



Hip Hope Open Mic & Discussion Manual.

The Hip Hope Open Mic & Discussion is part of the Hip Hope Institute. For more information about the Hip Hope Institute please visit hiphopeinternational.com

The objective of this manual is to help churches/ministries run an **Open Mic & Discussion**. Our vision is to see the open mic & discussion sprout up everywhere, in churches and also independently.

Important Open Mic & Discussion Information

1. You need an emcee (MC)-probably someone that is hip and relate-able~ *could be a guy or a gal.*
2. Make sure the stage is clear. No podium, No Flowers
3. No overly religious decorations on the wall. Please take down any religious decorations if they are not permanently placed.
4. Make sure you have some light refreshments (water, some snacks) if you can afford it.
5. Make sure you have a sound (PA system) and video (projector and screen). The video/audio is optional if you don't have it.
6. If you choose to you can have greeters (1-2) at the door to welcome people. Make sure you have a sign up sheet for all the people that attend.
7. Make sure the atmosphere is right~
Spiritually- Make Sure the atmosphere is saturated in prayer & worship. Please pray at least 30 minutes to 1 hour before the open mic.
Physically- Make sure there is good background music playing before and after the open mic

Open Mic & Discussion Personnel

- Emcee (or youth leader)
- Discussion group leaders (1-3 depending on number of groups)

- Greeter/s (someone to take down names of performers before meeting)
- DJ (optional)
- Security (optional)

Order Of Events

Introductions: (5 minutes). The Emcee & DJ welcome everyone to the **Hip Hope Open Mic & Discussion**. Explain the rules to everyone and make announcements. – “All performances must be respectful and clean(No Vulgarity)”

Open Mic Section: (45 minutes). This is the section where the youth & young adults perform. -

a. Types of Performances

- Dance
- Rap
- Spoken Word/ Poetry
- Singing
- Instrumental performances
- Skit/Play/Drama

- Short Film display

b. Guidelines for Open Mic Section

- When performers arrive at the open mic, they must **sign up** on the performers list to get on stage. Then, the list must be passed on to the Emcee and DJ (*if you have a DJ*)

- All performers have to be clean, no vulgarity / sexual images.

- The contestants must get their music/video to the DJ or sound person at least 30 minutes before commencement. The same goes for people who are playing instruments because they need to set up their equipment.

- Duration: If there are-
 - 5 or less performances --**10min**/each

 - 6-10 performances--**5min**/each
 - 11-15 performances--**3min**/each

- There are no categories. It is open categories as long as it fits within the "types of performances". So, allow the performers to get on stage one after the other. The performers should appear on stage based on their order on the performers "sign up" list.

Discussion Section: (50 Minutes)

This section is an opportunity for the youth and young adults to share their views and an opportunity for them to be challenged by a biblical worldview.

1. Break the room into groups during the discussion section. Here are the groups you should have: *I.* Middle School, *II.* High School, *III.* College/Young adult
2. Each group must have a facilitator to go through questions and reading the scripture.
3. The discussion should go for 30-40 minutes, before the Emcee gets on stage to ask each of the group what they learned.

Sample Discussion Questions

Discussion Topics

1. Music- " *I just like the beat*"

- What is your favorite type of music?
- Who is your favorite artist?
- How does music make you feel?
- How does it affect you spiritually?
- Honestly, does music affect your behavior?

Moment of Truth: Do you know what God says/thinks about Music?

Please read: *Psalm 150:3-6.* ~Music was created by God so, that we can bring praise (glorify/exalt) God.
Philippians 4:8-9~What does God want us to listen to?

Closing Section (10 minutes)

At the end get the Emcee to select the best performance and have the performer close out the show (Encore). After the encore performance make the final announcements. The Emcee can give an alter-call before the encore performance, if it is appropriate and if they are lead by the Holy Spirit to do so.

NB: *We ask that you follow this manual as much as you can, but follow the essential sections. It is important to follow this structure but also follow the Spirit of God.*

Notes