

# Christian School Finals Competition

## Newsletter

January/February 2011

# 2011

### Reaching forward

*Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:13-14*

The beginning of each new year, traditionally, is a time for reflecting on the past and looking to the future. There can be value in reflection and learning from the past, however, as Paul points out in his letter to the church at Philippi, far more important than reflecting on the past is pressing forward.

As we press forward in 2011, it seems appropriate to start by reflecting on our love for God. How much thought do we really give to what Jesus told us is the first and greatest commandment – to love the Lord with our heart, soul and mind?

During this month, let's challenge ourselves and those around to examine our heart and reflect on the greatest commandment given. Here are some thoughts to get you started:

- Do you love God enough to talk with Him every day?
- Do you love God enough to wait to hear Him talk to you every day?
- Do you love God enough to read His word every day, or more than once a day?
- Is spending more time with Him really on the top of your priority list?
- Do you share your love for God and His love for others with zeal?

You will most likely think of more to add to the list. As we reach forward into 2011, our prayer for each of you, as you reflect on the past, is that you remember passionately the things that were good, let go quickly of the things you wish would have turned out differently and reach out fervently to what is before you...a fresh new year with many opportunities to fulfill the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Remember, the reflection of God's love through you is absolutely the best gift you can give to anyone.



### CSFC Event Highlight – Music (900-999)

The Competition music events (900-999) provide the opportunity for Competition participants to communicate through various styles of music and musical instruments as well as demonstrate talents in composition. The music events at Christian School Finals Competition are judged on a variety of components including choice of music selection, technique, intonation and accuracy as well as other criteria that make it easy to focus on the technical components of each event. However, not to be overlooked is the performance itself.

Well acquainted with the intricacies of performing, Michele Ross draws from her many years of performing professionally to connect the science of performing with the outcome of giving the audience everything, every time.

While her article is focused on musical performances, the information she provides on understanding and managing performance anxiety is equally useful for those participating in dramatic arts (1000-1099) and athletic (600-899) events as well. Read more at the [Competition website](#).

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## iServe

The theme for CSFC 2011 is iServe. The corresponding scripture is 1 Peter 4:10 (NIV) "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms."

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## Website Update

We have a new look! Visit <http://competition.oru.edu> to see the updated Competition website. The 2011 CSFC Handbook and Entry Forms can be accessed on the website along with lots of other helpful items. After taking a look, send us a message through [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#) and let us know what you think.

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## International Schools

If you did not complete the Request for Participation form, you can submit it now. We encourage all international schools to submit this form as soon as possible. We understand that the total number of students/sponsors may change as the Competition dates approach. If this happens, just contact our office and we will gladly make any changes needed to your original request. Click to download the [Request For Participation](#) form now.

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## Preparing For Your Arrival

We are looking forward to your arrival in May. To help us prepare, ORU Facilities and Housing is requesting a potential number of Competition participants. Please take a moment to visit [CSFC Estimated Attendance](#) and input your school's **projected** attendance. We understand that your totals may fluctuate many times between now and May, so please be assured this is only an estimate. We appreciate your help.

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## Announcements

- We invite you to follow Christian School Finals Competition on [Twitter](#) and become our friend on [Facebook](#).
- [ORUEF](#) member schools receive a registration discount for Competition. However, [ORUEF](#) membership is not required to attend Competition. All **Christian schools** are welcome and encouraged to participate.
- The [2011 Competition Handbook](#) can be accessed at our website <http://competition.oru.edu>. The password to access the 2011 Competition Handbook is **iServe2011**.
- **Entry Forms** for Competition 2011 are available on the Competition website (<http://competition.oru.edu>). The password to access the forms is **CSFCforms11**.

- An **Early Registration Discount** is available to all schools that are completely registered by March 1, 2011. Complete registration includes submission of *all Group 1 forms and deposit*. This discount is not available after March 1, 2011.
  - Remember, a copy of all **GROUP 1** forms must accompany your deposit check. Group 1 forms and the deposit check are due April 1 (or March 1 for Early Registration).
  - **Form M (two copies)** typed or printed and the **General Summer Camp Release** form are turned in at Registration on May 22, 2011.
  - In 2011 **Banners (405)** will be a team project requiring four or more students to participate in designing and crafting the final entry. As a team project, Banners entries are eligible for double points.
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<http://competition.oru.edu>

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