

UIL Academic Competition Events!!! (Volunteers Needed!)

The University Interscholastic League (UIL) is the largest inter-school organization of its kind in the world. It provides educational extracurricular academic, art, music, storytelling, and theatrical contests (among others). Kolter believes in the benefits of having our students participate in UIL competitions and needs the support of parent volunteers to make such extracurricular activities offerings available and worthwhile for our students. With new events this year, there is something available for students in every grade K-5.

Below is a listing of the events in which students can participate. If you can help coach an event or help with the running of the competition on a tournament day, please let Kim Thomas know. On November 5, Kolter will be hosting a competition at our school and we will need a lot of extra hands on that date.

Storytelling English (2nd - 3rd/Ms. Lawrence/Thursdays, 3:15-4:15)

To tell a story, the participant must develop skills in listening, thinking and speaking. This contest also allows for the development of creative expression, something being given more attention in the professional world. For practice, teachers can use stories from any good children's books or magazines. Contestants in the second and third grades shall listen to a storyteller read a brief story (between 600 and 1100 words long) only once, and then retell that story in their own words before a judge or judges.

Storytelling Spanish (2nd - 3rd/Ms. Bravo/Tuesdays, 3:15-4:00)

Format is similar to the English version. The story is read in Spanish, and participants will retell the story in Spanish.

Oral Reading English (4th-5th/Ms. Mangum/Fridays, 3:15-4:00)

Reading literature out loud provides opportunities for students to analyze the text, to grow and to develop as a performer, to communicate a message to an audience and to perform an artistic creation. The oral reading competition should be an extension of the classroom literary and language arts activities in poetry, short stories and children's fiction. Students read a selection of poetry or prose. Each selection may be a single piece, a cutting, or a combination of several selections.

Oral Reading Spanish (4th-5th/Volunteer Coach Needed!!/TBA)

This is event is similar to the oral reading event in English. Selections must be read in Spanish.

Art (4th-5th/Ms. Hill/Tuesdays, 3:15-4:00)

Students will identify the artists name and the title of 15 paintings selected randomly from the official list of art paintings published in the Art Smart Bulletin and on the UIL website. Also, students will answer 30 questions about art elements and art history characteristics of the 40 selections.

Impromptu Speaking (K-5th/Ms. Stewart/Mondays, 3:15-4:00)

Contestants will draw three topics and have three minutes to prepare a speech on one of the topics of their choosing, which will be presented without any notes. The contest gives participants experience in thinking, organizing, formulating clear thoughts, and delivering those thoughts to an audience.

Number Sense (4th-5th/Mr. Silk/Mr. Alter/Fridays, 3:20-4:20)

Individuals are called upon every day to use their ability to make quick mental calculations to make decisions. The development of such abilities should be an integral part of the math curriculum. Concepts covered include, but are not limited to: addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, proportions, and use of mathematic notation. Students will be given a 10-minute, fill-in-the-blank test which they must complete without doing calculations on paper or on a calculator.

Solo Acting (K-2nd/Ms. Kearney/During School) (3rd-5th/Ms. Alter/Tuesdays, 3:15-4:00)

Students will present a selection from a published play, novel, short story, or poem. Selections must be memorized and must include an introduction stating the title and author. Costumes and props are allowed, including one chair. Maximum time limit is 5 minutes.

Public Speaking (K-2nd & 3rd-5th/Ms. Stamos/Mondays, 3:15-4:15)

Students will present a memorized speech of their choosing 1-5 minutes in length. The speech may be written by the student, or presented by a public figure. No notes may be used. Costumes and/or props are not allowed.

Creative Writing (2nd/Ms. Silverman/Mondays, 3:30-4:30)

The contest is designed to promote creativity in an academic format and to encourage writing skills at an early grade level. Through preparation for the contest, students in second grade will be able to evaluate their own writing and the writing of others. Contestants will be given a prompt with several captioned pictures. From these pictures, the students will create an original story based on their selections in 30 minutes. The stories must contain at least one of the pictured items, but it is not required that all items on the page be included.

