

Alabama Federation of French Clubs  
**FRENCH CONVENTION**

University of Alabama, Ferguson Center  
Thursday, February 19, 2026



Ja'Miah E.  
Jefferson County International Baccalaureate High School

# UA STUDENT CENTER – UPSTAIRS



Assistant Vice President  
of Student Life

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA  
Division of Student Life  
Ferguson Student Center

## HORAIRE PAR ÉVÉNEMENT

<b>ÉVÉNEMENT</b> <i>(Event)</i>	<b>NIVEAU</b> <i>(Level)</i>	<b>HEURE</b> <i>(Time)</i>	<b>LIEU</b> <i>(Place)</i>
Art Room <i>(Atelier d'art)</i>		9h30-14h00	Room 3108
<a href="#"><u>Awards Ceremony</u></a> <i>(Remise des prix)</i>		14h30-15h00	Ballroom
<a href="#"><u>Breakout Game</u></a> <i>(Jeu d'évasion)</i>		12h00	Online
Campus Tour <i>(Tour du campus)</i>		10h00 / 11h00 / 12h00 / 13h00	Registration Table
<a href="#"><u>Choral Competition</u></a> <i>(Concours de chant)</i>	Solo/Duet	10h30-11h30	Ballroom
	Group	13h00-14h00	Ballroom
Dictation <i>(Dictée)</i>		9h15	Ballroom
Game & Karaoke Room <i>(Salle de Jeux)</i>		10h00-14h00	Room 3107
<a href="#"><u>Group Skits</u></a> <i>(Sketchs)</i>	Level I / II	9h30-10h00	Ballroom
	Level III / Adv	10h00-10h30	
Interpersonal Speaking <i>(Expression interpersonnelle)</i>	Level I	12h00-14h30	Room 3103
	Level II	12h00-14h30	Room 3106
	Level III	12h00-14h30	Room 3110
	Advanced	12h00-14h30	Room 3114
Lunch <i>(Déjeuner)</i>		Students – as desired	Food Court
		Teachers – 12h00	Room 3125
<a href="#"><u>Movie Room</u></a> <i>(Salle de cinéma)</i>		10h00 / 13h00	Theater
<a href="#"><u>Opening Ceremony</u></a> <i>(Cérémonie d'ouverture)</i>		9h00-9h30	Ballroom
Photobooth <i>(Cabine photo)</i>		9h30-14h00	Ballroom
Presentation <i>(Conférence)</i>		10h00-10h30 / 11h30-12h00 / 13h30-14h00	Room 3111

Presentational Speaking <i>(Présentation orale)</i>	Level I	9h30-12h00	Room 3103
	Level II	9h30-12h00	Room 3106
	Level III	9h30-12h00	Room 3110
	Advanced	9h30-12h00	Room 3114
<u>Scavenger Hunt</u> <i>(Chasse au trésor)</i>	9h30-14h00		Hallways
<u>Scholars Bowl (Jeopardy!)</u> <i>(Jeu-questionnaire)</i>	9h30-13h00		Room 3700 (Forum)
<u>Scholarship Interview</u> <i>(Entretien de bourse)</i>	9h45-11h45 (by appointment)		Room 3115
Study Abroad Presentation	10h45-11h15 / 12h45-13h15		Room 3111
<u>Video Contest</u> <i>(Concours vidéo)</i>	9h15		Ballroom
Visual Art <i>(Exposition d'art)</i>	Set-up	8h00-9h45	Ballroom Foyer
Theme Quiz <i>(Interro à thème)</i>	9h30-14h00 (Online)		Heritage Room (Ballroom Annex)

## HORAIRE PAR HEURE

<b>HEURE</b> ( <i>Time</i> )	<b>ÉVÉNEMENT</b> ( <i>Event</i> )
8h00-8h55	Registration. Sponsor must check in at the table outside of Ballroom. Set-up Visual Art check-in (Ballroom). Props set on designated Ballroom tables.
9h00-9h30	<a href="#">Opening Assembly</a> (Ballroom) Welcome, Roll Call, Screening of Video Competition winners, <i>Dictée</i> , Immersion oath, Singing of <i>La Marseillaise</i> .
9h45-11h15	<a href="#">Scholarship Oral Interviews</a> – By appointment (Room 3115)
9h30-12h00	Presentational Speaking – Level 1 (Room 3103), Level 2 (Room 3106), Level 3 (Room 3110), Advanced Level (Room 3114)
9h30-13h00	<a href="#">Scholars Bowl (Jeopardy!)</a> (Room 3700 – Forum)
9h30-14h00	Art Room (Room 3108)
9h30-14h00	Theme Quiz (Heritage Room/Ballroom Annex)
9h30-9h50	<a href="#">Level I/II Group Skits</a> (Ballroom)
9h50-10h30	<a href="#">Level III/Advanced Group Skits</a> (Ballroom)
10h00	Campus Tour (meet up at Starbucks)
10h00-11h30	<a href="#">Film</a> (Theater)
10h00-10h30	Conférence: <i>Découvrons la chanson préférée des Français</i> Dr. Catherine Daniélou, UAB (Room 3111)
10h30-11h30	<a href="#">Choral – Solo/Duet</a> (Ballroom)
10h45-11h15	Study Abroad Presentation (Room 3111)
11h00	Campus Tour (meet up at Starbucks)
11h00-14h00	Games & Karoke (Room 3107)
11h30-12h00	Conférence: <i>Découvrons la chanson préférée des Français</i> Dr. Catherine Daniélou, UAB (Room 3111)
12h00	Breakout Room (online)
12h00	Campus Tour (meet up at Starbucks)
12h00-12h45	Sponsors: lunch meeting, food provided (Room 3125/Anderson) <b>Required!</b>
12h00-14h30	Interpersonal Speaking – Level 1 (Room 3103), Level 2 (Room 3106), Level 3 (Room 3110), Advanced Level (Room 3114)
12h45-13h15	Study Abroad Presentation (Room 3111)
13h00	Campus Tour (meet up at Starbucks)
13h00-14h00	<a href="#">Choral – Group</a> (Ballroom)
13h00-14h30	<a href="#">Film</a> (Theater)
13h30-14h00	Conférence: <i>Découvrons la chanson préférée des Français</i> Dr. Catherine Daniélou, UAB (Room 3111)
14h30-15h00	<a href="#">Closing / Awards Assembly</a> (Ballroom)
15h15	<i>Départ!</i>

