



Rockdale County Public Schools 2023-2024 Academic Competition & Showcase Opportunities

Content/ Grade	Event	Registration / Notification Deadline	District Event
Social Studies 6-12	National History Day	Intent to Participate form completed by October 10, 2023 Each school will host its own fair before February 9, 2024 Formal Registration: by February 16, 2024 District Contact: Virnilisa Printup	There is no district NHD competition. The South Metro Region NHD Competition will be held Saturday, March 9, 2024. (face-to-face)
Science 6-12	Rockdale Regional Science and Engineering Fair	Open to All Secondary Schools December 15, 2023- Deadline for all School-based Science Fairs January 5, 2024: Deadline to submit Regional Fair Entries and ISEF forms RRSEF Application Link Science Fair Support: RRSEF 2023 (webs.com) District Contact: Scott Bolen	Friday, January 26, 2024 Fair Judging 1:30-4:30pm Friday, January 26, 2024 Awards Ceremony 6:30– 7:30pm
Science 3-5	Elementary Science Olympiad (ESO)	Open to All Elementary Schools March 16, 2024 District Contact: Angela Reaves	March 16, 2024
Social Studies 5	RCPS Social Studies Fair	January 5, 2024: Deadline to submit Entries and Registration Forms District Contact: Virnilisa Printup TBD: Deadline to submit Entries and Registration Forms for East Metro Region Fair; will be shared with district fair winners Rockdale Contact: Virnilisa Printup	February 3, 2024: District Social Studies Fair, RCPS Central Office March 16, 2024: East Metro Regional Social Studies Fair, RCPS Central Office
Technology 3-12	East Atlanta Technology Competition and RCPS Student Technology Showcase	January 9, 2024: Registration Deadline Projects must be registered and submitted online at: Coming Soon! Click Here for more information: http://www.rockdaleschools.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=136388&pageId=604796 District Contact: Tiffany McLymore (Fair) Josh Dyer (Showcase)	January 27, 2024 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Location: RCA Awards will be posted by April 1 st to the Technology Fair Website
Reading 4–8 9-12 (<i>Tentative</i>)	Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl	October 31, 2023: Deadline to submit Intent to Participate to Jean O’Kelley (FSE) District Contact: Beth Clark (Elementary & Middle) Kimberly Wisnewski (High School)	January 27, 2024 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Location: RCA



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ELA 4-8	District Spelling Bee	Register with National Scripps Spelling Bee Aug. 22, 2023-Oct. 31, 2023- Enrollment (\$180) <i>*If you enroll by Sept. 29, 2023, you receive a prize code from Encyclopedia Britannica.</i> January 10, 2024- Deadline to submit School Winners District Contact: Trinecia Ward	January 18, 2024 @ 9:30 Location: Edwards Middle School GAE Regional Bee Feb. 24, 2024 @ 10:00 a.m.
Fine Arts Chorus 5 th grade	RCPS Elementary Honor Chorus	Music teachers select up to 10 % of their 5 th grade students to participate in RCPS Honor Chorus Clinician Jay Sessoms Friday, February 9 @ GRDMS- Rehearsal with entire group Saturday, February 10 @ GRDMS – Rehearsal followed by Performance RCPS Contact: Jenelle Freeman	February 9, 2024 Large group rehearsal@ GRDMS February 10, 2024 Performance at GRDMS 2:30 p.m.
Fine Arts Band 6-12	RCPS Honor Band	RCPS Honor Band/Orchestra for Middle and High Schools – students selected by directors. School-level rehearsals take place prior to March 22 Clinicians: 9 – 12 Band – TBD; Orchestra – TBD; MS 7/8 Band – TBD; Beginning Band – RCPS MS Directors District Contact: Jaques Jones	March 22-23, 2024 Friday, March 22, 2024 - Entire group rehearsal 4:30p.m.-8:30p.m. HS Students 5:30p.m.-8:30p.m. MS Students Saturday, March 23, 2024 - Rehearsal 9 a.m. – noon Performances begin 3:00 p.m. – Salem HS
Fine Arts Chorus 6-12	District Honor Chorus	District IV (GMEA) Honor Chorus for Middle and High Schools – students selected by directors. Clinicians are not finalized at this time. Date and location January 2024 TBD District Contact: Terrance Green	Friday, January TBD 2024 Sectionals Rehearsals at Location TBD Saturday, January 2024 – Performance at TBD
Fine Arts Theatre 9 - 12	One Act	Georgia High School Association GHSA.net - This is a GHSA event One Act - RCPS High School Theatre departments participate. October 1, 2023: Deadline to enter October 28: HHS Regional Competition November 4: RCHS and SHS Regional Competition	Region 8 5A - HHS 10/25/2023 @HHS Region 4 3A – SHS 10/27/2023 @Morgan Co HS Region 3 6A – RCHS 10/28/2023 @ Alcovy HS

