NEOTA Children’s Talent Day 2021 (Virtual) Rules

General Rules

1. Competition Date: Saturday, 3/6/21 starting at 10:00AM.
2. Please check NEOTA website or Whatsapp for any updates to these rules.
3. Registration fee: $5 for NEOTA members, $10 for non-members.
4. Registrations will close when we get enough entries, or by 9PM on Thursday 03/04/21, whichever occurs first.
5. For any questions, please contact: culturalcoordinator@neota.org, Bala: (330)618-8511.
6. Topics and meeting links will be provided on NEOTA website (www.neota.org) a few days before the competition day.
7. Announcement of competition winners will be via a zoom session on the same day. Time and meeting link will be provided by NEOTA a few days before the contest.
8. Depending on number of registrations -
   a. NEOTA will determine age categories of each contest
   b. NEOTA will determine to conduct a contest or not
Contestants exhibit their Telugu language skills, by speaking for one to two minutes on their selected topic from the topic suggestions provided by NEOTA below.

1. Contestants will be required to speak/ recite a Telugu speech/ poem/ story. Songs are not allowed.
2. Please limit the presentation to 2 minutes.
3. The start time is at 10:00AM on the day of the competition. If there is any change in the start time, we will publish it on the NEOTA website and also email/ Whatsapp the contestants/ parents.
4. Please select a topic among the below suggestions:
   Grades 1-3:
   a. పురాణ ఇతిహాసాలలో నాకు నచ్చి నవ క్తి/ పాత్ర
   b. అమ్మ చెప్పి నమాట
   c. నాకు నచ్చి నా అమ్మకి వివిధాలు
   d. కొవ నా నచ్చి నా రామకి టాం
   e. నాకు నచ్చి నా టాల్కి వివిధాలు
   Grades 4-5:
   f. సాయమివివేకానంద్
   g. బమ్మమ రపోరన
   h. రామాయణంలో లేక భాగవంంలో ఒకరదం/ రద్యం
   i. కోవిద్వంటి వైరస్లను ఎలా నిర్మంలంచాల
   j. మ్నరండగలు

5. Judges’ decision is final. Judging criteria:
   a. Pronunciation: Need to pay attention to otthulu, pollulu, guninhaalu, etc.
   b. Vocabulary: Need to use Telugu words, and avoid English.
   c. Telugu Grammar: Need to speak grammatically correct Telugu
   d. Presentation: Need to be appropriately dressed based on the topic they choose.
Drawing/ Painting/ Water colors/ Sketching
Grades: 2-5
Date/ Time: Sat, March 6th 11:00AM – 12:00PM

Contestants showcase their artistic abilities and creativity.

1. Contestants select a topic from among the list of topics provided by NEOTA:
   a. Festival of Holi
   b. Seasons
   c. Scenery
   d. Your Dream Vacation
   e. Travel

2. Contestants should create their art, take a picture and email it to Telugu_mitra@neota.org by 10:00AM on the competition day (March 6th, 2021).

3. Only one art piece will be allowed per contestant.

4. Contestants are encouraged to join an online session (link to be provided by NEOTA a few days before the contest day) at 11:00AM and explain their art creation in less than 2 minutes. This is optional.

5. Judges’ decision is final. Judging criteria:
   a. Interpretation of theme
   b. Techniques
   c. Originality
   d. Overall presentation
   e. Aesthetic value
Elocution (prepared speeches for 4-5 minutes)
Grades: 6-8
Date/ Time: Sat, March 6th 11:00AM – 12:00PM

The goal is to encourage the skills and talents related to the art of speaking in public.

1. Contestants select a topic from among the list of topics provided by NEOTA. The topics for elocution are:
   a. *What lessons did the world learn from COVID-19?*
   b. *Importance of learning our ancestors’ history.*
   c. *Role of middle schoolers in shaping the world’s future.*

2. The speech must be 4-5 minutes in duration. There is 30 second-grace period before and after. Timing signals will be shown during the speech: *Green* at 4 minutes, *Yellow* at 4 minutes-30seconds and *Red* at 5 minutes.

3. Contestant is allowed to have notes during the speech, however, he/she is encouraged to use them only as reference.

4. The start time of Elocution will be finalized and communicated to the contestants a few days before the competition. It is tentatively scheduled for 11:00AM EST.

5. Judges’ decision is final. Judging criteria:
   a. Content
      i. Organization of the speech
      ii. Originality/ Points of interest
      iii. Clarity of message
   b. Presentation
      i. Verbal clarity and vocal variety
      ii. Body language
      iii. Engagement with audience
Essay-writing
Grades: 9-11
Date/ Time: Sat, March 6th 10:00AM – 11:00AM

1. Contestants will be given the topic to select on the day of the competition at least an hour before it starts.

2. Contestants select a topic, prepare for it, join the CTD virtual meeting 10 minutes before the competition starts and start writing on paper when the competition starts.

3. The duration of the Essay-writing competition is 45 minutes.

4. Contestants will be observed (via zoom or other online tool) during the 45 minutes. Contestants should keep their video turned on. Otherwise, they will be disqualified.

5. Contestants will be given a 15-minute, 30-minute and 40-minute alert after the start of the competition.

6. After 45 minutes, contestants are expected to stop writing, scan or take picture(s) of their hand-written essay and email it to NEOTA (email address will be provided).

7. Contestants’ name should not be written on the essay. Only the Entry No. (to be provided by NEOTA) should be mentioned on the top of the essay.

8. Judges’ decision is final. Judging criteria:
   a. Originality
   b. Ideas and concepts
   c. Grammar
   d. Creativity
   e. Descriptive language