## **OPENING ASSEMBLY** **9h00 à 9h30 (Ballroom)**

### **Bienvenue / Welcome**

- Thank you for joining us for the 75<sup>th</sup> annual French Convention! We hope that the day will be a day well spent as we share together in the joy of communicating in French!
- Please scroll to Page 6 in your Program to follow along.

### **Remerciements / Thanks**

- University of Alabama, Student Center Division of Student Life, Faculty and Graduate Teaching Assistants of the UA French Program, AATF Alabama.
- AATF Alabama Chapter for its generous donation of the Scholarship Competition prize money!
- Complete [list of thanks](#) on Page 9.

### **Dédicace / Dedication**

- Ella Cook, former Mountain Brook Junior High ('21) and High School ('24) French student and French Convention participant, who tragically lost her life in December 2025 on the Brown University campus. [Tribute](#) on Page 11.

### **Appel / Roll Call**

- Clubs will shout out their chant when their school's name is called.
- See list of participating [schools](#) on Page 10.

### **Infos pratiques / Practical Information**

- Please be a respectful, attentive audience in all competitions. Sit quietly and only enter a room—including the Ballroom—during the short break between presenters.
- Prompting from the audience is never appropriate.
- You may only record/video/photograph your own school's students.
- This Program has additional information about [oral competitions](#) on Page 12.
- Consult [www.frenchconvention.org/competitions](http://www.frenchconvention.org/competitions) for clarifications on rules.
- Address any concern to the President Club sponsors, Melissa Dameron-Vines (205.422.1253) or Meredith Shuttlesworth (205.535.2483)
- Keep track of your belongings; do not leave them lying around! *Objets Trouvés* (Lost & Found) will be at the Registration Table.
- PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE keep all areas clean throughout the day!
- Students should only use their phones in the service of French. No sitting in the halls and doom-scrolling! Sponsors and chaperones (all adults) may address any student for any reason. Students, please respond with respect.

### **Horaire / Schedule**

- The schedule is laid out for you in two different formats: [by the event](#) (Pages 3-4) and [by the hour](#) (Page 5).
- Scheduled times are listed as they would be in France, using the 24-hour clock. Don't get confused in the afternoon!
- The schedule is very dense, with many overlapping events. Do your best to keep track of the status of the competition rooms; send a runner to check on timing.
- QR Codes are posted around the halls for the Schedule/Program.

- Students, use this Program to know *when* you are supposed to go *where* for *what*. It is your responsibility – not your teacher’s – for being at your competition on time! A [building map](#) is on Page 2 of this Program.
- Sponsors, be reminded that the lunch meeting is mandatory! Food will be provided.

### Événements / Events

- Students are expected to attend as many competitions and events as possible. Use the [Passeport](#) in the back of the program as your guide to a full and fulfilling day!
- [Art Room](#): all day!
- [Breakout Room](#): Online at 12h00. Link is on website under this event.
- [Campus Tours](#): Available at 10h00, 11h00, 12h00, and 13h00. Students must have their teacher’s permission and meet at Starbucks downstairs.
- [Choral](#): Any accompaniment tracks must be emailed to [sctech@ua.edu](mailto:sctech@ua.edu) (or turned into the sound tech) prior to the competition.
- [Group Skits](#): Begin immediately after this assembly here in the Ballroom. The Ballroom must remain quiet for the rest of the morning – find an alternative route!
- [Immersion Oath](#): Students may take an optional oath to only speak French today.
- [Individual Oral & Interpersonal Speaking](#): You have a window of time to go by the room and compete. Form a line and wait quietly in the hall for your turn.
- [Movies](#): Screening one (1) movie twice in Room 3104.
- [Presentation](#): Discover the French people’s favorite song! 30-minutes, in French w/English on PowerPoint slides. Three slots: 10h00, 11h30, and 13h30.
- [Scavenger Hunts](#): Two (2) online hunts. Links are on website under this event.
- [Scholars Bowl \(Jeopardy!\)](#): Begins immediately after this assembly in Room 3700 (Forum). Game [schedule](#) is listed on Page 19.
- [Scholarship Interviews](#): Room 3115. Follow the [appointment schedule](#) on Page 20.
- [Study Abroad Presentation](#): 30-minutes, in English. Two slots: 10h45 and 12h45, Room 3111.
- [Theme Quiz](#): Students will enter the Heritage Room (behind Ballroom curtain) by the elevators, scan a QR code, and sit in the room to test. The test lasts 20 minutes. Exit into the Ballroom foyer. Room closes at 14h00. Last submission is 14h30!!
- [Visual Art](#): All poster entries need to be set up ASAP so that judging can begin.

### Gagnants / Winners

- T-shirt design *Mera A., The Altamont School*
- Program Cover *Ja’Miah E., JCIB High School*
- [Honorable Mentions](#) *Listed later in this program.*

### Concours Vidéo / Video Competition

- Please watch as the winning [entries](#) are screened.

