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07 December 2025

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Again this year, the Rhode Island chapter of *The American Association of Teachers of French* is offering to students of French throughout the state the opportunity to participate in ***Le Grand Concours 2026*** (the National French Contest). It is an annual competition for students of French in grades 1-12. Annually, this contest enrolls students throughout the United States.

Students take an **on-line test** and compete against students with similar educational background for prizes including certificates, medals, trophies, scholarships, and monetary prizes. Those scoring in the top percentiles in the nation will be invited to an awards ceremony in May to honor their achievement.

Students of French who choose to participate in this year's *Concours* will take the Level exam equivalent to that of their school's French curriculum (i.e., French III will take the Level 3 exam). The exam is a multiple-choice test of 70 items for Level 01, 1 and 2 and 60 items for levels 3, 4 and 5 covering listening comprehension, vocabulary and grammar in context, as well as readings.

From **mid-February to the first week in March 2026 (Elementary)** and from **the second week of February to the first week of April 2026 (Secondary)**, the contest will be held in participating schools according to a date set by participating teachers. Participating teachers register their own students.

Please note the cut-off date for the registration per your students' teacher.

The *Grand Concours* tests are developed annually by the American Association of Teachers of French as a motivational, extracurricular activity/contest for students of French. The *Grand Concours* is on the list of approved tests published by the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) <http://www.principals.org/>. I encourage all students to experience this test. It is but the first of many similar written examinations that they will face in the future, and the experience alone of participating has merit. There is no failure nor are there negative consequences to the test. It is also an excellent activity to place on college applications, etc.

I wish all students of French in Rhode Island «Bonne Chance pour le Concours»!

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Hébert".

Michael Hébert
President