliography to the Contest Superintendent with the submission of your speech. Entries must be RECEIVED by 11:59 PM EST on **January 31, 2017**. Electronic submission is required.
- B. For electronic submissions, **Submission Link** - <http://info.manrrs.org/2017-contest-submission>
- C. The electronic submission should include a Microsoft word version of the speech, contest coversheet, bibliography, and an electronic link to the uploaded video of your presentation.
- D. A completed contest submission form must accompany the entry.

Awards

1st Place - \$300; 2nd Place - \$200; 3rd Place - \$100

Superintendent

Wash A. Jones, Ph.D.
College of Agriculture and Human Sciences
Prairie View A & M University
Phone: 936-261-2538
E-mail: wajones@pvamu.edu

Guidelines for Video Submission of Speech

- Before the contest deadline date, be sure to set up a YouTube, Vimeo, etc. account. Make sure that you figure out how to upload videos to the site you choose.
- Send a link of the uploaded video to friends and family to make sure that it works.
- For your video, you'll need a stop watch, camera, and tripod.
- Keep the camera view wide enough to see your entire body and the equipment involved through the full range of motion.
- Some cameras only shoot for 12 minutes at a time. This should be sufficient enough to record the speech since the time limited to eight minutes. Make sure that your camera doesn't stop during the middle of your speech.
- Find someone who has experience with YouTube or Vimeo to help show you the ropes.
- HD video creates large files. You may need to compress them (not edit) to a smaller format for some internet sites.
- Please be sure to state your name and university before your speech.

**NOTE: Judges will meet prior to the contest to prepare and clarify the types of questions to be asked.*

Guidelines for Scoring

1. Time Limit

- Each speech shall be limited to **eight minutes**, and two minutes will be allotted for questions from the judges. The Contest Superintendent shall introduce the contestants by name and institution. The contestant will introduce the speech by title only. Contestants will be penalized 20 points per minute, or any fraction thereof, for speaking over 8 minutes. Time commences when the speaker begins talking. The total time allotted for the speech and questions shall not exceed 10 minutes.

2. Method of Selecting Winners:

- The judges will be furnished with copies of the contestants' manuscripts and electronic links to view and judge speeches, prior to the conference. The judges will score the essay based on content related to the topic, writing style, opening paragraph, organization and logic, clarity of expression, use of references and criteria outlined on the preliminary judging sheet regarding the video.
 - A committee will select six finalists from the pool of contestants
- Judges shall return their preliminary scores to the Contest Superintendent by **February 26, 2017**. Contestants will be notified, by **March 1, 2017** if they have qualified to compete at the National Training Conference and Career Fair.
- The final round of judging shall be conducted at the National Training Conference and Career Fair by professional members. Final round contestants will be judged solely on their presentation in the final round. Performance in the preliminary round will not be considered in determining the final winner of the contest.

- Attendance shall be open to the general body. No individual may enter or leave the room during a presentation.
- Contestants shall draw to determine the order of presentation. A contestant shall be permitted to use notes while speaking, but if this practice detracts from the effectiveness of the presentation, deductions in the score may be made.
- Contestants shall be seated outside of the room, until they are called upon to present.
- A timekeeper shall be designated to record the length of the presentation.
- Judges will score the contestants on the delivery of their speeches.
- Individuals from the contestants' schools will not be allowed to ask questions or judge the contestants. Judges from the same region as the contestants should not be allowed to score or ask questions of contestants from their region.
- Each contestant shall be scored based on his/her ability to respond to the questions and the perceived quality of the response.
- The winner will be invited to present his/her speech during the Gala Dinner.

3. Procedures for Scoring/Ranking of Contestants

- a. When all contestants have finished speaking, each judge, without consultation, will total the scores and provide a ranking (1 = first place, 2 = second place). The scores then will be given to the Contest Superintendent, who will consult the timekeepers' records, to determine the final ranking of the contestants. In the case of a tie, the contestant, who has the highest grand total, shall be rated higher.

MANRRS Public Speaking Contest
Preliminary Judge’s Score Sheet

Student’s Name: _____

Essay	Maximum Points	Points Received
Content Related to Topic	10	
Writing Style	10	
Opening Paragraph	10	
Organization & Logic	30	
Clarity of Expression	30	
Use of References	10	
Total Essay Points	100	
Video		
Power of Expression	30	
Voice	10	
Stage Presence	30	
General Effect	15	
Total Video Points	85	
Cumulative Points	185	
Rank of Contestant		
Judge’s Comments		

Point System for Public Speaking Contest

Essay

- **Content related to the topic:** Essay discussed the required topic and remained on topic (10 points)
- **Writing style:** Writing style was grammatically correct, consistent and flowed well (10 points)
- **Opening paragraph:** Captured and maintained the attention of the reader (10 points)
- **Organization and logic:** Essay was organized and logical (30 points)
- **Clarity of expression:** Ideas discussed were clear and made sense (30 points)
- **Use of references:** Essay included appropriate reference list or works cited list (10 points)

Video

- **Power of expression:** Fluency, emphasis, directness, sincerity, communicative ability, conveyance of thought and meaning (30 points)
- **Voice:** Quality, pitch, articulation, pronunciation, force (10 points)
- **Stage presence:** Personal appearance, poise and body posture, attitude, confidence, personality, and ease before the audience (30 points)
- **General Effect:** Extent to which the speech was interesting, understandable, convincing, pleasing, and held the attention of the audience and provided evidence of purpose (15 points)

Presentation at Conference

1. **Power of expression** includes: fluency, emphasis, directness, sincerity, communicative ability, conveyance of thought and meaning. **(30 points)**
2. **Voice** includes: quality, pitch, articulation, pronunciation, force. **(10 points)**
3. **Stage presence** includes: personal appearance, poise and body posture, attitude, confidence, personality, and ease before the audience. **(30 points)**
4. **General effect** includes: extent to which the speech was interesting, understandable, convincing, pleasing, and held the attention of the audience; and provided evidence of purpose. **(15 points)**
5. **Response to questions** includes: ability to answer the questions* related to the speech, which are asked **only** by the judges, indicating originality, familiarity with subject, and ability to think quickly. **(15 points)**

**NOTE: Judges will meet prior to the contest to prepare and clarify the types of questions to be asked.*

Guidelines for Presentation Scoring

I. Time Limit

- a. Each speech shall be limited to **eight minutes**. Contestants will be penalized 20 points per minute, or any fraction thereof, for speaking over 8 minutes. Time commences when the speaker begins talking.