### Dictée / Dictation

- Make sure you have a pen and paper ready.
- Put your name, school, and level on your paper.
- You must write legibly, else the word will be marked as incorrect.
- Turn in your pen/pencil and paper up front in the appropriate stack.
- Doesn’t benefit you to cheat....

### **Serment d'Engagement / Immersion Oath**

- Are you up for the challenge of only speaking French today?! If so, you will wear a Mardi Gras style *collier* to mark you out. If you happen to break your oath during the day, simply remove it and return it to the front table. The oath does not apply to emergency situations or when speaking to non-French-speaking individuals, *bien sûr* ! Please come forward if you would like to participate.

*Levez la main droite, et répétez après moi :*

***Je m'engage    à ne parler    que le français    toute la journée.***

### **Clôture / Closing**

- Please join us in singing the French national anthem, ***La Marseillaise***, by Claude-Joseph Rouget de Lisle, 1792.

*Allons enfants de la patrie,  
Le jour de gloire est arrivé !  
Contre nous de la tyrannie  
L'étendard sanglant est levé ! (bis)  
Entendez-vous dans les campagnes,  
Mugir ces féroces soldats ?  
Ils viennent jusque dans nos bras  
Égorger nos fils, nos compagnes !*

*Aux armes, citoyens !  
Formez vos bataillons !  
Marchons ! Marchons !  
Qu'un sang impur  
Abreuve nos sillons !*

***Bonne Journée!***

## LES REMERCIEMENTS



*Un grand merci à...*

*The Faculty and Graduate Teaching Assistants  
of the University of Alabama French Program:*

*Cheryl Foman (Chair) ♦ Jean-Luc Robin (Liaison) ♦ Lincoln Auvil ♦  
Thomas Carlton ♦ Ablaye Diao ♦ Adamu Abubakar ♦ Adebola  
Awodirepo ♦ Arthur Guehi ♦ Ayanniya Ganiyu ♦ Caleb Setorglo ♦  
Caesar Fieni ♦ Carole Kougang ♦ Christelle Vignon ♦ Deborah  
Ariyo ♦ Douanla Kembou ♦ Jamike Okoroji ♦ Lillie Goetzinger ♦  
Mablka Lambon ♦ Mark Matthews ♦ Mercy Dafong ♦ Merveille  
Nguelefack ♦ Njipendi Douda ♦ Olabayo Awodirepo ♦ Phil  
Atangana ♦ Raphael Oyedele ♦ Sawel Awuni ♦ Yacine Mamadou ♦  
Zulikanani Yekeen*

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*Gracie Vanderford (Student Center Coordinator)  
Greg Richards (J Rag Promotional Printing & Design)  
Dr. Catherine Daniélou (UAB)  
Dr. Maury Bruhn (UAB)  
Dr. Heather West (Samford University)  
Dr. Stephanie Coker (UNA)  
Mme. Jeanne Classé  
Alabama Chapter of AATF*

## **PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS & CLUB SPONSORS**

1. **Advent Episcopal School (Birmingham)**  
Nathalie Stein, Lilli Redding
2. **\*The Altamont School (Birmingham)**  
Allison Ramey, Peter Rosborough
3. **Alabama School of Fine Arts (Birmingham)**  
Sabrina Bouriche
4. **Chelsea High School (Chelsea)**  
Jacob Cooley
5. **Eastwood Christian School (Montgomery)**  
Dawn Geiger
6. **Florence High School (Florence)**  
Jeanie Hughes
7. **Highlands School (Mountain Brook/Birmingham)**  
Lauren Smith
8. **\*Homewood High School (Homewood/Birmingham)**  
Meredith Shuttlesworth, Melissa Dameron-Vines **\* President Club**
9. **Hoover High School (Hoover/Birmingham)**  
Laura Ann Pitts
10. **Indian Springs School (Indian Springs Village/Birmingham)**  
Jean Bassene
11. **Jefferson County International Baccalaureate Middle School (Pleasant Grove/Bham)**  
Emma Brown
12. **Jefferson County International Baccalaureate High School (Irondale/Birmingham)**  
Leigh Noble, Shelley Fordice (Shades Valley High School)
13. **Liberty Park Middle School (Vestavia Hills)**  
Courtney Capocci
14. **Montgomery Academy (Montgomery)**  
Madelyn Ethington
15. **Mountain Brook Junior High School (Mountain Brook/Birmingham)**  
Katie Thomas, Courtney Capocci
16. **Northridge High School (Tuscaloosa)**  
Lyn Smith
17. **Randolph Middle School (Huntsville)**  
Kate Wilson, Whitney Painter
18. **Trinity Presbyterian School (Montgomery)**  
Bonnie Montgomery
19. **Vestavia Hills High School (Vestavia Hills/Birmingham)**  
Casey Harlan, Leah Dupre

## DÉDICACE



Ella Cobbs Cook was born on July 18, 2006, in Birmingham, Alabama, and her bright young life was taken from her on December 13, 2025, at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island. Ella was the daughter of Anna and Richard Cook, and the sister of Richard Hooker Poellnitz Cook and Mary Hamner Cook.

Ella was a sophomore at Brown when she died, concentrating in **French** and Mathematics-Economics. Before college, she graduated from Mountain Brook High School in Mountain Brook, Alabama. Ella was an active, lifelong member of Cathedral Church of the Advent in Birmingham.

Ella was known for her wide array of interests, from being with her precious friends, to babysitting so many children who were special to her, to teaching young people in Bible studies, Sunday School, and academic subjects. Ella loved God with her whole heart and she loved people - with her whole heart! Ella dearly loved children. In fact, she believed her highest calling would one day be to have children of her own. She had a love for piano, dance, spending time outdoors in Hale County, and travelling anywhere – especially where **French** is spoken!