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		Nov. 11 & Nov. 18 – State Championships District Contact: Paige Hutchinson	State Championships: Region 5A – HHS 11/11/2023 – Monroe County school of Fine Arts Region 6A – RCHS – 11/18/2023 – Carrollton HS Region 3A – 11/18/2023 Buford Performing Arts Center
Fine Arts 9 – 12	Literary Meet	Georgia High School Association GHSA.net - This is a GHSA event RCPS High School students participate in Fine Arts and other areas February 1, 2024: Deadline to enter March 9, 2024: Deadline for completion of region meets District Contact: Dr. Kirby Meng RCHS: P Hutchinson; SHS: J. Roper; HHS: T. Green	State Literary Meet March 16 and 23, 2024
Visual Art 3-12	Conyers Cherry Blossom Festival Student Photography Show	February 16, 2024: Deadline to submit Entries and Registration Forms March 2024 – TBD - Awards ceremony and reception at Piedmont Rockdale Hospital District Contact: Dr. Kirby Meng	Date TBD Awards ceremony and reception, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. @ Piedmont Rockdale Hospital, Building A
ELA K-12	Young Georgia Authors Writing Competition	Monday, December 15, 2023: Deadline to submit School Level Winners Friday, February 9, 2024: Judging District Contacts: Trinecia Ward (K-5) and Dr. Sha'Ronda McRae (6-12) Young GA Authors Competition FY23	February 22, 2024 Winners submitted to MetroRESA
Visual Art K – 12	District Youth Art Month Exhibit at Nancy Guinn Library	February 16, 2024: Work due to Dr. Kirby Meng from each school March 4 – 29, 2024: Work on exhibit at Nancy Guinn library March 2024: Reception at Nancy Guinn Library 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. District Contact: Dr. Kirby Meng	March 4 - March 29, 2024 Nancy Guinn Library March 2024 date TBD: Reception at Nancy Guinn Library, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Visual Art 7-12	Scholastic Art Awards through SCAD	How to Enter Scholastic Art and Writing Awards - Students may self-enter or schools may enter student work. Students in Grades 7 – 12 are eligible	Deadline for entry – Date not yet posted, but will be mid-December 2023



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		\$10 per entry, \$30 per portfolio, fee waiver form available District Contact: Dr. Kirby Meng	
Visual Art 9 – 12	Congressional Art Competition through Rep. Hank Johnson's office	Art Competition Congressman Hank Johnson (house.gov) Open to 9 th - 12 th grade students living in U. S. House District 4 **This competition may have a theme** District Contact: Dr. Kirby Meng	Entry and Awards date not yet posted. Will probably be April 2024
Math 3–6	Math 24 Competition	February 21, 2024: Deadline to submit School Level Winners and Alternates District Contact: Nancy Kelly	March 23, 2024 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
ELA K-12	Thousand Voices Oratorical Showcase	March 15, 2024: Deadline to submit School Level Winner Entry Forms District Contact: Dr. Sha'Ronda McRae FY23 RCPS Thousand Voices Oratorical Showcase	March 26, 2024 Location: CO Board Room 4:30- 5:30 (K-5 th) 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. (6 th -12 th)



**Rockdale County Public Schools
2023-2024 Academic Competition & Showcase Opportunities**

National History Day

Participants: Grades 6-12

Theme: Turning Points in History

Each school will host its own fair. All school competitions should take place before February 9, 2024

Formal Registration: February 16, 2024

Metro Region Competition: March 09, 2024

National History Day is an academic competition focusing on history for students in grades 6-12. Students construct entries as an individual or in a group in one of five categories- Documentary, Exhibit, Paper, Performance or Website. Students then compete in a series of contests (School, Regional, and State) to proceed to the National Contest.

The mission of National History Day is to provide students with opportunities to learn historical content and develop research, thinking and communication skills through the study of history and to provide educators with resources and training to enhance classroom teaching.

District Contact: Virnilisa Printup – vprintup@rockdale.k12.ga.us



Rockdale County Public Schools
2023-2024 Academic Competition & Showcase Opportunities
Rockdale County Public Schools 5th Grade Social Studies Fair

Participants: All Elementary Schools; Individual schools will host their own Social Studies Fair.

District Competition: Submit names of school winners to Lisa Hockaday to compete at the District Fair.

January 5, 2024: Deadline to submit Entries and Registration Forms
February 3, 2024: Rockdale County Public Schools District Competition
TBD: Deadline to submit Regional Fair Entries
District Contact: Virnilisa Printup

Purpose: To involve students in developing a greater passion for the social sciences through researching topics and questions in various disciplines.

Format: Entries will consist of tasks/research-based (student conducted) products and may be an individual or group submission.

