
JCI Michigan

2024 Local Organization Handbook

Competitions Program



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Overview

The JCI Michigan Competitions Program is designed to help promote the skills of members in the areas of speaking, writing, and presentation. Competitions are a great way to help members become more confident in both written and verbal presentations and developing skills which can be transferred to a member's personal and professional life. They allow members to receive feedback and insight from their judges on how to continue to excel in each of these areas.

SCHEDULE

The schedule of submission deadlines and conference competitions is below. ALL SEMESTER SUBMISSIONS ARE DUE BY 11:59 PM EST AS NOTED BELOW.

Semester 1

Semester Ends – June 30, 2024

Semester Chapter Plan Submissions Due- Wednesday, July 10, 2024

Submission Deadline – Wednesday, July 10, 2024: Create it, Write-up (impromptu and prepared), and Speak-up (impromptu, prepared, and master). Must complete the submission portal by 11:59 pm to be included in those that will be considered for the award of semester.

IN PERSON Presentation/Jaycee Day- Saturday July 20, 2024 at 10 am at the Michigan Chamber of Commerce Building, 600 S Walnut St Lansing MI

Semester 2 - Year End

Semester Ends – December 31, 2024

Year End Chapter Plan Submissions Due-Wednesday, January 8, 2025

Submission Deadline – Wednesday, January 8, 2025: Create it, Write-up (impromptu and prepared), and Speak-up (impromptu, prepared, and master). Must complete the submission portal by 11:59 pm to be included in those that will be considered for the award of semester.

IN PERSON Presentation/Jaycee Day- Saturday January 18, 2025 at 10 am at the Michigan Chamber of Commerce Building, 600 S Walnut St, Lansing MI.

ELIGIBILITY

JCI Michigan

In order to participate in Competitions, you must:

1. Be of Jaycee age (18-40)
2. Be a member in good standing with a chapter that is recognized by JCI Michigan
3. State Program Directors responsible for organizing Competitions for their state during the year on which judging is based are not eligible to compete.
4. Once a member has placed first in a Competition, he or she is no longer eligible to compete in that particular competition again during the same year.

JCI USA - from JCI USA

Each state selects its representatives through statewide competitions. The state's first-place competitor/team or alternate is eligible to represent the state on the JCI USA level.

1. Only one (1) representative from each state per competition is eligible to compete. (Or in the case of debate, only one team per state is eligible.)
2. Contestants must be registered to attend all days of the Year End Meeting or Annual Meeting before the time of competition; one-day registration is not permitted.
3. Competitors must be of Jaycee age (18-40) at the time of national competition, or 41 as long as his/her membership is still valid.
4. Each competitor must also be a Jaycee in good standing and a member of a recognized JCI chapter.
5. National winners of the Debate and Durward Howes Speak-Up competitions who intend to advance to compete at The Conference of Americas and JCI World Congress must be a member in good standing at the time they compete at the JCI competition.
6. Current members of the JCI USA Board and Staff, and all National Awards Committee Chairs (past and present), are not eligible to compete.
7. National Program Managers and past JCI USA Board members are only eligible to compete in Master Speak-Up, Policy Debate, and/or Jaycee Debate.
8. Once a Member has placed first in an International competition, he or she is no longer eligible to compete in that particular competition again on the National level.
9. State Program Managers/Chairpersons responsible for organizing Professional Skills Competitions for their state during the year on which judging is based are not eligible to compete.

GUIDELINES

Dress Code

Participants are expected to dress in business professional attire during the Competitions (speak-up). Competitors are not allowed to wear any state/local apparel, badge, pin or button that identifies the person's home chapter. A membership pin of the JCI USA or JCI is allowed and encouraged but will have no impact on the competitor's score.

Use of Notes or Props

In all Competitions, use of notes is strictly prohibited except Prepared Speak-up. Paper notes are allowed for this category. Props such as slideshows, signs, photos, etc. are strictly forbidden in Competitions except Single Project Entry Presentations.

Competition Types

BRIEF INFORMATION ON THE DIFFERENT COMPETITION TYPES

GENERAL OVERVIEW

- Speak-Up
 - Impromptu
 - Prepared
 - Master
- Write-Up
 - Impromptu
 - Prepared
- Create-It
- Film-It
- Online Professional Networking

SPEAK-UP (Prepared, Master, & Impromptu)

Speak-Up Competitions are held to determine the most outstanding speakers in JCI Michigan for that year. It is not the intent of this award to recognize professional speakers. A professional speaker is defined as a person who currently or previously earned at least 25% of their income in a profession in which speaking is the primary component of the job description. Competitions will be held in person, though extenuating circumstances may allow for virtual accommodations to be made.

See [Appendix A](#) for Speak-Up Scoring Rubric.

State Presidents, National Board Members, and previous State Speak-Up award winners may choose to participate in the Master Speak-Up Competitions only.