Although Ella was not a large person in physique, her heart was as large as the sun. Because Ella was relatively quiet on the surface and never sought to put herself forward, she in fact evinced a sort of "silent leadership," to quote her brother Hooker. "Ella is the best big sister ever. She is protective, responsible, and selfless," is how her sister Mary Hamner remembers her.

From Birmingham to Providence to wherever she traveled, Ella attracted a circle of friends because she was intentionally concerned for the best interests of others. In her sudden death, she has inspired an almost measureless gratitude, in stirring proportions, from everyone who ever knew her. Ella carried a kind of personal magic within her, from her quiet smile, to her consistent openness to new challenges and places, to her heartfelt Christian faith, to her kind encouragement of all whom she met who needed encouragement, to her persistent courage in following both heart and conscience. Ella Cook lit up our world, and her reflected glory will be with her family and friends forever.

*May we all be inspired by Ella's passion for French and her passion for people!*

## **ORAL COMPETITION “REMINDERS”**

(complete rules found at [www.frenchconvention.org](http://www.frenchconvention.org) )

### **General Information**

- Relax, have fun, and do your best. The judges want you to succeed!

### **Performance Information**

- In the interest of fairness, please help us maintain anonymity in competition as much as possible:
  - Entries will be announced by the judges, by number and title.
  - Competitors should not wear any identifying clothing.
- Group Skits and Choral selections must be memorized.
  - No written scripts may be used on stage during these competitions.
  - Prompting from the audience is not permitted.
- You may only record/video/photograph your own school’s students.

### **Performance Time Limits**

- Timing will be from the first spoken word to the bow. To indicate that a skit is over, one or more students in the skit should bow at the end of the skit.
- Time limits are as follows:

Group Skit, Level I/II	4-6 minutes
Group Skit, Level III/Advanced	5-8 minutes
Choral, Solo/Duet	5 minutes
Choral, Group	5 minutes

If the minimum time limit is not met, or if the maximum time limit is exceeded, one point per 10 seconds will be subtracted from the time management category on the score sheet. The maximum penalty will be 10 points per entry. Note the following scale:

### **Time Management Scale**

Seconds Over/Under	1-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	21-25	26-30	31-35	36-40	41-45	46+
Points Deducted	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

## **CHORAL COMPETITION – SOLO/DUET**

**10h30 à 11h30 (Ballroom)**

1. ***J'entends le moulin / Au Clair de la lune***

This is an arrangement by Noah Reese of two traditional French songs.

2. ***Je veux***

Bright, catchy song by Zaz with a strong message, "I want love," showing that she values love over material possessions.

3. ***Papaoutai***

Rendition of the harrowing yet authentic lyrics by the Belgian artist Stromae.

4. ***Le papillon et la fleur***

Gabriel Faure's song based on Victor Hugo's text about an unequal love between a heavenly butterfly and a flower rooted in the earth.

5. ***Je chanterai***

When asked about the future, this teen was unsure about it and their place in it. But when they hear a singer sing "Yo Yo Yo" and everyone joins in, including themselves, they know that they will sing in the future, that's decided!

6. ***Dernière Danse***

A poetic journey of heartbreak and inner strength.

7. ***Mon Amour***

A love song by Slimane about a nearly impossible love.

8. ***Solo***

Born in Belgium with Congolese roots, Lous and the Yakuza blend French lyrics with Afro-influenced sounds, showing how music in Francophone countries reflects cultural diversity, identity, and global influences.

9. **Voilà**

This song by Barbara Pravi is about self-acceptance. The singer talks about how she is done hiding and is ready to accept and express herself.

10. **Hymne à l'amour**

This 1949 Édith Piaf signature song (which she had written for the love of her life, French boxer Marcel Cerdan, who was killed in a plane crash while coming to see her in New York) was showcased 75 years later atop the Eiffel Tower at the Opening Ceremonies of the Paris Olympics in 2024 as performed by Céline Dion. This is also a fitting tribute to our own 75 years of the French Convention!

11. **Sympathique**

In this whimsical yet meaningful song by Pink Martini, the singer doesn't want to work or eat lunch—she just wants to forget about her troubles.

12. **Sous le ciel de Paris**

After studying the genre of the *chanson française*, these two students wanted to sing a duet inspired by the great Edith Piaf.

**CHORAL COMPETITION – GROUP**  
**13h00 à 14h00 (Ballroom)**

1. ***Papaoutai***

This is a personal song by Stromae about his father, who died in the 1994 Rwandan genocide. The song talks about growing up without a father and feelings of absence and loss, while using an upbeat, dance-style sound. Enjoy our performance!

2. ***Peuples, Criez de Joie***

French translation of the classic Christian hymn "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty".

3. ***Calme des nuits***

A beautiful and moving choral tone poem by Camille Saint-Saëns, lauding the calm beauty and profound silence of the night.

4. ***Ça fait rire les oiseaux***

This song by Compagnie Créole from Guadeloupe tells the story of the joyous power of music and how it moves not only humans but even the sky, flora, and fauna -- *fêtons tous la musique!*

5. ***Chante, la vie chante***

This song by Michel Fugain (and also redone by Kids United), implores us to sing, live life to the fullest, and sing as if there's no tomorrow!

6. ***Mosaïque Musicale***

Genres collide and rhythm unites!

7. ***Dilemme***

This contemporary Francophone song by Lous and the Yakuza blends Afro-pop influences with modern French songwriting. The piece explores themes of identity, inner conflict, and self-determination, reflecting the cultural diversity of the French-speaking world.

8. ***Les Champs-Élysées***

This song is about all of the life you can experience on the Champs-Élysées in Paris

9. ***Il faudra leur dire***

Relive the sounds of the 1980s with this poignant song by French singer-songwriter Francis Cabrel. This gentle, humanistic song is about teaching children—and ultimately everyone—to choose kindness, empathy, and love. It reflects on how simple gestures of compassion can reduce suffering and bring people closer together.