II. Method of Selecting Winners:

- a. The judges will be furnished with copies of the contestants' manuscripts and electronic links
- b. View and judge speeches, prior to the conference. The judges will score the essay based on content related to the topic, writing style, opening paragraph, organization and logic, clarity of expression, use of references and criteria included on the preliminary judge's score sheet.
- c. A contestant shall be permitted to use notes while speaking, but if this practice detracts from the effectiveness of the presentation, deductions in the score may be made.
- d. Judges will score the contestants on the delivery of their speeches.

National Research Discussion Contest

General Description

Since its inception, MANRRS has emphasized the importance of the need for strong, effective communication skills. It has coupled this with an equal commitment to help students learn how to process research information as a necessary component to professional and academic excellence. Other conference activities--graduate and undergraduate oral research presentations, speech contests and poster presentations--give excellent individual opportunities to students.

The Research Discussion Contest is an interactive opportunity designed for helping students learn and demonstrate effective skills in an oral research-oriented discussion. This structured discussion is designed to integrate research content, knowledge of applied research methodologies, effective oral communication skills, critical thinking, and social-business courtesies--all skills that are important to careers in industry, higher education and the professions.

The national research discussion contest is open to undergraduate and graduate students who are members of MANRRS through chapter or individual membership. Entrants' names must appear on the national register in the office of the membership chair by **January 31st**.

Application Procedures

The general conference theme is: *"MANRRS: Sculpting Minds, Nurturing Hearts, and Creating Diverse Leaders"*

The contest theme is: "TBA"

Awards

1st Place - \$300; 2nd Place - \$200; 3rd Place - \$100

Contest Superintendent

VACANT

Phone: (404) 347-2975

Email: exec.office@manrrs.org

Contest Goals

1. To provide opportunity for graduate and undergraduate students to enhance and display oral communication skills in a friendly, competitive and structured discussion contest.
2. To encourage participants to learn more about current research issues and topics.
3. To encourage students to develop skills in presenting researched information in interactive settings.
4. The RESEARCH DISCUSSION CONTEST will involve five to 12 participants in a structured group activity; however, participants will be judged on individual performance.
5. Selected research material will be made available to the participants in advance. Discussion participants will be selected through an essay competition as determined by preliminary judges. Three (3) research discussion questions derived from the reading material will be provided to the contestants in advance. Students will prepare to discuss all three questions. Participants are free to do research and study other materials on the topic to better prepare them for discussing the topic.
6. One of the questions will be identified **at the start of the conference contest** as the topic to be discussed during the competition. The participants will discuss the topic of the day in the time allotted. Discussion period is 30 minutes. Individual performance will be judged against pre-determined criteria including: mastery of the subject matter, ability to remain focused, verbal communication skills, communication courtesies, diction, grammar, and interactive skills.

Benefits to Participants

- Improved ability to read, understand and handle academic and research information.
- Improved levels of confidence in discussing information in public places, with peers and employers.
- Improved diction, word power, enunciation, critical thinking, and articulation skills.
- Improved ability to speak succinctly, conveying ideas effectively.
- Improved ability to engage in the discussion of important information.
- Development of important social/business skills -- communication courtesies, taking turns in conversation, disagreeing without being disagreeable, questioning, probing the thoughts of others effectively.

Part 1: Instructions for Submitting Essays

Contest requirements for **Part 1** ask that participants **identify and interview** a research faculty member in their career field at their institution. The interview should be summarized in an essay encapsulating the answers to the following questions:

- Characterize research activities in this field.
- Identify the individual by name, title, institution, and contact information. This information is not to be included in the essay word count.
- **Briefly** describe the research area of the person that you have chosen to interview. Your weighted essay must include a summary of your interview discussion with this individual.
- Provide examples of how research in this field has been applied in education, industry, and/or outreach.
- Explain how the research activities of the person that you interviewed enhanced their career and/or professional activities.

Please prepare your essay as instructed below:

Essays must be typed. Use single spacing except between title and body of the paper. Each page should have a one-inch margin on all sides.

1. Capitalize entire title.
2. Essays must be a minimum of 750 words and no more than two (2) pages and must include:
 - a. An introductory paragraph
 - b. Body of the paper
 - c. Concluding paragraph.
3. Please do not include graphs, charts, plots, tables, illustrations, or references in your essay.
4. Include your first name, middle initial and surname and current mailing address at the end of the paper.
5. Your essay and contest cover sheet should be RECEIVED by 11:59 PM EST, **January 31, 2017.**

Part 1: Evaluation Criteria

Essays will be judged based on the following criteria:

Content as identified above:	(100 points) _____
Opening paragraph	(75 points) _____
Organization and logic	(100 points) _____
Clarity of expression	(50 points) _____
Closing paragraph	(75 points) _____.
Total Points	(400 points) _____

Rank of Contestant _____

Part 2: Competition

1. Preliminary judges will score the essays and select five (5) to twelve speakers from the pool of essay contestants. **Contest will only be held if five (5) or more applications are RECEIVED by the deadline.**
2. Judges will provide contestant names to Contest Superintendent by February 26, 2017.
3. Contestants will be notified via e-mail, by **March 1, 2017** followed by written confirmation informing them that they have been selected to compete at the National Training Conference and Career Fair. The packet will also include no more than three (3) research articles to be reviewed and three (3) questions for discussion.
4. Contestants will engage in a structured discussion of one of the questions based on the three research articles that have been sent to them. Contest participants are encouraged to read other related research-based material in preparation for the Contest. The contest will be held on Saturday morning.
5. Attendance will be open to the general body of conference attendees.
6. Contestants are permitted to make notes during the contest but are not permitted to use prepared notes or references while participating in the contest.
7. Contestants will be seated together during the contest.
8. Contest volunteers include timekeeper, judges, and a moderator.

Part 2: Scoring/Ranking of National Contestants

At the conclusion of the contest, the judges will, without consultation, individually total their scores and then consult with each other to arrive at first, second and third place winners.