Guidelines:

1. Projects may be entered by individual students or by groups of up to three students
2. Projects are limited to a space of **30 inches front to back (depth), 48 inches in width (when opened), and 60 inches in height. (Additional support equipment may be placed under the table, but not at the sides.)**
3. If a project includes audio or video recording, slides, computers, or a combination of these audiovisual media, the total listening/viewing time **may not exceed ten minutes**. Audio media should be presented in such a way that it is not distracting to its neighboring projects.
4. At the district fair, at least one student who worked on the project must be present to interpret the project. Students should be prepared to present a five-minute oral overview of the project to the judges. After all projects have been scored, judging team leaders must use information gleaned from interviews to determine overall winners from among projects receiving the same number of points. When there is no student present on the day of the fair to answer the judges' questions, the project is at a disadvantage.
5. All projects must be accompanied by a research paper of approximately four or five double-spaced typed pages. The paper should give the research question/problem being explored, methodology, research findings, and conclusions of the project. The summary paper must also include bibliographic references. If direct citations are to be used in the summary paper, the proper footnotes should be included.
6. An abstract of the project should be included on an index card. Information on the abstract provides a succinct description of the project, including the title, statement of problem or question, methodology, and conclusion. Students should give this card to the judges at the beginning of the oral interview.
7. The visual presentation must include the following components on a backboard.
8. Project components should meet all criteria shown on the Judges' Scoring Sheet.
9. The construction of the project must be strong enough to remain intact when moved.
10. **Students must furnish all equipment such as extension cords, bulbs, projectors, recorders, and monitors.**

District Contact: Virnilisa Printup, vprintup@rockdale.k12.ga.us



Rockdale County Public Schools
2023-2024 Academic Competition & Showcase Opportunities
Rockdale County Public Schools Technology and Media Showcase

Participants: All schools, Grade 3 - 12 Students

District Showcase: January 27, 2024

Register Projects due by January 5, 2024, to Tiffany McLymore @ Heritage High School

<https://www.rockdaleschools.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=136388&pageId=604796>

Purpose:

To share with our stakeholders how the Media and Instructional Technology Programs support Academic Rigor for all students at each RCPS school; both competitive and non-competitive options are available.

Format:

Varies according to current rules and regulations posted by the state Media Festival program (<http://www.gsmf.us/>) or the state Technology Fair program websites (<https://www.gastc.org/>)

Guidelines:

Same as above for entries. Schools will hold a local competition/fair to determine entries to be sent to the district competition. This culminating event will be held on Saturday, January 27th at RCA.

• **Requirements:**

- Participation from each RCPS School
- Assistance with judging for all events from RCPS Personnel
- Assistance with finding Sponsors for the event to offset event and student recognition costs
- Assistance with promotion of the event via print and other media outlets

District Contact: Derek Fort - dfort@rockdale.k12.ga.us

Tiffany McLymore- tmclymore@rockdale.k12.ga.us



**Rockdale County Public Schools
2023-2024 Academic Competition & Showcase Opportunities**

Rockdale County Public Schools Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl

Participants:

Elementary schools, Grades 4 and 5;
Middle Schools, Grades 6 – 8;
High Schools, Grade 9-12 (*tentative*)

District Competition: Saturday, January 27, 2024; 8:00a.m. – 1:00p.m.

Media Specialists should submit intent to participate to Beth Clark (ES/MS) or Kimberly Wisnewski (HS) by October 31, 2023.

Purpose:

Students read the current Georgia Book Award nominees and participate in local and regional competitions in order to:

- Increase their reading repertoire of award-winning literature
- Increase standardized test scores
- Increase reading comprehension
- Develop an appreciation for literature
- Enhance verbal communication skills
- Promote cooperation
- Build self-esteem
- Develop team spirit
- Improve academic achievement

Format:

Each school team participates in rounds of competitions centered on questions derived from all books selected and read by teams. Points earned determine first, second and third place winners. First place winners advance to regional competition.

Guidelines:

Details available at <http://www.dekalbschoolsga.org/helen-ruffin-reading-bowl/>. Teams will be organized via collaboration between school media specialists and classroom teachers at each elementary school.

**District Contact: Elementary/Middle- Beth Clark- bclark@rockdale.k12.ga.us
High- Kimberly Wisnewski- kwisnewski@rockdale.k12.ga.us**



**Rockdale County Public Schools
2023-2024 Academic Competition & Showcase Opportunities**

Rockdale County Public Schools District Spelling Bee

Participants: Students in Grades 4 – 8

District Competition: January 18, 2024, Edwards Middle School 9:30 AM
Submit School names by January 10, 2024

Purpose: To promote skills related to spelling and word study

Format:

August 22, 2023 – October 31, 2023 Register and pay* online at <http://spellingbee.com>
In order for students to be eligible for competition beyond the county level, the school must pay a fee to the National Scripps Spelling Bee. This fee is set by Scripps.

