



Frequently Asked Questions

What is Gathering of the Talents?

Gathering of the Talents strives to create an environment where students' skills are celebrated and allows students to grow and develop skills while experiencing what Concordia has to offer. This event is designed to give students who are in grades 4 - 8 the opportunity to exhibit their talents in art, creative writing, drama, dance and music all for the glory of God.

When is Gathering of the Talents?

Saturday, April 7, 2018. The day will start with a brief opening devotion at 8:15 am in the Walz Arena, which all participants and their families are highly encouraged to attend. Events will take place from approximately 9:00 am – 2:00 pm on the campus of Concordia University, in Seward, Nebraska.

What grades of students can participate?

Students in grades 4-8 in Lutheran Church Missouri Synod schools and churches are invited to participate.

What is new this year?

We are offering performances by Concordia's music ensembles, drama productions, and dance & cheer team. We will also be offering feedback and coaching on each performance done by your students.

Does the student need to be present on the day of the Gathering?

Yes, in order to receive a t-shirt, valuable feedback and coaching, the student is required to be present the day of the event. Art and Creative Writing entries will be critiqued with the student. Entries will not be critiqued if the student is not present.

What events can my student participate in?

We offer events in the categories of Art, Art Experience Workshop, Creative Writing, Dance, Drama, and Music. With the addition of new creative workshops and performances by Concordia music ensembles, drama productions, and dance/cheer team. More specific event details can be found in the Gathering of the Talents manual. This will be available on the website to all participating schools and churches on December 8.

Where are events located on campus?

Art: Walz Hall of Fame Room & Track Viewing Room
Art Experience Workshop: Janzow Campus Center
Creative Writing: Link Library
Creative Workshops: Thom Leadership Education Center (TLEC)
Dance: Walz Arena
Drama: Thom Leadership Education Center (TLEC)
Music: Bands - PE Center building
Music: Solos and small ensembles - Music Center
Music: Choirs - Weller Hall

For a map of campus, please click the link

http://www.cune.edu/resources/docs/Campus/Campus_Map_latest.pdf

Will my student get a ribbon?

No, each student will receive a t-shirt for their participation and evaluations on each of their performances or projects. The evaluations will provide valuable feedback and coaching for each performance and not a specific ribbon color.

Will there be a closing ceremony?

We will be offering performances by Concordia music ensembles, drama productions, and dance and cheer teams at the conclusion of each division's events. Exact times of these performances will be published with the final schedule. There will not be a formal closing ceremony since no ribbons will be awarded.

Are the evaluations changing?

Yes, students will receive more learning based feedback versus a particular score. The purpose of the evaluation is to encourage students and give them valuable feedback and coaching, which will help each student thrive and excel in their respective division. The purpose of performing is about the experience that each student has.

Will there be any new events?

Yes, there will be creative workshops for writing. There will also be one-on-one art and creative writing critique sessions for students to get feedback on their projects. There will also be performances by Concordia music ensembles, drama productions, and dance/cheer team.

Who will be evaluating, providing feedback, and coaching on performances and projects?

Concordia University professors and students.

What are the fees/dues for the event?

There is a flat fee for each student to participate. The charge is \$15.00 per student and includes a T-Shirt. It does not matter how many events a student registers for. However, there is a maximum of five events per student. Each school/church will receive an invoice with the fee total for their school/church.

How many events can a student register for?

A maximum of five events per student.

I have a very talented third grader who I think is ready for an event like this....what should I do?

Unfortunately, they are unable to participate if they are not a 4th-8th grade student. We would encourage your student to continue practicing and look forward to being able to participate next year!

Are children younger than 4th grade still welcome to support older students and siblings?

Yes, we encourage all friends, family, neighbors, etc. to come support the students performing their talents to glorify God.

What if I have several students who want to participate in a group event, but one of the students is too young?

All events are limited to grades 4-8. Any students younger than 4th grade will need to wait for another year to participate. We understand that some schools/churches may have group events of varying ages. We ask that you please limit your performance group for this event to include students in grades 4-8 only.

If we are finished with all my student's performances, can we leave?

Yes, you are able to leave once all your student's performances are finished. However, we would love for you to join us for the performances by Concordia's music ensembles, drama productions, and dance & cheer team. Look for performance times on each student's schedule.

Can my student submit more than one entry in each category?

Specific details on number of entries for each division can be found in the Gathering of the Talent's manual. This will be available on the website to all participating schools and churches on December 8.

What is the parent's role for this event?

Encourage your student to practice for each of their events. Connect with your school or church to determine what is needed for your student.