Prepared and Master Speak-Up

Speeches shall be between 5-7 minutes in length. The speech will be stopped at seven (7) minutes. The topic will be released about 6 weeks prior to when submissions are due. Participants will speak on the topic that was provided.

If you have won 1st place at JCI USA level – you are not eligible to compete again.

Impromptu Speak-Up

Speeches shall be 3-5 minutes in length. The speech will be stopped at five (5) minutes. Topic(s) will not be posted. The participant will receive the topic from the judge, and will then have 60 seconds to prepare for his/her speech. Once a participant has received the topic they are PROHIBITED from sharing with anyone else. If you are competing in more than one area, exceptions may be made, but must be requested ahead of time to ensure proper monitoring and scheduling.

All Speak-Ups are judged based on the following criteria:

- Delivery (appearance, voice, gestures, eye contact)
- Preparation (originality, facts, word choice and phrasing)
- Salesmanship (sincerity, audience, appeal)
- Continuity (opening, main theme, closing)
- Length of Speech

The Prepared topic will be announced about 6 weeks prior to the submission deadline by JCI Michigan.

Year-End Speak-Up

Year-end competitions will feature all previous Impromptu, Prepared, and Master Speak-Up winners from semester 1 and 2 participants to determine one final year-end winner in each area. Prepared topics will be announced 3 weeks prior to the submission deadline and communicated via an invitation to previous winners.

WRITE-UP (Prepared & Impromptu)

Write-Up Skill Competitions are held to determine the most outstanding writers in JCI Michigan. It is not the intent of this award to recognize professional writers. A “professional writer” is defined as a member who currently or previously earned at least 25% of their income in a profession in which writing, or publishing is required.

See [Appendix B](#) for Write-Up Scoring Rubric.

Prepared

Topic will be announced about 6 weeks prior to the submission deadline by JCI Michigan. Essays must be received by the submissions deadline and submitted through the portal at <https://jcimi.org/programs/submissions/>.

If you have won 1st place at JCI USA level – you are not eligible to compete again.

Impromptu

Topic will be given on the spot during the competition and then participants will have 30 minutes to prepare an essay and have submitted to the JCI Michigan Programming team.

Note: Impromptu entrants will need to attend in person. As with other competitions and presenters, extenuating circumstances may allow for virtual participation.

Entries will be judged on:

- Comprehension and clarity of the topic
- Format of presentation (logic)
- Development of the entry (creativity) Mechanics (spelling, neatness, and correct use of grammar)
- There is no determined length for each essay

CREATE IT!

Create It! is designed for members to express themselves artistically. Any form of art will be accepted, whether it be for display or performance. Any performance pieces cannot exceed 5 minutes and will need to be filmed and submitted. Display pieces will need to be thoroughly filmed and photographed if the actual piece cannot be submitted. Any members are eligible to participate. Topics/prompts will be announced about 6 weeks prior to the submission deadline by JCI Michigan. With the participant's permission, pieces will be displayed at conferences and performance pieces will be shown.

Competitors will be judged on:

- Creativity
- Originality
- Relevance to the prompt
- Ability to make the viewer feel something

See [Appendix C](#) for Create-It Scoring Rubric.

FILM IT!

Film It! is designed for members to give their videography skills a try! This competition is not meant to showcase members who currently, or previously, have a career in Media Arts. Members who currently, or previously, earn 25% or more of their income from a video or filming area are not eligible to compete.

Film It! competitors may be an individual or a team. Topics will be announced 6 weeks prior to the submission deadline in JCI Michigan's Michigander and on JCI Michigan social media. All content is determined by the creators. Videos may not contain obscene or pornographic imagery or language. All videos must be submitted by the trimester deadline for judging at www.jcimi.org/submissions.

A link to a site such as YouTube, Tiktok, or a Facebook/Instagram Reel should be provided. Professional equipment is not necessary. Basic editing programs such as iMovie (Mac), Windows Movie Maker (PC), TikTok, and CapCut are more than sufficient.

See [Appendix D](#) for Film-It Scoring Rubric.

ONLINE PROFESSIONAL NETWORKING

Online Professional Networking is designed to encourage members to create and maintain a professional profile online. These profiles are extremely valuable in today's professional world. Online locations may include a personal website or LinkedIn profile. This site should contain vital information about the competitor and aspects of their professional credentials / resume.

Competitors will be judged on:

- Creativity
- Professionalism
- Quality of content
- Showcasing of your talents and persona
- Connections, recommendations, endorsements, etc.

The submission shall be a link or an invitation to connect to a profile, sent to (insert Programming team member here) due at the same time as semester submissions for judging. There will be a separate competition during each Semester, with the winner being recognized at the Leadership Conference for that Semester.

See [Appendix E](#) for Online Professional Networking Scoring Rubric.