The **regular enrollment period** begins **August 22, 2023 – October 31, 2024**. The enrollment fee during regular enrollment period is \$180 per school. ***If you enroll by Sept. 29, 2023, you receive a prize code from Encyclopedia Britannica.

Schools may pay the enrollment fee by credit card or by check, with a \$7.50 check processing fee being added for check payments. Purchase orders are not accepted.

- **December 1, 2023 - January 10, 2024** **School Spelling Bee**
Schools hold individual bees to determine a school level winner. The school level winner competes in the county bee. The school runner up attends the bee and competes in the event the winner cannot.
- **January 18, 2024 @ 9:30 a.m.** **County Spelling Bee**
Edwards Middle School
The county level winner competes in the district bee. The competition will include rounds for both spelling and vocabulary.
- **February 24, 2024 @ 10:00 a.m.** **GAE District Bee**
Edwards Middle School

The Spelling Bee is sponsored by the Georgia Association of Educators (GAE). GAE rules govern the District Bee.

District Contacts: Trinecia Ward tward@rockdale.k12.ga.us



**Rockdale County Public Schools
2023-2024 Academic Competition & Showcase Opportunities**

Rockdale County Public Schools Math 24 Challenge

Participants: Math students in grades 3 – 6

District Competition: Saturday, March 23, 2024

February 21, 2024 - Submit building level winners (and alternates) to Nancy Kelly

Purpose:

To stimulate the mental practice of basic skills and increase math fluency. Through this interactive learning game, students try to find the right combination, using addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division that will equal a pre-determined number located on a math card. This game format has proven extremely popular, motivating students to engage in mental practice. Participation sharpens concentration and helps to build strong mental-mathematics and problem-solving skills.

Format:

- Math teachers of grades three through six can use Math 24 as warm-up activities and within learning centers.
- Schools are encouraged to establish Math 24 Clubs as an academic extracurricular activity.
- March 23, 2024: District Math 24 Challenge, Face-to-Face

Tournament Timeline:

- November 15, 2023: Names of school/club sponsors
- School Contact Meeting (all sponsors): Sponsors have two meeting options- December 19th or December 21st, 2023 (2:45 p.m.-3:45 p.m. via Teams)
- February 21, 2024: Submit names of school-level winners, alternates, and district competition representatives
- March 6, 2024: Sponsor and competition volunteers meeting (3:00-4:00 p.m. via Teams)
- **District Competition: Saturday, March 23, 2024**

Agenda:

- Participant Registration/Check-in: 8:30-9:00 a.m.
- Introductions, Review Rules: 9:00-9:25 a.m.
- Round 1: 9:30-9:45 a.m.
- Round 2: 9:55-10:10 a.m.
- Announce Semi-Finalists: 10:30-10:45 a.m.
- Round 3: 10:50-11:00 a.m.
- Announce Finalists- Hand out medals: 11:05-11:10 a.m.
- Round 4: 11:15-11:30 a.m.
- Announce Grand Champion: 11:45 a.m. -12:00 p.m.

District Contact: Nancy Kelly ndavies@rockdalek12.ga.us



Rockdale County Public Schools
2023-2024 Academic Competition & Showcase Opportunities
Young Georgia Authors' Writing Competition

Participants: K – 12 students (one entry per grade per school)

State Competition: TBD

School Level Competition: Monday, December 15, 2023, Submit school winners to ELA Curriculum Office

All district winning samples will be delivered to MetroRESA by February 22, 2024. MetroRESA will forward finalists to the state level.

[Official Rule Booklet and Application](#)

[Young Georgia Author's Writing Competition Checklist](#)

Purpose:

To provide students with an opportunity to write with an authentic purpose to a broad audience on a wide variety of self-selected topics

Format:

- School level writing contests determine entries to be submitted for district level competition.
- Each school determines the format of the site competition.
- Each school may submit only one entry per grade. Each school is encouraged to submit an entry for every grade level.
- Schools submit an original and a copy of the winning entry with a completed, signed application form.
- District competition will select a first-place entry from each grade to submit for state competition.

District Contact: Trinecia Ward (K-5) tward@rockdale.k12.ga.us

Dr. Sha'Ronda McRae (6-12) smcrae@rockdale.k12.ga.us



**Rockdale County Public Schools
2023-2024 Academic Competition & Showcase Opportunities**

Rockdale County Public Schools Thousand Voices Oratorical Showcase

Participants: Students, K-12

District Competition: March 26, 2024 @ County Office Board Room 4:30- 5:30 (K-5th) 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. (6th-12th)

Submit school level winners to ELA Curriculum Office: March 15, 2024

Purpose:

In order to build skills in language arts, students need opportunities for authentic purposes in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The purpose of a district-wide oratorical showcase is to extend a forum to young people to relate both cultural heritage and personal experiences in the format of a speech to a broad audience.

