

2024 Youth, Children, and Young Adult's Rally Participation Guidelines

Greetings Christian Friends! We are in anxious anticipation as we begin preparations for 2024 Congress of Christian Education Youth, Children, and Young Adult's Rally. We are looking forward to seeing all our Youth, Children, and Young Adults from across the entire state of Florida! This Year's Pageant theme is titled: ***"Identity Crisis"***, with the theme scripture being Psalm 139:14, *"I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: Marvellous are thy works; And that my soul knoweth right well."*

It is our desire that the time they spend with us will be productive and spiritually enriching. We are excited about churches, districts, Pastors and Moderators sending delegates to the Congress of Christian Education.

The following is a set of guidelines, expectations, policies and procedures to ensure accountability and that the time our youth, children, and young adults spend with us is as safe, successful and rewarding as possible. It is our prayer and desire that all would carefully and thoroughly read through this document and share its contents with your Pastors, Moderators, parents, chaperones, and young people alike before arriving to the Congress.

The opportunities to participate in the 2024 Youth, Children, and Young Adult's Rally Pageant production are as follows:

CHILDREN'S RALLY (AGES 5-12)

- Children's Rally Choir
- Liturgical Dance
- Words in Recitation

YOUTH RALLY (AGES 12-17)

- Youth/Young Adult Rally Choir
- Liturgical Dance/ Mime
- Monologues/ Recitations/ Drama

YOUNG ADULT RALLY (AGES 18-35)

- Youth/Young Adult Rally Choir
- Liturgical Dance/ Mime
- Monologues/ Recitations/ Drama

REGISTRATION

- This year each youth/young adult delegate that will participate in the pageant production will be registered and their attendance monitored by the electronic online system **planningcenteronline.com**. This will ensure that everyone is safe and always accounted for while in our care.
- All registered students will be required to be checked in and out of pageant rehearsal sessions. No student will be permitted in or allowed to leave without doing this.
- Each child participating in the pageant production is also **required** to attend a daily class session in addition to the scheduled pageant activity of their choice.
- It is our desire that all youth/young adults and children will have a place to participate during the pageant production this year. In order to do this, we are asking that all participants fill out and submit the **Pageant Registration Form** completely and indicate the area in which they wish to participate. In addition to the Pageant Registration Form, we also have a **T-Shirt Order Form** that must be completed NO LATER THAN Tuesday, July 30th to ensure prompt t-shirt arrival for the pageant.

ATTENDANCE

- In order to participate, children and youth/young adults must attend the scheduled rehearsal times. Attendance will be monitored by designated volunteer staff.
- No exceptions will be made for those who wish to participate but do not attend these rehearsals barring an extreme emergency.
- Any Congress delegates not arriving by Tuesday of the Congress may not participate in the 2024 pageant as part of the choir, drama and/or dance ministries. However, provisions will be made for participation in supportive roles of the pageant (*hospitality, stagehands, etc.*)

- No parent, chaperone or youth leader will be permitted to come and simply drop off or take children out of the rehearsal spaces without properly checking them in or out. Failure to cooperate with this important measure will result in your student's forfeiture to participate in pageant activities.
- All parents and chaperones are responsible for and expected to drop off and pick up your youth & children on time as indicated by the schedule. We will try our best to adhere to our set schedule, however there will be moments when rehearsals run over. Please be patient with us.

CODE OF CONDUCT

- Youth/Young Adults and children are expected to display appropriate behavior and adult chaperones are expected to appropriately supervise their young people. Churches are asked to help us by selecting your best young people as delegates and letting them know how important it is that they are on their best behavior throughout the week.
- Adults selected for chaperones are reminded it is your responsibility to adequately chaperone the youth from your church. You should know where your youth are during all times and that they adhere to curfews and exhibit behavior becoming young Christian people.
- Inappropriate and/or foul language will be tolerated. Talking back and disrespect of any kind to Congress staff or leadership will also not be tolerated. If these incidences do occur the appropriate parent/ chaperone will be notified, the student will be dismissed and potentially forfeit their opportunity to participate in pageant production.
- Although we understand the nature of cell phones in today's social context, students will be asked to put away and refrain from the usage of cell phones during certain times. There are other times when the use of cell phones will be allowed. We are asking all students to please adhere to these requests concerning cell phones.
- We are also asking that during class and pageant activity hours students will refrain from getting in the pools. Any student that is discovered in the pool during

these critical times may forfeit the opportunity to participate in the pageant production.

- Any damages or liabilities that are caused by a delegate will be the responsibility of the parent or the church of which they represent.

DRESS CODE

- Students are expected to dress in an appropriate manner while in attendance at class sessions and pageant rehearsals and activities. No pajamas, bedroom shoes or flip-flops will be allowed. Visible undergarments will not be permitted. (Examples: bras, underwear) Dress code should reflect the decorum of respectable Christian young men and women.
- **Young Ladies:** Halters tops, Daisy dukes/ short shorts, extremely short or form fitting clothing will not be permitted in class and rehearsal sessions.
- **Young Men:** Muscle shirts/ undershirts will be not permitted during class and rehearsal sessions.
- If a student's clothing is determined to be inappropriate by Congress staff, they will be asked to change. Failure to do so will result in the student's forfeiture to participate further until they come into compliance with the dress code standards.

ATTIRE

The attire for the pageant this year is as follows:

Wednesday Night (President's Address):

Church-Appropriate Black and White

Thursday Night:

Identity Crisis t-shirt/ blue jeans (no holes, no rips, no distresses)

- T-shirts can be pre-ordered by filling out the T-Shirt Order Form. Payment for shirts will be collected throughout the week at the "Identity Crisis" table in the form of cash or CashApp to \$FGBCYCRally ONLY.

DANCE/ MIME MINISTRY

Rehearsals:

There will be extra dance rehearsals. Extra dance rehearsals will be called as needed. Delegate participation in those rehearsals will be cleared with their chaperones. Dance staff will take full responsibility for those participants and will maintain clear attendance records.

Dance Clothing Requirements:

Appropriate attire is mandatory for participation in the dance ministry activities. Those desiring to participate in mime ministry should bring their own pair of white gloves as well as all black button-down shirt and black tie for boys and black slacks and all black button-down blouse for girls.

- **Rehearsals:** Youth dancers are asked to bring comfortable dance attire for rehearsals. For rehearsals, participants must dress in non-revealing dancewear (Example: capris or full-length leggings, leotards, basketball shorts, sweatpants and t-shirts. No jeans or short skirts will be permitted.)
- **Performance:** Dancers must have their own personal white, black or both leotards. Any white and black liturgical dance garments that individual dancers may have, please have them bring it with them to Congress. (Example: dresses, long skirts and footless tights). Mimes will minister in their jeans and t-shirts.

Let's all remember who we are representing **God our Father**. We look forward to a powerful week in the name of **Jesus our Christ**. In the words of our President is our desire that this year's Congress will be:

- God Glorifying
- Christ Centered
- Spirit Filled
- Bible Based
- Community Changing

We are asking that EVERYONE including our young people go LIKE, TAG, FOLLOW and SHARE our social media platforms!

Facebook: FGBC Youth & Children's Rally

Instagram: @fgbcyouthandchildren

Twitter: @fgbc_rally

We thank you in advance for your cooperation and are believing that this year's congress and pageant will be the best ever!

Any additional questions, comments or concerns may be directed to fgbcyouthandchildren@gmail.com

In HIS Service,

Reverend Darien K. Bolden Jr
Director of Pageantry Division

Bro. Terrence Joseph
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