10. ***Fêtons la musique ! La bande-son des générations***

Celebrate the richness of French and Francophone music in this medley that blends classic songs with pop, rap, and contemporary hits and invites us all to *fêter la musique* together.

11. ***Les Chemins de l'amour***

In this 1940 *valse chantée*, or sung waltz, Francis Poulenc set Jean Anouilh's lyrics to music for soprano as part of Poulenc's incidental music for Anouilh's new play *Léocadia*.

12. ***J'entends le moulin***

Students decided to honor music outside of France through their selection of this classic French-Canadian folk song.

## **FILM**

**10h00 -et- 13h00 (Room 3104)**

### ***Les Choristes (2004)***

(In French with subtitles in English)

Set in 1949, this French drama follows Clément Mathieu, a down-on-his-luck musician who takes a job as a supervisor at Fond de l'Étang, a strict boarding school for troubled boys in post-WWII France. The headmaster rules through punishment and fear, treating the boys as hopeless delinquents; the boys respond with rebellion, boredom, and despair.

But Mathieu sees something different in the boys: potential. Instead of doubling down on discipline, he introduces music—first tentatively, then boldly—forming a choir in secret. Through singing, the boys (many of whom had been written off by adults) begin to gain confidence, discipline, and a sense of belonging.

Come be inspired by music's power to heal—and how one caring adult can change a child's life forever!

**GROUP SKIT COMPETITION – LEVELS 1 & 2**  
**9h30 à 10h00 (Ballroom)**

1. ***Blanc(he) Nain(e) et les Sept Métro-Gnomes***

In all of Paris, who has the fairest voice of them all? Enjoy this comedic and musical twist on the classic fairytale.

2. ***Le Grand conseil des comptines***

Having discovered that their songs are being forgotten by children in this fast-paced world, characters from classic French nursery rhymes come together for a “Grand Council” to save their music. As they discuss historical and cultural meanings behind their lyrics, they highlight the relevance of this music for all generations.

3. ***Un Tour des Musiciens au Café de Jazz***

Students travel back in time to learn about the history of French music and the stars who influenced it in a secret jazz café.

**GROUP SKIT COMPETITION – LEVELS 3 & ADVANCED**  
**10h00 à 10h30 (Ballroom)**

1. ***Les Globes en Folie : La Musique, les Stars, et le Chaos***

The sketch takes place at the Golden Globes, where music is at the heart of the evening. On the red carpet, celebrities explain how music influences their art and emotions, while the paparazzi fuel the glamour and rumors. The official ceremony highlights the universal power of music, even in a competitive setting. The climax is the announcement of the award for Best Musical Performance, won by Cynthia Erivo. The sketch concludes with a collective message affirming that music unites, inspires, and brings all artists together.

2. ***Fêtons la Musique à travers le temps...***

The planet, the clock, the phonograph, the vinyl record, the compact disc, the hard drive...they all keep turning and bringing the next season of the universal language of music in France.

3. ***La Musique dans la Rue***

Set in the French Quarter of New Orleans, this skit follows street performers, locals, and tourists as music fills the streets in the spirit of *la Fête de la musique*. The characters explore the cultural connections between France and Louisiana and show how free, spontaneous, and inclusive music brings communities together.

**SCHOLARS BOWL (*Jeopardy!*) COMPETITION**  
**9h30 à 13h00 (Rooms 3700 – Forum)**

Welcome to our second year of running *Jeopardy!* instead of the classic Scholars Bowl. Please be patient with us as we continue to adjust to this new format.

Thirteen (13) teams are competing in rounds as indicated by the groupings below. Your team sponsor, captain, or other designee should keep tabs on the progress of the rounds so that your team will be in place **immediately** when it's your turn!

All rules may be consulted at <http://frenchconvention.org/scholars-bowl/>

Audience, please behave respectfully toward all players, on all teams, at all times!

***Que la meilleure équipe gagne !***

**GAME 1:** Advent // Randolph // Trinity

**GAME 2:** Altamont // Indian Springs // Montgomery Academy

**GAME 3:** Chelsea // ASFA // Vestavia Hills

**GAME 4:** Florence // Homewood // Hoover

**GAME 5:** Championship! (the 3 highest-scoring teams)

## **SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION – ORAL INTERVIEW**

**9h45 à 11h15 (Room 3115)**

The Scholarship Competition is made possible this year due to a generous grant from the **Alabama Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of French (AATF)!**

Scholarship candidates from the following schools should report at their appointed time for their oral interview and wait for the judge to let them into the room.

<b>SCHOOL</b>	<b>APPOINTMENT TIME</b>
Montgomery Academy	10h00
Altamont	10h15
ASFA	10h30
Hoover	10h45
Vestavia	11h00
Homewood	11h15
JCIB	11h30