Contestant Rating Sheet

Individual Summary

PARTICIPANT'S NAME _____

		<p>TOPIC:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Superior--- 5; Excellent---4; Good---3; Fair---2;Poor---1</p>			
		<p>(1) DEFINITION OF TOPIC OR PROBLEM: Importance, causes, effects, relevancy of problem</p>			
		<p>(2) ANALYSIS OF TOPIC OR PROBLEM: Does contestant attempt to identify problem causes and remain on topic? Knowledge, extent and accuracy of facts. Data were interpreted properly.</p>			
		<p>(3) PRESENTATION OF RESEARCH MATERIAL AND PROBLEM SOLVING: Ability of contestant to present and discuss information in a logical flow and begin to move toward problem solving approaches or increased understanding of the problem.</p>			
		<p>(4) DELIVERY: Voice quality, projection, clear enunciation, friendly and interactive, desirable sentence structure and vocabulary.</p>			
		<p>(5) COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE: Listening, asking pertinent questions, airing all points of view, securing major agreement, minimizing major differences, respect for other participants.</p>			
		<p>(6) TOTAL EFFECTIVENESS: A general evaluation of overall problem-solving performance by the contestant.</p>			
		<p>(7) QUALITY OF RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE: Knowledge, relevance, confidence, and interactive ability.</p>			
		<p>(8) TOTAL: Total score for each contestant is to be tabulated by the judge. Any tie scores are to be broken by the judge.</p>			
		RANK			

COMMENTS: Briefly summarize strengths and opportunities for improvements.

Agriculture and Science Photography Contest

General Description

The purpose of the MANRRS Agriculture and Science Photography Contest is to provide MANRRS members and Chapters with the opportunity to express their love for agriculture and science in an artistic fashion. The Contest will also allow for individuals and Chapters to compete at the National level in a friendly and competitive atmosphere for all to enjoy.

Requirements for Entry

- This Contest is open to the following:
 - MANRRS Graduate, Undergraduate and Junior. MANRRS members and MANRRS Chapters
 - Students and Chapters must be nationally registered
 - Chapters must have submitted the proper documentation to qualify as a *Chapter of Excellence*.
 - Only one entry per MANRRS Chapter may be submitted in a given year.
 - Only one entry per MANRRS member may be submitted in a given year.
 - Exception: If a student has submitted an entry as a part of his/her Chapter's submission, he/she is still eligible to submit a photo as an individual student member for that given year.
 - A one-page essay elaborating on the art piece's inspiration and meaning as well as how does it fit the MANRRS mission, history and future needs to be submitted via e-mail when applying to this contest.

Application Procedures

- All photographs, Submission Contest form, and essay **MUST** be submitted electronically to **Submission Link** - <http://info.manrrs.org/2017-contest-submission> no later than January 31, 2017 at 11:59pm EST.
 - **Note: Photographs submitted through email will NOT be accepted.**
- Photographs must be in one of the following formats:
 - **.jpeg .jpg .pdf or .gif**
- All photographs submitted must be the work of the individual MANRRS member or of the Chapter entering the Contest. Plagiarism is prohibited and violations of any copyright laws will result in disqualification from the contest.
- One-page essay should be written in 12-point font, single spacing and 1 inch margins.

Deadline

- All entries (photograph and entry form) must be received by **January 31, 2017 at 11:59 pm EST**.
- A complete entry includes the following material/information:
 - Photograph for submission in the proper format ([.jpeg .jpg .pdf or .gif](#))
 - Signed/initialed photo release information
 - Complete general entry form

Awards

- The overall first place **individual winner** will have his/her winning photograph published in the MANRRS 32nd Annual Career Fair and Training Conference Program
- The overall first place **Chapter winner** will have their winning photograph published in the MANRRS 32nd Annual Career Fair and Training Conference Program.
- The first and second runner up photograph will be on the MANRRS website. Winners shall be notified at least two weeks prior to the 32nd Annual Career Fair and Training Conference.
- Certificates of excellence will be provided to the winners at the conference. No prize transfer, assignment, or substitution by winners permitted.

Photograph Requirements & Guidelines

- All photographs entered must be the work of the individual MANRRS student or the MANRRS Chapter submitting the entry.
- Photographs must be submitted under one of the following categories/themes:
 - **Category A: “MANRRS: Sculpting Minds, Nurturing Hearts and Growing Diverse Leaders!”**
(2017 Conference Theme)
 - **Category B: Changing the Face of Agriculture While Linking Hands Around the World (MANRRS Motto)**
 - **Category C: What is the meaning of MANRRS?**
- Photographs CANNOT be entered in more than one of the above categories.
- Photographs must be in one of the following formats:
 - [.jpeg .jpg .pdf or .gif](#)
- Photographs may be in color OR black-and-white. Photos may be of any **standard size** smaller than or equal to 8 ½ x 11.
- Entry prints may be made from negatives, slides, APS film or digital media.
- Photographs MUST be submitted as an attachment and not embedded in a document. They are NOT to be accompanied by any written work except for the MANRRS Agriculture and Science Photography Contest General Entry Form and Photo Release information.

Judging Criteria

- MANRRS professional members, sponsors, and advisory board members, not associated with any Photography Contest participants, will serve as judges for the MANRRS Agriculture and Science Photography Contest.
- While adhering to the rules that are provided in the document, it may be the first step for entry into the contest, there are many other factors that guide the judges in deciding which photos are worthy of awards. This criteria include:
 - **Relevancy to Category Topic in which photograph is submitted** - Is the photo an obvious illustration of the category in which it is entered?
 - **Composition/Arrangement/Quality of image** – If there are objects in the photograph, are the objects arranged in a meaningful, pleasing manner or are they "haphazard?" Did the photographer use the best angle or otherwise interesting perspective?
 - **Focus/Sharpness** - Is the object of the photograph in focus? Is the photograph in focus? If not in sharp focus, does it appear to be an intentional effect to enhance the image in some "artistic" way?
 - **Lighting** - Did the photographer use proper lighting of the subject matter? Do any extremes of darkness or brightness lend to or detract from the image content?
 - **Creativity** - Does the photographer show some creative thought or an original idea in the making of this image?

Additional information:

One suggested resource for learning more about taking quality and meaningful photographs is as follows:

Kodak.com's "Taking Great Pictures" site at: <http://www.kodak.com/US/en/nav/takingPics.shtml>

For questions, please contact the MANRRS Photography Contest chairs at the following email address: manrrsphotocontest@gmail.com

Impromptu Public Speaking Contest

General Description

The MANRRS Impromptu Public Speaking Contest is designed to develop the ability of all MANRRS members to express himself or herself on a given subject without having prepared or rehearsed its content in advance. This provides the MANRRS members an opportunity to gain public speaking skills and effective quick and critical thinking as they formulate their remarks for presentation in a very limited amount of time. The event requires students to think on their feet, state their case quickly and persuasively, and to be able to answer relevant questions from the audience and judges based upon their presentation.