Listening (5th/Ms. Thomas/During School)

The listening contest is designed to help students in grades 5,6,7 and 8 recognize the importance of effective listening skills and to identify problems they may have in listening effectively. It also provides a challenging format to test the improvement of their listening abilities. Through preparation for the contest, participants will listen actively to a variety of material and learn to analyze and evaluate a speaker's message critically. Tests will include, but not necessarily be limited to, language arts, fine arts, natural sciences and social studies. The objective tests will measure skills such as identifying the main idea and supporting ideas, drawing conclusions, distinguishing fact from opinion, and mastering other listening and thinking skills.

Maps, Graphs & Charts (5th/Ms. Schlaudt/Thursdays, 3:15-4:15)

The maps, graphs & charts contest is designed to help students learn to get information from a variety of maps, graphs and charts including world maps, pie charts, bar charts and local area maps. The objective test will measure skills such as using a reference book to locate information, making comparisons, estimating and approximating, using scale and interpreting grid systems, legends and keys. Students will be given an objective test containing approximately 75 multiple choice, true/false, and fill-in-the-blank questions which must be answered in 45 minutes.

Social Studies (5th/Ms. Schlaudt/Thursdays, 3:15-4:15)

This is a great event for kids who love social studies and history. Subject matter used for the test is taken from the social studies text and other primary sources. At competition, students will take an objective test in 30 minutes.



Music Memory (3rd-4th & 5th/Volunteer Coach Needed!!/Coach's Choice)

The focus of the Music Memory contest is an in-depth study of fine pieces of music literature taken from a wide spectrum of music genres to expose students to great composers, their lives and their music. In the course of preparing for the contest, students should be given the opportunity to describe and analyze the music, relate the music to history, to society and to culture, and to evaluate musical performance. Students will listen to approximately 20 seconds of up to 20 musical selections and identify the name of the major work, selection and the name of the composer.

Ready Writing (3rd-4th & 5th/Ms. Bodie/Wednesdays, 3:15-4:15)

Texas has put a great emphasis on writing skills at all levels of school and all levels of state-wide testing. Ready Writing, a contest for students in grades 3, 4,5,6,7 and 8, builds upon those skills and helps students refine their writing abilities. In particular, this contest helps them to learn to write clearly and correctly a paper that is interesting and original. Contestants are given a choice between two prompts which define the audience, and provides the purpose for writing. Students are encouraged to analyze the prompts for the purpose of writing, the format, the audience and the point of view.

Spelling (3rd-4th & 5th/Ms. Thomas/During School)

The spelling contest is designed to give students in grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 exposures to a wide variety of vocabulary words. It is not a contest of memorization. Emphasis is placed on the rules of the English language, meanings and definitions, and root words. In addition to learning to spell proficiently, contestants will learn to write clearly and to capitalize words properly.

Volunteers Needed!!

- 1.) Coach's assistant during practices
- 2.) Nov. 5th Tournament is at Kolter ES!!! We need the following:
 - Parents to supervise cafeteria (2 hour shifts)
 - Greeters/Graders/Snack Sales/Runners/Monitors/Judges
- 3.) We also need volunteers for these tournaments:
 - (Nov.5/Jan.28/Feb. 25/March 31/May 5)



Competition Eligibility

The district determines how many entries are allowed for each event. The coach will select the students who are most prepared for competition; however, all children benefit greatly from the weekly practices and students may opt to attend the competition to support their fellow classmates.

Transportation to Tournament

Transportation to and from the competitions are provided by parents. It is not cost effective for buses. Parents are encouraged to organize carpools on their own.

Performances

We invite parents to come watch their students perform, cheer them on, or attend the awards program. Due to supervisory concerns and constraints, non-participating children may only attend the awards program only.