Student Selection:

The district showcase will begin at each school site.

Each school may present

- One participant/group from grades K – 2
 - One participant/group from grades 3 – 5
 - Each secondary school may present two participants/groups from grades 6-8 or 9-12.
- We strongly recommend that each school site include opportunities for competition within each classroom, as well as within each grade level.
- Students are permitted to participate in the showcase as a small group of up to 4 students in the same grade band.
- Each school may select TWO students/groups as indicated above for the district showcase.
- Each student selected for the district showcase will perform in the district showcase.

Format:

- Several format options are available:
- Poetry recitation
 - Famous Speech recitation
 - Dramatic Monologue
 - Public Speaking
- Specific Guidelines for each format are provided on the following page.

All students must include an introduction (student's name, school name, and teacher name, and name and author of selection, if appropriate (Those students delivering self-created speeches may simply include this information in the beginning of their speech.)

Include a copy of the oratorical presentation whether original or from a source.

Format Guidelines:

1. Poetry: (Presentation must be from memory – no note cards)
 - K – 2 – Maximum of 1 minute
 - 3 – 5 – Minimum of 1 minute; Maximum of 3 minutes
 - 6 – 12: Minimum of 2 minutes; Maximum of 6 minutes



Rockdale County Public Schools 2023-2024 Academic Competition & Showcase Opportunities

2. Famous Speeches (Presentation must be from memory – no note cards)
 - K – 5 – Minimum 1 minute; Maximum 5 minutes
 - 6 – 12 – Minimum 2 minutes; Maximum 7 minutes
3. Dramatic Presentations / Monologue (Presentation must be from memory – no note cards)
 - K – 5: Minimum 1 minute; Maximum 5 minutes
 - 6 – 12: Minimum 2 minutes; Maximum 7 minutes
4. Self-Created Public Speech: (May use note cards; however, speech must not be read.)
 - K – 2: Minimum 1 minute; Maximum 4 minutes
 - 3 – 5: Minimum 2 minutes; Maximum 5 minutes
 - 6 – 12: Minimum 3 minutes; Maximum 7 minutes
 - Speech purpose may be:
 - To persuade
 - To inform
 - To entertain

Performance Criteria:

1. Adherence to time limits
2. Originality
3. Connection with audience
4. Memorization or effective use of note cards (note cards for self-created speeches only)
5. Uses body language effectively (posture, movement, gesturing)
6. Uses verbal language effectively (word choice, grammar)
7. Effective eye contact
8. Uses voice effectively (pitch, tone, volume, rate, pronunciation/enunciation)
9. Topic is appropriate for all audiences

District Contact: Dr. Sha'Ronda McRae smcrae@rockdale.k12.ga.us



Rockdale County Public Schools
2023-2024 Academic Competition & Showcase Opportunities

Oratorical Showcase: A Thousand Voices Entry Form

Due to ELA Curriculum Office by March 15, 2024

School _____

Grade _____

Student Information

Student's Name
(Please type or print legibly): _____

Age _____

Home Address Street/P. O. Box _____

City Zip Code _____

Phone number: Home (____) _____ Cell (____) _____

Parent's Full Name (Print): _____

Format Information

____ Poetry ____ Famous Speech ____ Dramatic Monologue ____ Self-Created Public Speech

Please provide the name and author of your selection:

*****You must attach a copy of the oratorical presentation whether it is original or from another source.
Your signature below indicates that this speech is your original work.***

Signatures

Student's Signature

Parent's Signature

****Parental permission is required to allow participants to receive recognition in district publications / websites.**

Teacher's Signature

School Principals' Signature



**Rockdale County Public Schools
2023-2024 Academic Competition & Showcase Opportunities**

District Elementary Honor Chorus

Purpose: RCPS Elementary Honor Chorus is an opportunity for talented elementary students who love to sing, to join with students from other RCPS schools to perform with a guest conductor.

Format: This event will be in person this year and will be held at General Ray Davis MS.

Guidelines: Elementary Music teachers select up to 10% of their 5th grade students for participation in the District Elementary Honor Chorus.

Requirement: Music is selected by guest clinician, Mr. Jay Sessoms. Students practice with elementary music teachers and then rehearse together before the performance.

Friday, February 9, 2024 – Students rehearse together at General Ray Davis MS 10:00 a.m. - noon

Saturday, February 10, 2024 – Students rehearse and then perform together at General Ray Davis Middle School Auditorium 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Performance at 2:30 p.m.

Criteria: Selections are made in December by elementary music teachers.