Requirements for Entry

Participation is limited to members of MANRRS. Total number of participants will be limited at Regional Clusters to 10 participants on a first come, first serve basis. The sign-up will be determined by the pre-registration process, be sure to register early. The 1st and 2nd place winners of each Regional competition will be qualified for the National competition to be held during the MANRRS National Conference. The names will be forwarded to the National Office and to the Impromptu Superintendent. The same contest rules will be followed at the National Conference.

Tie Breaker

Judges will make sure that there will be a first and second place winner at the Regional Cluster and one winner at the national conference. In the event of a tie, the winner will be determined by drawing and answering an additional impromptu question. Aside from the judges, there will be an additional super delegate (a national officer or professional member) that can act as the deciding vote if the judges cannot come to a final decision. The super delegate must be in attendance for the second question.

Rules

1. Each contestant's written production will be the result of his/her own efforts. Facts and data may be secured from any source prior to the contest start.
2. Impromptu Public Speaking contestants will dress in a professional manner.
3. Violations of any of the rules will result in the disqualification of the contestant by the contest superintendent or representative.
4. Subjects
5. Contestants will draw to determine the order of speaking.
6. Contestants will be admitted to the preparation room at 10 minute intervals and given exactly 20 minutes for topic selection and preparation.
7. The selection of topics shall be held directly before the preparation time commences. The contestant will draw three topics relating to MANRRS and the industry of agriculture or its related sciences. After reading all three, the contestant will select one to compete with. There will be no repeat questions.
8. Topics should be specific and related to current issues pertaining to MANRRS and the industry of agriculture or its related sciences. They will be typed on cards or strips of paper. Topics will be generic in nature. All topics will be developed by the MANRRS President-Elect and provided to contest superintendents.
9. A national officer or preselected person (such as advisors from schools within the host region or other professional members) will monitor the preparation room to make sure that no use of unauthorized materials are being used by contestants.
10. Reference material that can be used includes printed material such as books, or magazines from the internet (cannot be notes or speeches prepared by the contestant or notes prepared by another person for the purpose of this contest). At each cluster or at the national conference a computer center or authorized set up computer(s) can be used during the 20-minute preparation period under supervision. In the event that a computer center is unavailable, a computer, tablet, or cellular device will be provided for your use. Collected quotes must be individually referenced. To be referenced by author, the name of the document or website in which the article appears, the publisher or website organization, and that date of publication or posting must be noted. A list of citations from the speech will be collected at the end of each speech.

- i. Shall be limited to five sources within the speech.
11. Each speech shall be the result of the contestant's own effort using approved reference material, which the contestant may bring to the preparation room. No other assistance may be provided. Uniform note cards will be provided to each contestant. Any notes for speaking must be made during the 20 minute preparation period. A watch may be used by the speaker to keep record of their time.
12. A list of all possible topics will be given to and reviewed by the judges prior to the beginning of the contest.

Time Limit

- Each speech shall not be less than two or more than four minutes with three minutes additional time allowed for related questions which shall be asked by the judges. The chairperson of the contest shall introduce the contestant by name and the contestant may introduce his/her speech by title only.
- Contestants are to be penalized one point per second on each judge's score sheet for being over four minutes or under two minutes. Time commences when the speaker begins talking. At the one, two, three and 3.5 minute mark the contestant will be given a warning card by the timekeeper.
- A timekeeper shall be designated who will record the time used by each contestant in delivering his/her speech, noting "under time" and "overtime," if any, for which deductions should be made.
- During the question phase, time will be called at exactly three minutes, whether or not the contestant is finished with their answer or a judge is asking a question.

Method of Selecting Winner

- Regional/cluster contests will be under the direction of the MANRRS Regional Vice Presidents and their advisors. They will designate an individual as contest Chairperson or act as contest Chairperson themselves if they cannot assign one.
- Contestants shall draw for places on the program. The program chairperson shall then introduce each speaker by name only in order of the drawing. A contestant will be permitted to use notes while speaking.
- Three competent and impartial persons will be selected to judge the contest.
- The judges will score each contestant upon the delivery of the production, using the score sheet provided.
- Each judge may formulate and ask questions. Questions shall pertain directly to the speaker's subject. Questions containing two or more parts or requiring a yes or no answer should be avoided. Judges will score each contestant on the ability to answer all questions asked by all judges. The full three minutes for questions should be used.
- When all contestants have finished speaking, each judge will total the score for each contestant. The timekeeper's record will be used in computing the final score for each contestant.
- Contestants shall be ranked in numerical order on the basis of final score to be determined by each judge without consultation with each other. The judges' total points for each contestant then shall be added and the winner will be the contestant with the most total points. Other placing shall be determined in the same manner.

Explanation of Score Sheet Points

- A. Knowledge of subject includes:
 1. Importance and appropriateness of the subject
 2. Suitability of the material used
 3. Accuracy of the statements included
 4. Evidence of purpose
- B. Organization of materials includes:
 1. Organization of the content
 2. Unity of thought
 3. Logical development
 4. Language used
 5. Sentence structure
 6. Accomplishment of purpose – conclusions

- C. Voice includes:
 - 1. Quality
 - 2. Pitch
 - 3. Articulation
 - 4. Pronunciation
 - 5. Force
- D. Stage presence includes:
 - 1. Personal appearance
 - 2. Poise and body posture
 - 3. Attitude
 - 4. Confidence
 - 5. Personality
 - 6. Ease before audience
- E. Power of expression includes:
 - 1. Fluency
 - 2. Emphasis
 - 3. Directness
 - 4. Sincerity
 - 5. Communicative ability
 - 6. Conveyance of thought and meaning
- F. General effect includes:
 - 1. Extent to which the speech was interesting, understandable, convincing, pleasing, and held attention.
 - 2. Responses to questions include the ability to answer the questions on the speech which are asked by the judges indicating: originality, familiarity with subject, and the ability to think quickly.
- G. In the event of a tie after the scores have been totaled the judges will meet in seclusion to pick an official winner. Aside from the judges, there will be an additional super delegate (a national officer or professional member) that can act as the deciding vote if the judges cannot come to a final decision.