**T-SHIRT / PROGRAM DESIGN COMPETITION**

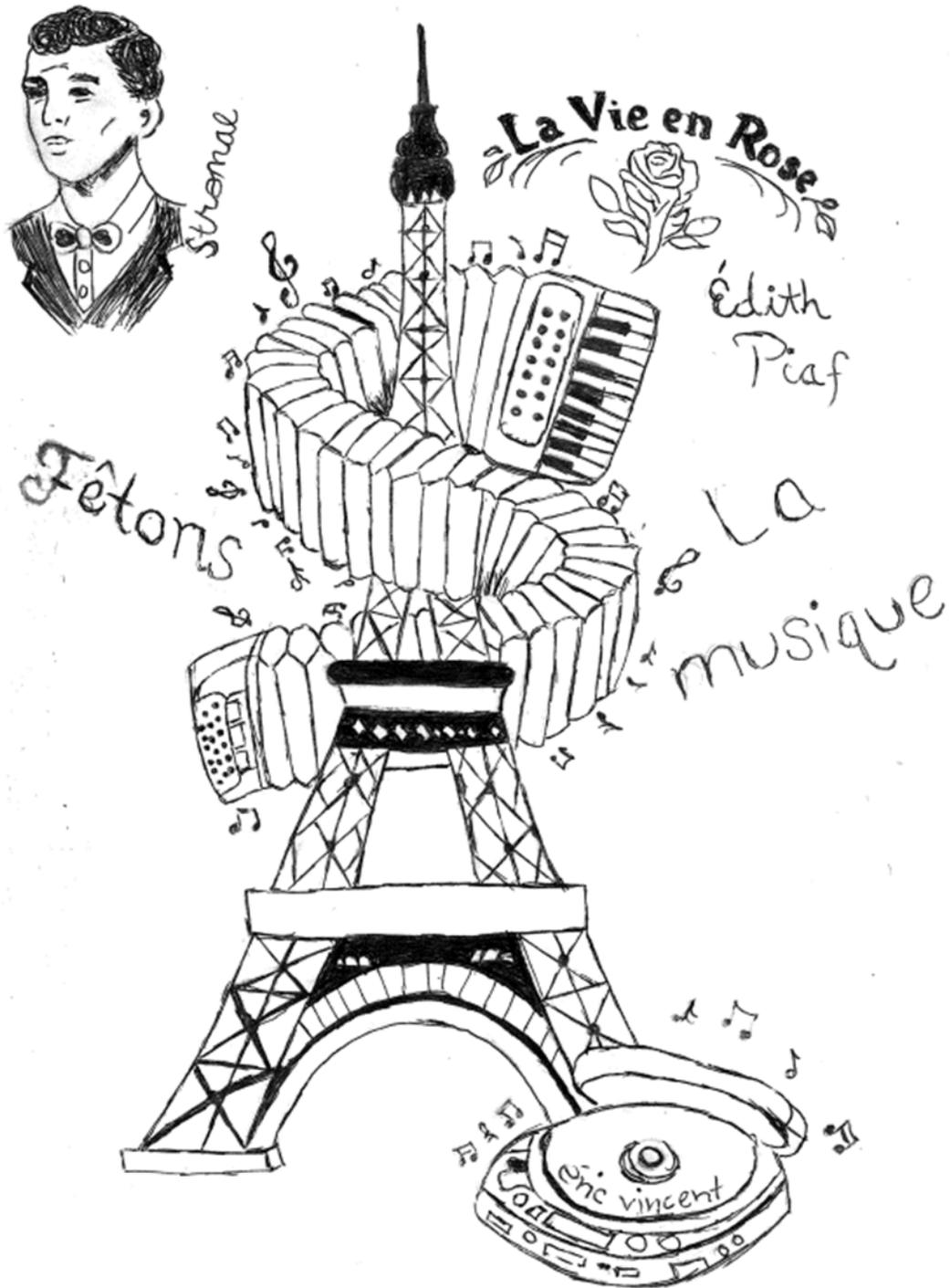
*Bien Award*



*Grace J.  
Homewood High School*

**T-SHIRT / PROGRAM DESIGN COMPETITION**

*Bien Award*



*Diamond D.  
Jefferson County International  
Baccalaureate High School*

**T-SHIRT / PROGRAM DESIGN COMPETITION**

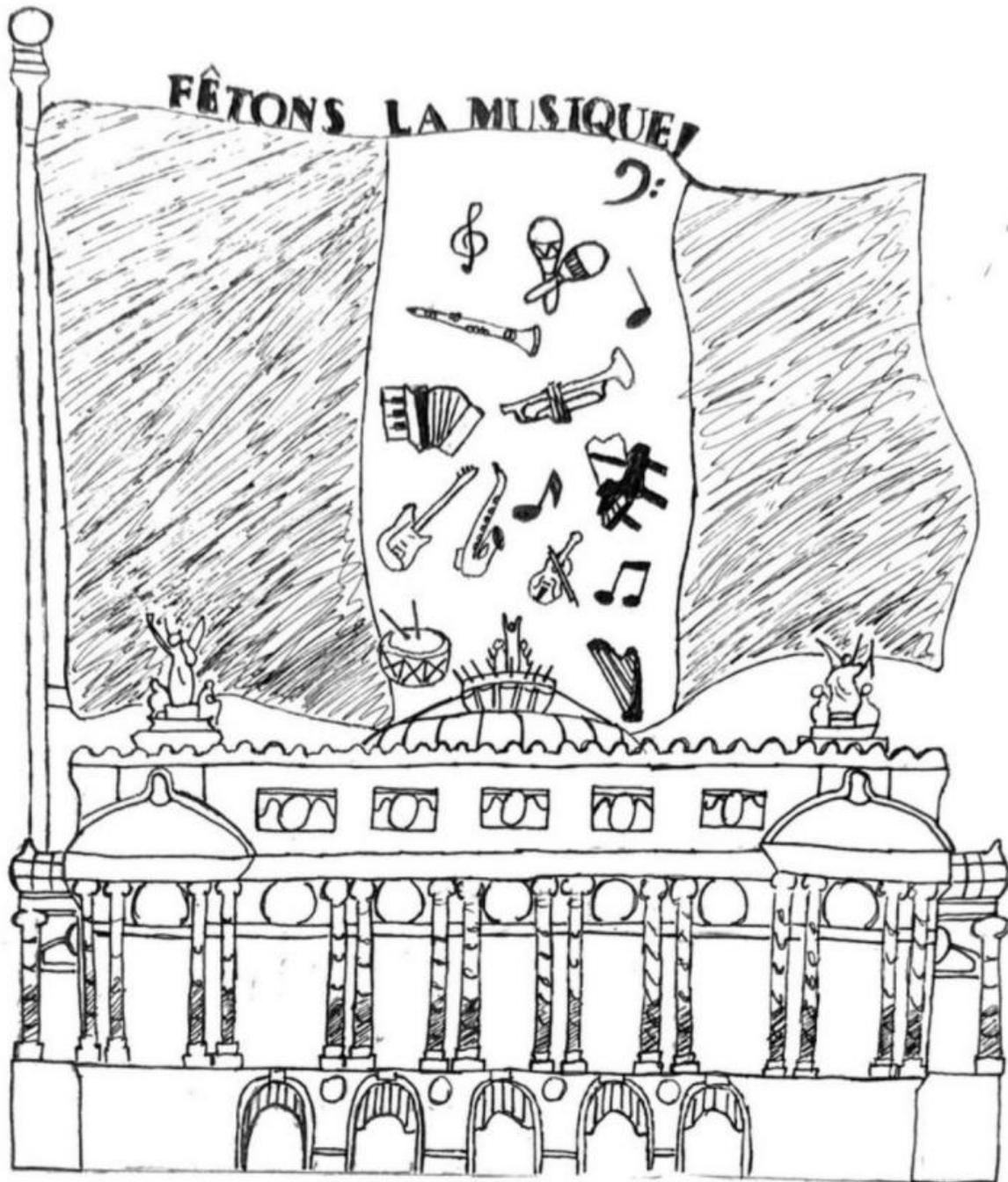
*Bien Award*



*Mary-Hallman G.  
Trinity Presbyterian School*

**T-SHIRT / PROGRAM DESIGN COMPETITION**

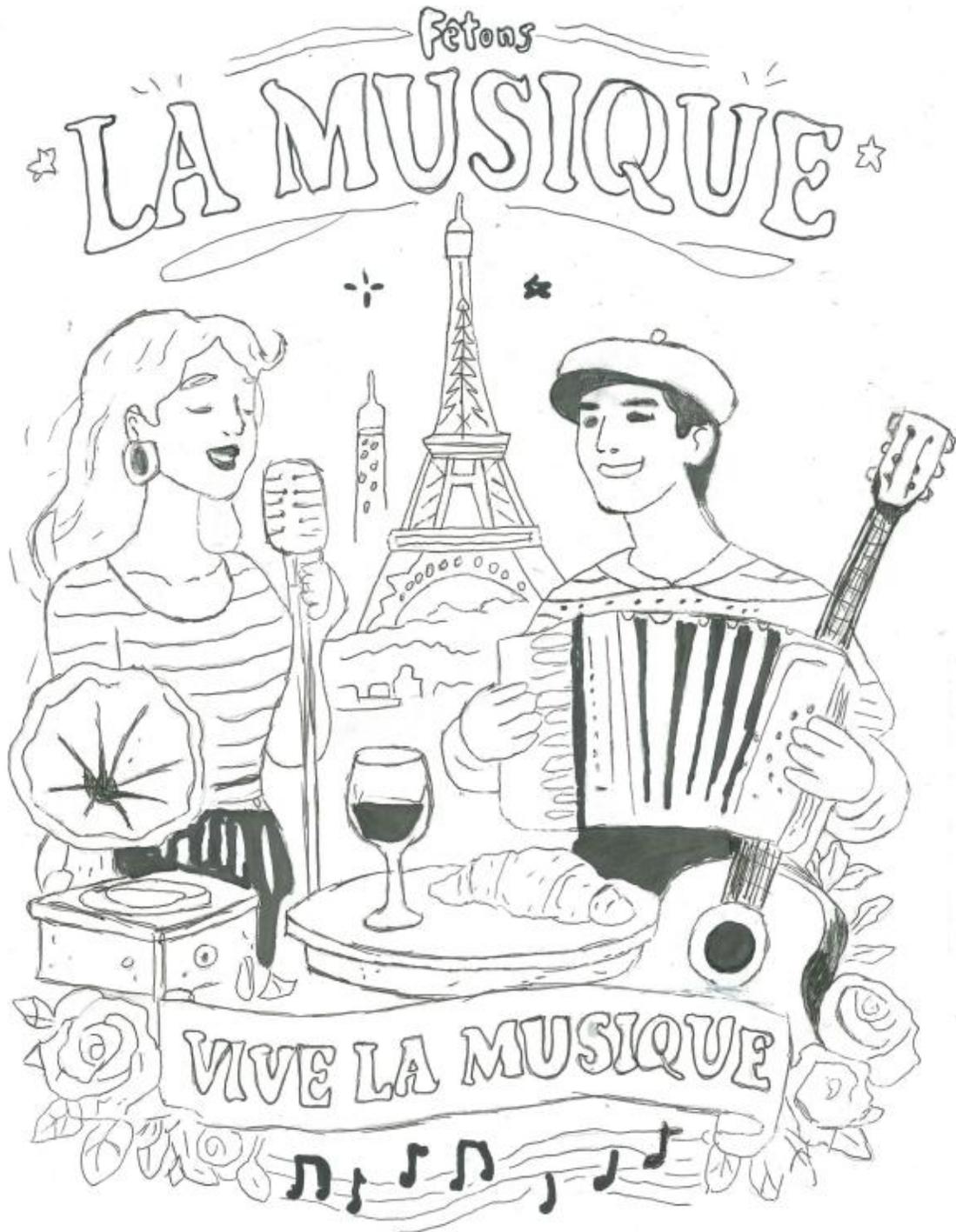
*Mention Honorable Award*



*William B.  
Indian Springs School*

**T-SHIRT / PROGRAM DESIGN COMPETITION**

*Mention Honorable Award*



*James B.  
Mountain Brook Junior High School*

**T-SHIRT / PROGRAM DESIGN COMPETITION**

*Mention Honorable Award*



*Marion H.  
Advent Episcopal School*

**T-SHIRT / PROGRAM DESIGN COMPETITION**

*Mention Honorable Award*



Grace W.  
Vestavia Hills High School

## **VIDEO COMPETITION**

**9h30 (Ballroom)**

1. ***Ma chanson préférée***

A student has his day improved by listening to his favorite song.