District Contact: Ms. Jennelle Freeman - JH House Elementary School



**Rockdale County Public Schools
2023-2024 Academic Competition & Showcase Opportunities**

District Honor Band

Purpose: The purpose of the RCPS District Honor Band is to give high performing band and orchestra students an opportunity to perform in an honor ensemble of Rockdale County students.

Format: MS Band 6-8; HS Concert Band 9-10; HS Symphonic Band 11-12. Each ensemble will be conducted by a Guest Clinician--an acclaimed MS, HS, or Collegiate Director. This 2-day clinic meets on a Friday for a half day of rehearsals, then a half-day of rehearsals and performances on Saturday.

This event will be held at Salem High School this year on Friday, March 22 and Saturday, March 23, 2024, with performances beginning at 3:00 p.m.

Guidelines: Students are invited to be a part of these ensembles based on teacher recommendation.

Criteria: Rockdale County Students will be bused to the rehearsal at Salem HS on Friday. Parents will pick up their child on Friday night. Parents will transport their child on Saturday to and from the event.

District Contact: Mr. Jacques Jones - RCHS



**Rockdale County Public Schools
2023-2024 Academic Competition & Showcase Opportunities**

District Honor Chorus

Purpose: The District Honor Chorus' purpose is to give high performing chorus students an opportunity to perform in an honor ensemble of students from throughout GMEA District 4.

Format: Middle and High School Chorus students are selected by their directors to participate in this event. Each ensemble will be conducted by a Guest Clinician. This 2-day clinic will meet on a Friday in January for a half day of rehearsals, then a half-day of rehearsals and performances on the following Saturday.

Dates for this year's event are yet to be determined.

Location for this year's event is yet to be determined.

Guidelines: Students are invited to be a part of these ensembles based on teacher recommendation.

Criteria: Rockdale County Students will be bused to and from the rehearsal on Friday. Parents will transport their child on Saturday to and from the event.

District Contact: Terrance Green - Heritage High School



Rockdale County Public Schools
2023-2024 Academic Competition & Showcase Opportunities

One Act Theatre Competition

Purpose: One of two events organized by the GHSA that produce Fine Arts State Champions. One Act is a theatre competition for public and private high schools. RCHS, SHS, and HHS all participate in the competition.

Format: One Act is held in person by region. HHS is Region 8 5A – regional meet 10/25/24 at HHS; RCHS is Region 3 6A – region meet 10/8/24 at Alcovy HS; SHS is Region 4 3A – Region meet 10/27/24 at Morgan Co HS

Guidelines: Theatre teachers must notify the state One Act coordinator by October 1 of their desire to participate.

Requirement: Schools follow the rules found in the GHSA Constitution and Bylaws found here: [Constitution21-22 \(ghsa.net\)](https://ghsa.net/Constitution21-22)

Criteria: The competition is judged by three qualified judges from a judging pool selected and trained by the state coordinator.

State Championship will be held November 11 & 18 for those advancing to that level.

District Contact: Paige Hutchinson – RCHS

Dr. Kirby Meng - RCPS



Rockdale County Public Schools
2023-2024 Academic Competition & Showcase Opportunities

GHSA Literary Meet

Purpose: One of two events organized by the GHSA that produce Fine Arts State Champions. Literary Meet involves speaking, writing, and singing competitions for public and private high schools.

Format: Literary Meet is held in person by region. RCPS schools are in regions 3, 4 and 8.

Guidelines: The person coordinating Literary at each school must register contestants by February 1, 2024, at www.app.ghsa.net regional competitions must be held between February 1 and March 9, 2024. The first-place winner in each category will go to the state finals March 16 or 23, 2024. The specific fine arts categories are oral presentation - solo or duo dramatic or humorous, boy's vocal quartet, boys' and girls' vocal solo, girl's vocal trio. One entry per school per contest.

Requirement: Schools follow the rules found in the GHSA Constitution and Bylaws found here: [Constitution21-22 \(ghsa.net\)](http://Constitution21-22.ghsa.net)

Criteria: The competition is judged by qualified judges from a judging pool selected and trained by the state coordinator.

District Contact: HHS: Terrance Green; RCHS: Paige Hutchinson; SHS: Jeffery Roper



Rockdale County Public Schools
2023-2024 Academic Competition & Showcase Opportunities

Conyers Cherry Blossom Festival Photography Show

Purpose: 2024 Theme: "Conyers Creates" Photographic images should capture the theme and display student creativity, originality, and technical ability. **Photos should be taken in Conyers or Rockdale County.** The show is coordinated by City of Conyers Cherry Blossom Festival, Conyers-Rockdale Council for the Arts, Rockdale Piedmont Hospital, and Rockdale County Public Schools.

Format: Printed and matted photos will be exhibited at Rockdale Piedmont hospital.