IMPROMPTU PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST
Judge's Score Sheet

JUDGE'S SCORE SHEET: Name: _____

Cluster: _____ Date: _____

ITEMS TO BE SCORED		SPEAKERS:									
		#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	#8	#9	#10
A. Knowledge of Subject	20										
B. Organization of Material	10										
C. Power of Expression	20										
D. Voice	10										
E. Stage Presence	10										
F. General Effect	10										
G. Response to Questions	20										
TOTAL POINTS: 100											
LESS TIME 1 PT./ DEDUCTIONS SECOND											
TOTAL SCORE: (NET)											
RANKING:											

Pitch Competition—for Agriculture and Natural Resources Related Businesses

Session Description:

Have an idea for new business or non-profit you'd like to start? Then enter the MANRRS Pitch Competition! You will have 5 minutes onstage to describe your idea, and why you think it will change the world as we know it. Your business doesn't have to exist just yet, but the idea & pitch have to relate to agriculture, natural resources and/or environmental businesses or non-profits. Think "Shark Tank" meets MANRRS! But instead of asking for investment, our judges will award the top presenter in each section \$1,000 in prize money and a mentoring session with one of our distinguished judges.

Eligibility:

The pitch competition will have two sections

- a. Undergraduate who are members of MANRRS
- b. Graduate Students or Professionals who are members of MANRRS

**Applications may be submitted by individuals, or by teams of up to 4 people. However, only one person will present to the judges at the National Conference.

Confidentiality/Intellectual Property:

Finalists will be presenting their ideas in a session open to conference attendees. Applicants should not submit confidential or proprietary information (such as computer code, or invention descriptions if not patented) via the conference. As in the real investment/funding world, ideas are not treated as confidential—it's the entrepreneurs own ability to execute that is the differentiating factor.

Format:

Each presenter will give a five-minute oral presentation with the following elements

- a. Name of the proposed business or non-profit
- b. Mission/Purpose
- c. Size of the opportunity/problem to be solved
- d. How this new business will meet the need/solve the problem (products or services to be offered and business model)
- e. Team—entrepreneur(s) backgrounds (individual or team members)

Each 5-minute presentation will be followed by 5 minutes of Q&A from the panel of judges. PowerPoint slides may be used by the presenter.

Award:

- a. \$1,000 - Undergraduate who are members of MANRRS
- b. \$1,000 - Graduate Students or Professionals who are members of MANRRS

Application process:

Applicants must submit an on-line application consisting of:

1. Presenter's name, school or professional affiliation, and contact information including LinkedIn profile.
2. Description of the business or non-profit which addresses each of the five elements listed above (a through e) totaling a maximum of 500 words.

A team of judges will select up to 10 finalists to present in person at the MANRRS 2016 annual conference.

Judges:

Recommend a total of six judges or potential judges. Three judges for the finals competition at the National Conference. And three additional judges that can help narrow the application pool to the **10 finalists**, and/or serve as backup judges during the national conference.

PR & Marketing

1. Regionals: Information on the Pitch Competition can be presented at each of MANRRS Regionals meetings during Fall Semester 2015. Recommend a 30 minute mini-workshop or coaching presentation on how to pitch your business idea.
2. Webinar/Skype calls—recommend that at least two, 30 minute conference or webinar calls to present the competition, for MANRRS members who are unable to attend Regional events.
3. Email outreach/campaign—At least 3 email blasts to be sent out to the full MANRRS membership list, including alumni/professional members + social media postings (MANRRS Facebook groups)

Elevator Speech Contest

Presented by Bayer

General Description

With the support of our national sponsor, Bayer, MANRRS will conduct the first annual elevator speech contest. A preliminary contest will be held at each regional cluster and finals will occur at the national conference.

Purpose:

The purpose of the elevator speech contest is to sell the brand of MANRRS to the judges and audience.

Requirements for Entry

Active undergraduate and graduate members of MANRRS who attend the regional cluster are eligible to participate. A single first place winner, either undergraduate or a graduate will win the contest at the regional level and qualify for the national contest.

Process

- Each chapter is guaranteed one participant from their institution.
- Each chapter is permitted to submit a maximum of two participants. Only the first person to submit the registration form will be guaranteed a slot. A secondary participant will be selected based solely on availability of slots. Regional clusters have a maximum capacity of up to 20 slots.
- Registration forms will be sent out to each chapter one month prior to the cluster date. Participants must submit a completed contest form to the contest superintendent no later than two weeks prior to the cluster. Participants will be notified if they are eligible to participate one week prior to the cluster date.
 - Region I Dates: October 28-30
 - Region II/III Dates: September 30 – October 2
 - Region IV (St. Louis) Dates: October 7-8
 - Region IV (Baton Rouge) Dates: October 28-30
 - Region V Dates: October 14-15
 - Region VI Dates: November 11-12
- Students will draw for order of speech presentations at the regional cluster.
- Elevator speeches are limited to 60 seconds. After 60 seconds, a penalty of 1 point will be deducted for every 1 second the student goes over the time limit.
- There are no additional aids, materials, or props that can be used during the contest at the regional or national level.
- Each regional cluster will award a single 1st place winner.
- If the selected winner is not eligible, forfeits, or cannot attend the national conference, then the overall second place winner will be awarded national eligibility.

Awards

Regional Level	
First Place	iHome Bluetooth Speakers
National Level	
First Place	TBD

Judging Criteria

Each criteria is worth a total of 10 points with a maximum score of 60

- Presentation
 - General Appearance, Posture, Enthusiasm
- Voice
 - Projection, Control, Volume, Clarity
- Language
 - Articulation, Grammar
- Organization
 - Structure, Order
- Style
 - Demeanor, Confidence
- Content
 - Value, Effectiveness, Appropriateness

The regional winner will be required to perform his/her speech during the cluster award ceremony.

