



## HIGH SCHOOL/MIDDLE LEVEL

## 2024-2025 TOP PROJECTS AWARD

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TASC recognizes the most outstanding projects by local HS and ML councils each year. Student councils may submit their best projects using the format outlined below. Submissions will be judged by a committee chaired by the TASC Parliamentarian School. This competition is open to all member schools. There are two categories: individual council projects and collaborative council projects (projects amongst two or more school student councils).

- Up to ten individual council awards will be presented to high school councils. Collaborative schools submitting award-winning projects will be given a plaque for up to four schools.
- Up to five individual council awards will be presented to middle-level councils. Collaborative schools submitting award-winning projects will be given a plaque for up to four schools.

### ENTRY RULES FOR COMPETITION

1. Entries must be submitted via the TASC website and completed in one sitting. You may print this form and use it as a guide.
2. NAME of project  
PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES (What were you trying to accomplish with the project?)  
BRIEF DESCRIPTION of the activities. Attach up to one page (12 pt. font, double-spaced) explaining the purpose/objectives and a description of the project.  
DESCRIPTION OF INVOLVEMENT with: (to be noted on the form.)

a) student council members	d) faculty
b) other students	e) community
c) other school organizations	f) other student councils
3. The entry must be accompanied by a signed evaluation by at least one teacher, administrator, or staff member other than the submitting student council advisor. This may be a letter, a survey, etc.
4. The entry may include up to five photographs.
5. Councils may submit up to one individual Top Project entry and one collaborative Top Project entry per year.
6. An advisor must upload all entries to the TASOnline.org website. Once you have submitted your online application, you will receive an email from TASC confirming receipt of your application. (The TASC website does not accept Google Docs.)
7. Winning entries will receive an award determined by the TASC Board of Directors. Councils applying for award-winning projects will receive a plaque. Additional schools listed in collaborative project award winners will receive a certificate.
8. You are asked to submit contact information for every council involved in a collaborative project.
9. Number of awards: Individual – up to 10 HS, up to 5 ML; Collaborative – up to 3 at HS, and up to 1 ML

**JUDGING CRITERIA:**

1. How well does the project meet objectives?	0-5
2. Amount of involvement in preparation with:	
a) the council(s)	0-5
b) the student(s)	0-5
c) other school organizations	0-5
d) teachers	0-5
e) community	0-5
3. Originality of project idea	0-5
4. Overall results and success from the standpoint of:	
a) student body participation/reaction	0-5
b) faculty/community participation/reaction	0-5
5. Consideration of the circumstances of the project as it relates to the size (number) of the school(s)/community(ies)/group(s), etc..	0-5
6. Evaluation(s) received	0-5

**TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS 55**

Point totals will select the finalists from all outstanding project submissions. The committee will then determine award winners based on originality and innovation.

**SUBMISSION DEADLINES DIFFER FOR MIDDLE-LEVEL AND HIGH SCHOOL. SEE THE WEBSITE FOR ENTRY DEADLINES.**



TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT COUNCILS  
TASC TOP PROJECTS COMPETITION

☒ High School

☐ Middle Level

ENTRY COVER SHEET

PLEASE INDICATE:

THIS IS AN INDIVIDUAL COUNCIL PROJECT.



THIS IS A COLLABORATIVE COUNCIL PROJECT.



<b>School Name submitting the application.</b>	<b>School Address:</b>
Kempner High School	14777 Voss Road
<b>School City/State/Zip:</b>	<b>Size of Community(ies):</b>
Sugar Land/TX/77498	108,000+
<b>Advisor Name:</b>	<b>Advisor E-Mail:</b>
Kristen Buchanan	Kristen.buchanan@fortbendisd.gov
<b>Principal Name:</b>	<b>Principal Signature &amp; Email Address</b>
Dr. Danielle Jackson	Danielle.Jackson@fortbendisd.gov
<b>School UIL Classification:</b>	<i>Dr. Danielle Oliver Jackson</i>
5A	
<b>Project Name:</b>	<b>Project Dates:</b>
International Festival	10/29/2024, 11/9/2024, and 11/16/2024
<b>Total Number of Students in Council(s):</b>	<b>Number of Members Involved in the Project:</b>
70	50
<b>Total Number of Students Enrolled in School(s):</b>	<b>Number of Other Students Involved in Project:</b>
1865	186
<b>Total Number of Faculty employed in School(s):</b>	<b>Number of Faculty Involved in Project:</b>
160	31
<b>Number of Community Groups Involved in Project</b>	<b>Number of Community Members Involved in Project</b>
6: Clements' K-pop Club, Foreign Policy Food Truck, Carey's Frozen Delights Food Truck, American Shaolin Kung Fu, students from other Houston High Schools	21

THIS INFORMATION MUST BE SUBMITTED ONLINE. THE TASC WEBSITE DOES NOT ACCEPT GOOGLE DOCS.

This application must be submitted online via the TASC website.

Upload photos, newspaper articles, etc. Scan all pages into one document and upload for judging.

Please upload one good jpeg of the project separately.



Please consider submitting a proposal for a table talk (HS) on your project at the high school conference or for a breakout at the Middle-Level Conference for extra points. You must apply to do that.

