

**Creative Festivals Simplified Judging for Art and Photography Entries**

*The Achievement Level Ribbons, which allow the students to feel that their efforts are worthwhile, are tied to the rubrics, so a solution was sought that would simplify the process, be less time-consuming, and keep the bronze, silver and gold ribbons. You may wish to try this method of judging.*

**1. Preparing the Judges**

Give each judge Post-It Notes, along with the following items which can be found on our website:

- A. The theme
- B. The explanation of the theme
- C. A copy of interpretations of the theme (which were taken from the lesson plans)
- D. Copies of the judging rubric

**2. Beginning the Judging**

Having reviewed the above mentioned items and keeping the criteria from the judging rubric in mind (with expression of the theme being most important), have all the judges look at the same grade. (Begin with grade 1 and move on to each grade in order.)

**3. Categorizing A, B, or C**

Have each judge decide if the entry they're looking at belongs in the "A," "B," or "C," category. These grades are familiar to everyone. They will mark the entry using a Post-It Note. After that particular grade has been competed, check the entries to see if at least 2 out of 3 judges agree on each entry. If they all disagree, give each judge a copy of the judging rubric, have them judge the entry, and total the points to determine if the entry belongs in the (A) gold, (B) silver, or (C) bronze category.

- 43-48 Gold (A)
- 36-42 Silver (B)
- 1-35 Bronze (C)

**4. Choosing 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Awards**

Have the judges look at all the entries that are in the gold category to determine which will be awarded 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place. (If you do not have at least 3 entries in the Gold category, award 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> from the silver category.) Again, if 2 out of 3 judges are not in agreement, have them use the judging rubric, and total the points. Using a Post-It Note, mark them as such. If time permits, you may note 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place on the standard identification form attached to the entry. If not, you may go back and complete this step later.