Elevator Speech Contest
Judge's Score Sheet

Name: _____

Cluster: _____ Date: _____

ELEVATOR SPEECH CONTEST

ITEMS TO BE SCORED		SPEAKERS:									
		#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	#8	#9	#10
A. Presentation	10										
B. Voice	10										
C. Language	20										
D. Organization	10										
E. Style	10										
F. Content	10										
TOTAL POINTS: 60											
LESS TIME 1 PT./ DEDUCTIONS SECOND											
TOTAL SCORE: (NET)											
RANKING:											

2017 JR. MANRRS National Contest Description

Deadline for all Jr MANRRS Contests is March 1, 2017

All contestants must submit their information electronically online at <http://info.manrrs.org/2017-contest-submission> by 11:59 PM EST on March 1, 2017.

1. Jr. MANRRS Impromptu Speaking Contest

The Jr. MANRRS Impromptu Public Speaking Contest is designed to develop the ability of our high school members to express themselves on a given subject without having prepared or rehearsed its content in advance. This gives the Jr. MANRRS members an opportunity to formulate their remarks for presentation in a very limited amount of time. The contest requires students to “think on their feet,” state their case quickly and persuasively, and to be able to answer relevant questions based upon their presentation.

2. Jr. MANRRS Research Poster Display

This contest provides an opportunity for **high school** students to gain experience in presenting their research in poster form before an audience. The student’s faculty research advisor must certify that the research is the work of the presenter.

3. Jr. MANRRS Written Essay Contest

This contest provides an opportunity for **high school** students to gain experience in expressing themselves, through writing. Essays will be judged and the winners selected, **prior** to the National Contest.

4. Jr. MANRRS Public Speaking Contest

This contest provides an opportunity for **high school** students to gain experience in expressing themselves orally before an audience.

Jr MANRRS Contest Application Procedure

1. An advisor must approved all entries prior to submitting.
2. Electronic submission is required for ALL contests. Please submit all entries online to:
<http://info.manrrs.org/2016-contest-submission>
3. All entries must be RECEIVED by 11:59 PM EST March 1, 2017.
Late entries will not be accepted. Participants will be notified of receipt of their items by March 15th.
4. Presenters are required to be high school student members and must be in attendance at the conference. Entrants' names must appear on the national register in the office of the membership chair by January 31st. No waiver of conference registration fees will be granted to participants. The student's chapter advisor or faculty research advisor must certify that the research is the work of the presenter.
5. Each presentation will be limited to 10 minutes.
6. **PLEASE FOLLOW THE ABSTRACT GUIDELINES FOR PREPARATION OF YOUR ABSTRACT.** Abstracts must be submitted electronically to the Contest Superintendent. All abstracts should be in Microsoft Word format. The Superintendent reserves the right to reject any submission if the abstract does not meet the established guidelines as shown by the sample abstract or fail to meet the minimum score required for competitive presentation. Abstracts and questions should be directed to Contest Superintendent.

Questions:

Jr. MANRRS Contest Coordinator
ATTN: Antomia Farrell
Email: antomia.farrell@uky.edu
Phone: 859-218-4800

Jr MANRRS Contests Abstract Guidelines

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARATION OF ABSTRACTS

1. Abstracts must be typed, with one-inch margins and single spacing except between title and authors and between the bodies of abstract. See attached sample abstract. Must be in Microsoft Word format.
2. Abstracts **MUST** be submitted via online for the appropriate Contest - <http://info.manrrs.org/2017-contest-submission>
3. Capitalize entire title as shown on the sample abstract.
4. Type speaker's initials and surname in capital letters. For all other authors, capitalize only the initials and the first letter of the surnames. Show current mailing address for speaker. Note the author presenting the paper by an asterisk (*) at the end of his/her full name. The College/University and location should be listed following the name. Skip one line before starting the text.
5. Abstract must be 300 words or LESS and must include:
 - a. *Introduction/statement of problem*
 - b. *Objective*
 - c. *Methodology*
 - d. *Results and Conclusion section that includes significant findings and implications.*The text should cite quantitative data from representative experiments.
6. Do not include graphs, charts, plots, tables, illustrations or references in your abstract.
7. Enter three keywords as indicated in the sample abstract. At least one of the keywords must be taken from the title of your paper.
8. Use standard format set forth for scientific publication journals.
9. A contest cover sheet must be faxed to the contest superintendent.

Jr. MANRRS Impromptu Speaking Contest

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The Jr. MANRRS Impromptu Public Speaking Contest is designed to develop the ability of our high school members to express themselves on a given subject without having prepared or rehearsed its content in advance. This gives the Jr. MANRRS members an opportunity to formulate their remarks for presentation in a very limited amount of time. The contest requires students to “think on their feet,” state their case quickly and persuasively, and to be able to answer relevant questions based upon their presentation.

REQUIREMENTS:

Presenters are required to be high school student members at the time of the conference and must be in attendance at the conference. Entrants’ names must appear on the national membership register by **March 1, 2016**. There will be no waiver of conference registration fees for participants.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES:

The deadline to register to participate is 11:59 PM EST on March 1, 2017. All entries must be submitted on or before the contest deadline. Participants will be selected on a first-come, first-serve basis. Selected participants will be notified by March 15, 2016.

AWARDS:

1st Place \$100, 2nd Place \$75, 3rd Place \$50

Jr. MANRRS Impromptu Speaking Rules

General Rules

- A. Each contestant's written production will be the result of his/her own efforts. It is expected that he/she will take advantage of all available training facilities in the local college/university in developing speaking and writing abilities. Facts and working data may be secured from any source.
- B. Violations of any of the rules will result in the disqualification of the contestant by the contest superintendent.

Subjects

- A. The selection of topics shall be held before the contest. The contestant will draw three specific topics relating to MANRRS and the industry of agriculture or its related sciences. After selecting the topic, on which he/she desires to speak, all three topics will be returned to the original group of topic areas, prior to the next drawing.
- B. Topics should be specific and related to current issues pertaining to MANRRS and the industry of agriculture or its related sciences. They will be typed on cards. Topics will be generic in nature. All topics will be developed by the JR. MANRRS Chair and Committee and provided to the contest superintendent.
- C. Contestants will draw to determine the order of speaking. Contestants will be admitted to the preparation room at 5 minute intervals and given exactly 10 minutes for topic selection and preparation.
- D. Each speech shall be the result of the contestant's own effort using approved reference material, which the contestant may bring to the preparation room. No other assistance may be provided. Uniform note cards will be provided each contestant. Any notes for speaking must be made during the 20 minute preparation period. A watch may be used by the speaker to keep record of their time.
- E. A list of all possible topics will be given to and reviewed by the judges prior to the beginning of the contest.