**Name:** International Festival (IFest)

**Purpose:** The purpose of this project is to promote and celebrate the diversity of our school and the school district. We exchange cultural knowledge amongst students by using IFest as a learning opportunity by encouraging students to explore the beauty of various cultures with an engaging experience for both students and their families.

**Description:** Our International Festival (IFest for short) is split into two different sections. The first half is a “tour around the world.” We have different Kempner organizations sign up for different countries such as: Japan, Nepal, Argentina, Mexico, Jordan, and many more. Guests who come during this section are given a “passport” where they will get a stamp from each booth after completing an activity at each booth/country. Students that attend Kempner are given extra credit for one class at their teacher’s discretion for turning in a complete passport. The second section of IFest is filled with performances and a fashion show that represent the countries showcased in the passport section. We start with a fashion show that students sign up to represent a country’s traditional clothes. Then we have the performances, each performance is made up of a different country and something that represents their culture. For example, there is a Folklorico dance performance representing Mexico, a Kung Fu performance that represents China, and Kempner’s Tri-M group that played a classical tune with German origins to represent Germany. We presented our project as a table talk in our D713 Winter Workshop in 2024 and at the D713 Fall Convention in 2024 where many people showed interest in the idea and were eager to implement it at their school.

**Involvement:**

StuCo Members: The members helped us create decorations and a photo backdrop for people to take pictures with in the cafeteria as well as made and set up Student Council’s booth.

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KHS Students: IFest is open to all KHS students and we had over 300 hundred students in attendance this year. The fashion show and the performances are not limited to school organizations, this allows students to attend the rehearsals and apply to be part of the festival in case their organization is not participating.

KHS Organizations: Campus organizations are encouraged to participate and this year we had 16 groups represented. Those participating create a booth (table set up) to represent a country, sometimes based on what the club is based on such as the Muslim Student Association representing Palestine and Science National Honor Society representing Germany as a Science capital. Another organization that is crucial to the success of IFest is our Spanish National Honor Society. Their sponsor and officers oversee the performance portion by hosting auditions and rehearsals and organizing the order of performances. Our StuCo officers assist Spanish NHS by attending the auditions and rehearsals to help keep the students organized and focused.

KHS Faculty: The faculty support IFest by signing up their organization to host a booth, volunteering at the check-in table, allowing students to receive extra credit when they turn in their completed passport, and theatre specifically as they have to work around their schedule so that we can use the auditorium for rehearsals and for the day of IFest.

FBISD Community: Families of KHS students are invited to attend and more than 100 showed up to show their support! This year, we were able to open our festival performances up to allow outside groups to perform. We were able to have one outside group from another FBISD high school perform and a group made up of multiple different schools from the Houston area. We also invited several food trucks to attend so that our attendees could enjoy various types of delicious food as they participated in the booths.

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Rachel Wempe, and I am the AP Human Geography teacher at Kempner High School. It is my pleasure to share with you the incredible event known as iFest.

iFest was created to celebrate the vibrant diversity of Kempner's student body and the broader Fort Bend ISD community. As one of the largest student-run events of the fall semester, it brings together representatives from our student clubs and organizations, with each club hosting a country-themed booth. These booths are designed to offer attendees an immersive experience, allowing them to explore various countries while getting their iFest passports stamped.

This past year, iFest saw remarkable student and community engagement. More than 15 student organizations hosted booths representing different countries, and over 10 performances captivated attendees. The performances included a cultural fashion show, traditional dances, and karate demonstrations, showcasing the incredible talent and diversity of our students.

As a social studies educator, it is inspiring to see students researching and presenting about their chosen countries at their booths. This event provides an opportunity for them to celebrate their own cultures or explore countries they are curious about. The passport activity, where attendees interact with the booths, fosters public speaking skills, promotes cultural appreciation, and strengthens community connections.

After the booth exploration, attendees gather in the auditorium for a series of cultural performances that include singing, dancing, martial arts demonstrations, and a vibrant fashion show. The energy in the auditorium is electrifying—each performance is met with enthusiastic applause and cheers from the packed audience. The synergy and excitement during this portion of the night are indescribable, creating a truly unforgettable experience.

As a member of the Kempner High School community, I am deeply proud to play a small role in this extraordinary event. iFest is a testament to the love, support, and pride that our students and their families share for their cultural heritage and for one another.

Sincerely,

Rachel Wempe

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Rachel Wempe', written in a cursive style.

AP Human Geography Teacher  
Kempner High School





Updated July 2024



Top Projects Rating Sheet (for judges only) Councils may want this as a reference.

School Name	1 Not Met	2	3 Met	4	5 Exceeds
Project Meets Objective					
Amount of Involvement: Council					
Amount of Involvement: Student(s)					
Amount of Involvement: Other School Organizations					
Amount of Involvement: Teachers					
Amount of Involvement: Community					
Originality					
Overall Results: Students					
Overall Results: Faculty/Community					
Project relative to school/community size					
Submitted proposal for presentation at conference					
Evaluation Score Subtotals					

Total Evaluation Score \_\_\_\_\_

**For Collaborative Project, list contact information for all councils involved.**

School Name	School Mailing Address (include zip code)	Advisor Name	Advisor Email Address