Guidelines: Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme may be submitted.

- Each entry must be the original work of one student only.
- Print must be 8x10.
- Print must be matted using the RCPS white 8x10 mats.
- Framed photos are not accepted.
- Submit photo and student entry form according to your art teacher's instructions by February 16, 2023.
 - The contest is open to RCPS students in grades 3 through 12.
 - All matted photos submitted to Dr. Meng by February 16, 2024
 - Artist statements submitted to Dr. Meng electronically by February 16, 2024
 - Artwork delivered to hospital and hung February 19, 2024
 - Judging February 20-22, 2024
 - Awards Ceremony March – Date TBD; 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. at Piedmont Rockdale Hospital, Building A

Requirement: Follow the guidelines for the exhibit using the theme **"Conyers Creates"**

Accepted forms of photography include A single photo, panoramic, photomontage (one seamless print of multiple original photos), a multiple exposure, negative sandwich, or photogram. Original black-and-white and color images are accepted.

Non-accepted forms of photography include Entries with added graphics over the image, including lettering, are not accepted. Original film (negatives or transparencies) and multidimensional pieces are not accepted.

Consider the use of objects, lighting, and the location to show a clear relation of the photo to the theme. An explanation of the photography process/form might be a useful addition to the artist statement. Whether an entry displays use of technologies or a simple approach, it will be judged primarily on how well the student uses his or her artistic vision to portray the theme, originality, and creativity.

Copyright: Use of copyrighted material, including copyrighted cartoon characters or other such material, is not acceptable in any photography submission, with the following exception:

Photographs may include public places, well-known products, trademarks, or certain other copyrighted material if that copyrighted material is incidental to the subject matter of the piece and/or is a smaller element of a



Rockdale County Public Schools 2023-2024 Academic Competition & Showcase Opportunities

whole. The resulting work cannot try to establish an association between the student and the trademark/business/material or influence the purchase/non-purchase of the trademarked good.

Criteria: Judges will use a rubric to select 1st - 3rd place winners at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. There will also be an overall grand prize winner. A "Piedmont Pick" award decided by hospital employees will also be selected.

District Contact: Dr. Kirby Meng



**Rockdale County Public Schools
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District Youth Art Month Exhibit at Nancy Guinn Library

Purpose: The purpose of Youth Art Month is to advocate for art education in schools and provide an opportunity to display the artwork students have been doing.

Started in 1961 through The Art & Creative Materials Institute, Inc. (ACMI), Youth Art Month exists to:

1. Recognize art education as a viable factor in the total education curricular that develops citizens of a global society.
2. Recognize that art is a necessity for the full development of better quality of life for all.
3. Direct attention to the value of art education for divergent and critical thinking.
4. Expand art programs in schools and stimulate new art programs.
5. Encourage commitment to the arts by students, community organizations, and individuals everywhere.
6. Provide additional opportunities for individuals of all ages to participate in creative art learning.
7. Increase community, business, and governmental support for art education.
8. Increase community understanding and interest in art and art education through involvement in art exhibits, workshops, and other creative ventures.
9. Reflect and demonstrate the goals of the National Art Education Association that work toward the improvement of art education at all levels. [Youth Art Month \(YAM\) • National Art Education Association \(arteducators.org\)](https://www.arteducators.org/)

Format: In person exhibit of matted artwork submitted by RCPS art teachers. Each teacher may submit up to 10 pieces of artwork with artist statements.

February 16, 2024: All artwork to Dr. Meng from each school.

February 16, 2024: Forms for all artwork submitted electronically to Dr. Meng from each school.

March 4, 2024 Work hung at Nancy Guin Library

March 4 – 29, 2024: Work on display at the library

March 2024: Reception at Nancy Guin Library 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

March 29, 2024: all work must be taken down

Guidelines: There is no theme for this exhibit. The work should be appropriate for display in a public location where the audience will include all ages.

Requirement: All artwork should be created by RCPS students in grades PreK – 12 during the 2023-2024 school year. Artwork should be original and adhere to standard rules regarding plagiarism and copyright. Most art should be 9 x 12 or 12 x 18 with no artwork larger than 18 x 24. Mats should be the lightweight mats supplied by Dr. Meng. The displays will not hold professionally matted pieces that include foam core.

District Contact: Dr. Kirby Meng



Rockdale County Public Schools
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Scholastic Art Awards

Purpose: “The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards were founded in 1923 and, for nearly a century, have inspired bold ideas in creative teens throughout the country.” This is by far the most prestigious art competition in the country and an opportunity for students to compete for awards and scholarships at top Art colleges and universities across the country.

Format: Enter online. Savannah College of Art and Design hosts the regional competition for Georgia. Students will be notified of winning work and the physical work must be sent to SCAD Savannah for the Scholastic Art Awards Regional Exhibition.