Time Limit

- A. Each speech shall not be less than two or more than four minutes with three minutes additional time allowed for related questions which shall be asked by the judges. The chairperson of the contest shall introduce the contestant by name and the contestant may introduce his/her speech by title only. Contestants are to be penalized one point per second on each judge's score sheet for being over four minutes or under two minutes. Time commences when the speaker begins talking.
- B. During the question phase, time will be called at exactly three minutes, whether or not the contestant is finished with their answer or a judge is asking a question.

Winner Selection Method

- A. Contestants shall draw for places on the program. The program chairperson shall then introduce each speaker by name only in order of the drawing. A contestant will be permitted to use notes while speaking, but deduction in scoring may be made for this practice if it detracts from the effectiveness of the preparation.

B. A timekeeper shall be designated who will record the time used by each contestant in delivering his/her speech, and noting overtime, if any, for which deductions will be made.

C. At the time of the contest, the judges will be seated in different sections of the room in which the contest is held. They will score each contestant upon the delivery of the production, using the score sheet provided.

D. Each judge shall formulate and ask a question. Questions shall pertain directly to the speaker's subject. Questions containing two or more parts should be avoided. Judges will score each contestant on the ability to answer all questions asked by all judges. The full two minutes for questions should be used.

E. When all contestants have finished speaking, each judge will total the score for each contestant. The timekeeper's record will be used in computing the final score for each contestant.

F. Contestants shall be ranked in numerical order on basis of final score to be determined by each judge without consultation with each other. The judges' ranking of each contestant then shall be added and the winner will be the contestant whose total of rankings is the lowest. Other placing shall be determined in the same manner. (Low point score method of selection). In the case of a tie that individual who has the highest grand total score shall have prior rating.

Jr. MANRRS Research Poster Display

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

This session provides an opportunity for high school students to gain experience and exposure before an audience, while highlighting the research in which they are currently involved. The student's faculty Research Advisor must certify that the research is the work of the presenter. Entries may not be duplicated and entered in the Student Oral Research Contest. These entries will be "noncompetitive."

REQUIREMENTS

Presenters are required to be high school student members at the time of the conference and must be in attendance at the conference. Entrants' names must appear on the national membership register by **March 1, 2017**. There will be no waiver of conference registration fees for participants.

A Power Point of the poster's graphics will also need to be submitted the contest superintendent

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

The deadline for entries is **11:59 PM EST** on **March 1, 2017**. All entries must be submitted, as instructed on the Student Research Poster Contest Abstract Form. Selected participants will be notified by March 15, 2016.

Jr. MANRRS Research Poster Contest Instructions

Instructions for the preparation of the abstract

- Prepare an abstract according to the guidelines contained in Contest #2.II above.
- To accompany the abstract, a Power Point will need to be developed highlights your poster presentation (Graphics)

Guidelines for the preparation of student research posters

- The poster boards used will measure **3 feet high by 4 feet wide (36x48)**.
- The poster must be carefully planned, clear and concise. It should contain a brief statement of the purpose of your work, your experimental methodology and design, and the major results of your findings and their implications. It should hold the attention of the audience.

Lettering

Title - A label showing the abstract number, the title, the author(s) and sponsoring institution must be positioned at the top of the poster. Lettering for the heading must be at least 1 inch in height. Lettering for author(s), and sponsoring institution must be at least $\frac{3}{4}$ inch high. All other type must be at least $\frac{1}{4}$ inch high. Your poster must be readable from a distance of 6 feet. The text should be printed from a laser printer, in a font size large enough to read from that distance. When preparing the poster paper, do not use free hand printed letters.

Figures and Tables - Numerals and letters, included in the Figures and Tables, must be at least $\frac{1}{4}$ inch high. The final size of the Figure or Table will depend on the complexity of the information, but it should not be less than 8in. x 10 in.

Mounting

Do not use heavy (thick) stock, since this will not be supported by the Velcro "dots". Leave $\frac{1}{4}$ inch to 1 inch around your picture or illustration.

Miscellaneous

Back lighted photographs, sound or projection equipment, freestanding displays greater than 4 x8 feet are prohibited. Tape should not be used to attach your display to the poster board.

It is important that you bring all of the materials, such as "dots" with adhesive on one side and Velcro on the other, that you will need to set up your display. Do not depend on the poster Contest Coordinator for supplies.

Be sure to have all materials prepared before you leave home. The time allocated, during the conference, is not the appropriate time for preparing or designing the poster

Jr. MANRRS Written Essay Contest

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

This contest provides an opportunity for students to gain experience in expressing themselves through writing. Essays will be judged and winners selected prior to the conference.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTRY

The national essay contest will be open to high school students who are current members of MANRRS through chapter membership or individual membership. Entrants' names must appear on the national register in the office of the membership chair by **February 28th**.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

All entries must be RECEIVED by 11:59 PM EST on **March 1, 2017**. Online electronic submission is required. Detailed application procedures are attached. All entries must be submitted as instructed on the attached page.

Participants will be notified upon receipt of their submission.

AWARDS

1st \$100.00, 2nd \$75.00, 3rd \$50.00

Instructions for Preparation of Essays

- Develop a clear, concise, and well-thought-out essay. All essays shall be written on the following topic: *“MANRRS: Sculpting Minds, Nurturing Hearts, and Creating Diverse Leaders”*
- Essays should be typewritten with one-inch margins and saved in Microsoft Word file. Essays must be RECEIVED by 11:59 PM EST **January 31, 2017.**
- Submit the Contest Submission Form for electronic submissions
- **Submission Link - <http://info.manrrs.org/2017-contest-submission>**
- To assure anonymity in reviewing, repeat only the title at the top of the first page. Number the pages of the essay. The body of the essay is limited to six (6) typewritten, double-spaced pages. The title page (cover sheet) and the references or endnotes pages are not included as one of the pages.
- Appropriate documentation must appear in the text citing ideas and statements, which are not the author's. Use one of the manuals below and indicate in the reference section which manual was used.
- A minimum of three references should be used.
- Essay format must conform to the American Psychological Association (APA) writing style. For more information, please consult the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association. Additionally, Purdue University's writing center website has a freely available tips for APA writing (<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>)

Judging

Essays will be judged on the basis of style and content (opening and closing paragraphs, clarity of expression, logic, and references). A copy of the judge's score sheet is enclosed. Three to five professionals shall serve as judges. All essays will be sent to judges for evaluation. Names of author (cover sheet) will be removed and each paper assigned a number. Judges will score contestants as noted in these guidelines and return score sheets to the Contest Superintendent for final ranking.

