

# SONG LEADING

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**PURPOSE:** To encourage young men and women to develop song-leading skills

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## PROCESS:

### Each participant (or church coordinator) will:

- Be certain they are registered for this event, with correct gender and grade level info.
- Be at the assigned room at the beginning of the event.
- Provide the song title and source information to MWLTC by using the web-based form on [www.mwltc.org](http://www.mwltc.org). This must be done no later than the MWLTC Registration Deadline to allow MWLTC staff to prepared the slides. (See guidelines on “During the Event” below.)
- Be certain that at least one adult volunteer is provided for every four participants from a congregation. Men and women are needed. (The church coordinator is responsible for this.)

### The Event Coordinator will:

- Assume responsibility for the MWLTC Song Leading Event and be certain that the event setup is adequate.
  - Be certain that a laptop and projector is in place.
  - Be certain that participants have been assigned to event rooms.
  - Provide adult volunteers to serve as “room emcee” for each event room. MWLTC organizers will assist you to determine how many emcees are needed.
  - Conduct an evaluators meeting before the event.
  - Report results and provide critique sheets to the Awards Committee.
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## GUIDELINES:

### Participant Eligibility

- There are two grade levels in this event: Grades 3-6 and Grades 7-12
- This event is available to boys & girls. There will be separate venues for Boys & Girls to participate in this event.

### Before the Event

- *Practice with a Microphone:* Participants are encouraged to practice with a microphone and a speaker system so the participant is comfortable hearing one’s self and regulating their volume by their distance from the microphone.

### During the Event

- *Participant Appearance:* Each participant should dress as if they were leading the worship at their home congregation. It is expected that this should be at least dress casual (i.e. khakis or slacks with a nice shirt for boys; comparable for girls). The participant’s appearance should be neat, modest, and not a distraction.
- *Leading the Song:* The participant must lead two verses (no more, no less). Pitching the song with a pitch pipe or a tuning fork is recommended, but not required. Other key factors are listed in the Song Leading Evaluation Form.
- *The Powerpoint Slides:* No later than the MWLTC Registration Deadline, each student must submit the song title and source information to MWLTC using a web-based form at [www.mwltc.org](http://www.mwltc.org).

### Spectators

- Spectators may not enter or leave the room while participants are leading singing. Door monitors will only allow entrance and exit between songs.
  - Any video or audio equipment must be set up prior to the event.
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## AWARDS:

<b>Grade Level 3-6</b>	Gold = 90 to 100	Silver = 80 to 89	Bronze = 70 to 79	Participant = 69 & less
<b>Grade Level 7-12</b>	Gold = 95 to 100	Silver = 85 to 94	Bronze = 75 to 84	Participant = 74 & less

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## EVALUATION CRITERIA:

See Song Leading Evaluation Form for criteria and weighting.

# Song Leading

## Instructions for Evaluators:

1. Place bar code label or write student info.
2. Assign score for each criteria & calculate total.
3. Write additional comments.

Place Label Here	Name:	Place Label Here	EVENT COORD:	
	Grade:		Gender:	
	Cong:			FINAL AWARD

## Pitch

Score: \_\_\_\_/15

13-15: Started song on a pitch/key appropriate for 4-part harmony

11-13: Started song too low or too high for 4-part harmony but recovered at some point.

0-11: Started song too low or too high for 4-part harmony & did not recover.

## Tempo and Dynamics

Score: \_\_\_\_/15

13-15: Set an appropriate tempo for song • May have attempted some appropriate tempo or dynamic changes within the song

11-13: Set an appropriate tempo at the beginning, but it slowed noticeably by the end

0-11: The tempo was either too fast or too slow for the mood of the song.

## Verses Led / Verse Transition

Score: \_\_\_\_/10

8-10: Led 2 verses • If appropriate, indicated which verse to sing either verbally before the song or by hand signal during song • Excellent leadership and smooth transition in moving to second verse

7-8: Led 2 verses • If appropriate, no hand signal or verbal instruction on which verse to sing • Rough transition to second verse

0-7: Led something other than 2 verses • If appropriate, may not have shown hand signal or given verbal instruction

## Volume

Score: \_\_\_\_/15

13-15: Loud enough for most or all to easily hear, especially when beginning or making transitions.

11-13: Not loud enough to be heard in back.

0-11: Easily drowned out by audience • Audience must stop or soften at transitions to hear leader OR audience "carries" leader through song.

## Poise

Score: \_\_\_\_/15

14-15: Very confident & well-prepared • Excellent volume & diction when announcing song

13-14: Reasonably confident & prepared. • Good volume & diction when announcing song

11-13: Somewhat nervous but had prepared for event • Needed to be louder &/or clearer when announcing song

0-11: Very nervous. Needed more preparation for event. • Needed to be louder &/or clearer when announcing song; May have mumbled

## Interaction

Score: \_\_\_\_/15

14-15: Eye contact, facial expressions, etc. drew audience into praise. • Song leader is assertive in leading the audience.

13-14: Eye contact, facial expressions, etc. were made much of the time but the leader wasn't as assertive.

11-13: Eye contact, facial expressions, etc. were made occasionally.

0-11: Very little or no eye contact, facial expressions, etc. • Leader stared at the music.

## Beat

Score: \_\_\_\_/15

14-15: Showed beat with hand throughout • Able to keep audience at set tempo or bring them back up to speed if needed.

13-14: Showed beat with hand throughout. • Allowed audience to dictate the tempo (i.e. Slowed beat in relation to audience lead)

11-13: Showed beat most of the time.

0-11: Rarely or never showed beat with hand.

## Brief Commentary on Spirit of Worship

An excellent song leader not only masters the skills above, but also shows and creates a spirit of worship that is evidenced by:

- Setting appropriate tone and mood for the song
- Using appropriate facial expressions & body mannerisms that complement the song
- Singing with spirit and understanding of the song lyrics

(This is not necessarily an exhaustive list.)

## Evaluator's Comments:

**Total Score:** \_\_\_\_\_

3rd-6th grd: 0-69; 70-79; 80-89; 90-100

7th-12th grd: 0-74; 75-84; 85-94; 95-100