2. ***Incroyable talent !***

A young woman performs before a panel of judges and gets the GOLDEN BUZZER!

3. ***La compétition des genres !***

Dancers compete to various genres of music.

4. ***Le Spectacle***

Students are nervous preparing for a show where they will sing and play the piano. After discussing the importance of practice, they have a great show.

5. ***C'est toujours la même ritournelle***

Music brings back childhood memories.

6. ***Qui a du talent ? (MDV)***

Musical hopefuls audition to win it all!

7. ***La prochaine star !***

A singing audition with some 'unusual' talents. See it all on the upcoming season of "The Next Star"!

8. ***C'est la nouvelle aire***

This video follows Eli, a nervous contestant in a school singing competition, who faces harsh judges and self-doubt after watching others fail. Instead of performing a traditional French song, Eli takes a risk by delivering a confident rap that celebrates modern French-speaking artists from across the Francophone world. His bold choice transforms the judges' opinions and earns a standing ovation, highlighting how contemporary Francophone music gives voice to creativity, identity, and confidence.

9. ***La France a un Incroyable Talent***

Different performers, different judges...à chacun son goût!

10. ***Qui a du talent ? (PR)***

Everyone wants to be a star, but not everyone succeeds...

11. ***La Note Parfaite***

Inspired by Pitch Perfect, students form an a cappella-style group and audition to join it.

12. ***La Voix***

In this French version of The Voice, students take the stage to audition with iconic French and Francophone songs.

13. ***Un Pub pour le Café « Agate Rhythm »***

A secret jazz cafe tries to advertise itself to its viewers while hiding its true purpose in plain sight.

## **CLOSING / AWARDS CEREMONY**

**14h30 à 15h00 (Ballroom)**

We hope that you have had a great day at French Convention and that you will come back next year! Please turn to Page 27 in your Program to follow along.

Please rise if you are still wearing your French-only necklace. *On vous relâche*. You are now released from your oath. *Félicitations!* Please come forward to receive your certificate.

Awards for today's competitions will be announced in the following order, and in rankings up from Honorable Mention, to *Bien*, to *Très Bien*, to *Supérieur*, and finally *Grand Prix*.

1. Breakout Game, Scavenger Hunt
2. Scholar's Bowl (*Jeopardy!*)
3. Group Skit Competition: Levels 1 & 2, Levels 3 & Advanced
4. Choral – Solo
5. Scholarship
6. T-shirt / Program Cover Design Competition
7. Video Competition
8. Visual Art Competition

\*Due to high volume and/or time constraints with the shortened day, the Choral, *Dictée*, Individual Oral, Interpersonal Speaking, and Theme Quiz certificates will be mailed out to winners next week.

Be sure to retrieve all your belongings, artwork, props, etc. before leaving.

Clean up all trash around you and any items you see on your way out.

Sponsors, please take the time to fill out and submit the online evaluation within the next two weeks while details are fresh on your mind! The link is on the website!

Let's close today's ceremony by reciting France's national slogan together:

***Liberté, Égalité, Fraternité !***

***Merci, Bonne Route, et à l'Année Prochaine !***

## NOTES

## PASSEPORT

*J'y ai assisté. ≈ I attended.*

*J'y ai participé. ≈ I participated.*

*S.O. = Sans Objet = N/A*

<b>ÉVÉNEMENT</b>	<b>J'y ai assisté.</b>	<b>J'y ai participé.</b>
<b>Art Room</b> <i>(Atelier d'art)</i>		
<b>Awards Ceremony</b> <i>(Remise des prix)</i>		
<b>Breakout Game</b> <i>(Jeu d'évasion)</i>	----- S.O. -----	
<b>Campus Tour</b> <i>(Tour du campus)</i>		
<b>Choral Competition – Solo/Duet</b> <i>(Concours de chant – solo/duo)</i>		
<b>Choral Competition – Group</b> <i>(Concours de chant – groupe)</i>		
<b>Dictée</b> <i>(Dictation)</i>	----- S.O. -----	
<b>Immersion Oath</b> <i>(Serment d'engagement)</i>	----- S.O. -----	
<b>Interpersonal Speaking</b> <i>(Expression interpersonnelle)</i>	----- S.O. -----	
<b>Game Room / Karaoke</b> <i>(Salle de jeux)</i>		
<b>Movie Room</b> <i>(Salle de cinéma)</i>		----- S.O. -----
<b>Presentation</b> <i>(Conférence)</i>		----- S.O. -----
<b>Presentational Speaking</b> <i>(Présentation orale)</i>		
<b>Scholars Bowl (Jeopardy!)</b> <i>(Jeu-questionnaire)</i>		
<b>Scholarship Competition</b> <i>(Concours bourse)</i>	----- S.O. -----	
<b>Skits</b> <i>(Sketchs)</i>		
<b>Scavenger Hunt</b> <i>(Chasse au trésor)</i>	----- S.O. -----	
<b>Theme Quiz</b> <i>(Quiz thématique)</i>	----- S.O. -----	
<b>Video Competition</b> <i>(Concours vidéo)</i>		
<b>Visual Art</b> <i>(Exposition d'art)</i>		