Scoring/Ranking

Each judge will rank the essays in numerical order (i.e., 1 = first place, 2 = second place...). In case of a tie in the ranking, the contestant who has the highest grand total shall be rated higher. The winners will be announced at the Awards Ceremony during the National Conference.

Jr. MANRRS Written Essay Contest
Judge's Score Sheet

Contestant's Name: _____

Maximum Points

Content Related to Topic	(10 Points)	_____
Style	(10 Points)	_____
Opening Paragraph	(10 Points)	_____
Organization and Logic	(30 Points)	_____
Clarity of Expression	(30 Points)	_____
Use of References	(10 Points)	_____

Total Points (100 Points) _____

Rank of Contestant _____

National Essay Contest Explanation of Point System

1. Content related to topic includes the appropriateness of the essay's content to the topic selected and the extent to which the author addressed the topic selected. **(10 points)**
2. Style includes the adherence to the rules of style listed in the Rules for Essay Preparation and Submission. **(10 points)**
3. Opening paragraph includes how well the opening catches the attention of the reader and how it leads into the body of the essay. **(10 points)**
4. Organization and logic includes the organization of the content, unity of thought, logical development, language used, sentence structure, accomplishment of purpose/conclusions, and material related to subtopic. **(30 points)**
5. Clarity of expression includes the clarity and conciseness of writing; conveyance of thought and meaning; the extent to which the essay was interesting, understandable, convincing, enjoyable, and held the reader's attention. **(30 points)**
6. Use of references includes the importance and appropriateness of the references, suitability of the material used, and the accuracy of the statements included. **(10 points)**

JUDGE'S COMMENTS:

Jr. MANRRS Public Speaking Contest

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

This session provides an opportunity for high school students to gain experience in expressing themselves verbally before an audience.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTRY

The national public speaking contest will be open to high school students who are members of MANRRS through chapter or individual membership. Entrants' names must appear on the national register in the Executive Office by **January 31st**.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

- A. All speeches must pertain to the conference theme:
“MANRRS: Sculpting Minds, Nurturing Hearts, and Creating Diverse Leaders”
- B. Complete an accurate bibliography to the Contest Superintendent. Entries must be RECEIVED by 11:59 PM EST on **March 1, 2017**. Electronic submission is required.
- C. For electronic submissions, please use the following website:
<http://info.manrrs.org/2017-contest-submission>
- D. A completed contest cover sheet must accompany the entry. For electronic submissions, Cover Sheets can be scanned or faxed and must include the advisor's signature.

AWARDS:

1st Place \$100

2nd Place \$75

3rd Place \$50

Guidelines for Judging the Jr. MANRRS Public Speaking Contest

Time Limit

Each speech shall be limited to **eight minutes**, and two minutes will be allotted for questions from the judges. The Contest Superintendent shall introduce the contestants by name and institution. The contestant will introduce the speech by title only. Contestants will be penalized 2 points per minute, or any fraction thereof, for speaking over 8 minutes. Time commences when the speaker begins talking. The total time allotted for the speech and questions shall not exceed 10 minutes.

Winner Selection Method

- Judging will be conducted at the National Training Conference and Career Fair, by professional members.
- Attendance shall be open to the general body. No individual may enter or leave the room during a presentation.
- Contestants shall draw for the order of presentation. A contestant shall be permitted to use notes while speaking, but if this practice detracts from the effectiveness of the presentation, deductions in the score may be made.
- Contestants shall be seated outside of the room, until they are called upon to present. Two timekeepers shall be designated to record the length of the presentation.
- Judges will score the contestants on the delivery of their speeches.
- Individuals from the contestants' schools will not be allowed to ask questions or judge the contestants. Judges from the same region as the contestants will not be allowed to score or ask questions of contestants from their region.
- Each contestant shall be scored based on his/her ability to respond to the questions and the perceived quality of the response.

The winner will be invited to present his/her speech, during the Luncheon on Saturday.

Procedures for Scoring/Ranking of Contestants

When all contestants have finished speaking, each judge, without consultation, will total the scores and provide a ranking (1 = first place, 2 = second place). The scores then will be given to the Contest Superintendent, who will consult the timekeepers' records, to determine the final ranking of the contestants. In the case of a tie, the contestant, who has the highest grand total, shall be rated higher

JR MANRRS Public Speaking Contest Point System

EXPLANATION OF POINT SYSTEM FOR PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

1. Power of expression includes: fluency, emphasis, directness, sincerity, communicative ability, conveyance of thought and meaning. **(30 points)**
2. **Voice** includes: quality, pitch, articulation, pronunciation, force. **(10 points)**
3. **Stage presence** includes: personal appearance, poise and body posture, attitude, confidence, personality, and ease before the audience. **(30 points)**
4. **General effect** includes: extent to which the speech was interesting, understandable, convincing, pleasing, and held the attention of the audience; and provided evidence of purpose. **(15 points)**
5. **Response to questions** includes: ability to answer the questions* related to the speech, which are asked **only** by the judges indicating originality, familiarity with subject, and ability to think quickly. **(15 points)**

**NOTE: Judges will meet prior to the contest to prepare and clarify the types of questions to be asked.*

Judge's Score Sheet

Contestant's Name:

Written Presentation

Content related to topic	(10 points)	_____
Style	(10 points)	_____
Opening paragraph	(10 points)	_____
Organization and logic	(30 points)	_____
Clarity of expression	(30 points)	_____
Use of references	(10 points)	_____
TOTAL POINTS (100 points)		_____

Rank of contestant _____

Oral Presentation

Power of expression	(30 points)	_____
Voice	(10 points)	_____
Stage presence	(30 points)	_____
General effect	(15 points)	_____
Response to questions	(15 points)	_____
TOTAL POINTS (100 points)		_____

* Deduction for exceeding time limit

TOTAL POINTS _____

CUMULATIVE POINTS (200 POINTS) _____

RANK OF CONTESTANT _____

JUDGE'S COMMENTS:

****TIME PENALTY - 2 POINTS WILL BE DEDUCTED FOR EACH MINUTE, OR FRACTION THEREOF, OVER THE TIME LIMIT***