Guidelines: Create an account online. Review plagiarism and copyright information. Pay entry fee or apply for a waiver. Click here for more information on how to enter. [How to Enter | Scholastic Art and Writing Awards](#)
Deadline for 2024 entries is not yet posted but should be posted soon and should be around mid-December.

Requirement: Scholastic Art Awards are open to students in Grades 7 – 12. Students may submit on their own or Georgia teachers may submit student work.

Criteria: Entries are selected for awards without knowledge of the student’s gender, age, ethnicity, or hometown by some of the foremost leaders in the visual and literary arts. Jurors look for works that exemplify the Awards’ core values: originality, technical skill, and the emergence of a personal voice or vision.

ORIGINALITY

Work that breaks from convention, blurs the boundaries between genres, and challenges notions of how a particular concept or emotion can be expressed.

TECHNICAL SKILL

Work that uses techniques to advance an original perspective or a personal vision or voice, and shows skills being utilized to create something unique, powerful, and innovative.

EMERGENCE OF A PERSONAL VOICE OR VISION

Work with an authentic and unique point of view and style.

All Information from Scholastic Art Awards website: [The Awards | Scholastic Art and Writing Awards](#)

District Contact: Dr. Kirby Meng



Rockdale County Public Schools
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Congressional Art Competition

Purpose: Each year this national competition calls upon high school students of all backgrounds and skill sets to submit their art for the chance to display their winning pieces in their congressional district and in the U.S. Capitol. The winning work of art will hang in the tunnel from the Congressional Offices to the Capitol for one year. Scholarships and other prizes are also up for grabs.

Format: Guidelines have not been updated for the 2024 competition. These are the guidelines from 2023: Due to COVID and to keep the students, teachers, parents, judges, and congressional team members safe, all artworks will be submitted online. Submit a clear photo of your artwork along with your completed application. We recommend that the photo of your artwork is taken in a space that has excellent artificial lighting or taken with natural lighting (outside.) Please be sure to capture the entire art piece while also capturing the detail and color of your artwork.

Guidelines: There may be a theme for this art competition. Only two-dimensional art is eligible for this competition. Work should not exceed 18" x 24" plus mat. Each student is allowed no more than two entries.

Eligible artwork includes the following:

Paintings: oil, acrylics, watercolor, etc.

- Drawings: pastels, colored pencil, pencil, charcoal, ink, markers
- Collages: must be two dimensional
- Prints: lithographs, silkscreen, block prints
- Mixed Media: use of more than two mediums such as pencil, ink, etc.
- Computer-Generated Art
- Photography

Requirement: This competition is open to 9 – 12 grade students living in or attending school in Congressional District 4. Please use this link to confirm that Congressman Hank Johnson is your congressional representative: <https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>.

Competition dates are TBD at this time.

For more information and 2024 due date, release form, etc., please go to:

[Art Competition | Congressman Hank Johnson \(house.gov\)](#)

District Contact: Dr. Kirby Meng



Rockdale County Public Schools
2023-2024 Academic Competition & Showcase Opportunities

~~Rockdale County Public Schools~~ Elementary Science Olympiad (ESO)

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Participants: science students in grades 3 – 5

District Competition: Saturday, March 16, 2024 @ Honey Creek Elementary

February 16, 2024 - Submit team rosters to Angela Reaves (areaves@rockdale.k12.ga.us)

State Competition: District winners will advance to the state competition ~~in early on~~ May 4, 2024

Purpose:

To provide a fun, competitive platform for students to collaborate and deepen their STEM knowledge.

Format:

- School-based teams practice for different events to compete at the district level competition.
- Schools are encouraged to establish an ESO team as an academic extracurricular activity.
- **March 16, 2024:** District Elementary Science Olympiad Competition, ~~Face-to-Face @ HCE~~
- **May 4, 2024:** District Winners compete at the state level ESO at Kennesaw State University

ESO Timeline:

- **September 27, 2023 @ 3:00 pm:** Virtual Information Session
- **October 23, 2023-PLI Session 1:** Event Planning and Names of school/club sponsors due
- **January 24, 2024 @ 3:00 pm:** Virtual Event Planning Meeting
- **February 16, 2024:** Team rosters due to areaves@rockdale.k12.ga.us
- **March 16, 2024:** ESO District Competition @ HCE
- **May 4, 2024:** ESO State Competition

Guidelines:

Details available at [Georgia Science Teachers Association - Georgia Elementary Science Olympiad](#). Teams will be organized via collaboration between school-based ESO coaches at each elementary school.



Rockdale County Public Schools
2023-2024 Academic Competition & Showcase Opportunities

District Contact: Angela Reaves areaves@rockdalek12.ga.us