

## **SPEECH and DRAMATIC ARTS**

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### **Please refer to the General Rules**

#### **Supplementary Rules:**

1. Choice of one poem per class.
2. When “Own Choice” – Rule 8 of the General Rules applies. Specifically for Speech Arts:
  - a. The title and Author of the chosen piece and length of performance time **MUST BE STATED** on the Official Entry Form. No substitutions, additions, or deletions are permitted after the closing date.
  - b. **PARTICIPANTS WILL DELIVER TO THE FESTIVAL ASSISTANT A COPY OF OWN CHOICE PIECE INDICATED WITH A BOOKMARK UPON WHICH HAS BEEN PENCILLED AT THE TOP: THE CLASS NUMBER AND PARTICIPANT NUMBER ACCORDING TO THE PROGRAM. THIS PIECE MUST BE DELIVERED PRIOR TO CLASS PERFORMANCE.**

**THE USE OF PHOTOCOPIES IS STRICTLY LIMITED. SEE GENERAL RULE NO 7.**  
NOTE: bible selections are in the public domain. Please provide, for the adjudicator, a photocopy of any bible selections used.

  - c. In “Own Choice” selection, the adjudicator will consider suitability and artistic value.
3. The adjudicator may award several certificates of Merit; however, if there are no outstanding performances in a class, no Certificates may be awarded.
4. The adjudicator’s decisions regarding awards and provincial nominees will be final. The adjudicator may choose a Junior, Intermediate, and Senior student to represent our Festival at the provincial level. Preference will be given to those participants who have performed in a minimum of three classes, including selections of Prose, Drama, and Poetry.

**COSTUMES and PROPS:** Costuming and props are only permitted for the Drama selections and Shakespeare classes and must be integral to the selection. Participants should choose material that requires a minimum of props; the props should be portable and capable of being set up in a minimum amount of time without assistance. All props and costumes are the sole responsibility of the participant. It is not intended that participants use elaborate costumes.

Note: no live flame on stage is permitted.

**DEFINITIONS:** The following definitions have been established as guidelines for participants:

**PROSE:** In prose, the speaker is the narrator. The focus should be on the voice. Vocal characterization is encouraged, but the quality of prose must be maintained. The selection should include narration, description, and dialogue. It should be spoken in the story-telling style, not performed as a dramatic scene, i.e. there is to be no acting and only very limited movement around the stage. Participants may stand or be seated.

**DRAMA:** In drama, the speaker is the character. The selection should be taken from a play to be presented on the stage by an actor assuming the language, movement, and dress of the character portrayed. The selection should be the words of one character only, with words of other characters omitted. Shakespeare selections must be taken from his plays rather than his non-dramatic poetry. Movement, character development, and relationships are important in this section thus, “stand-alone monologues” are a poor choice.

**POETRY:** In poetry, the language is moulded into some kind of design; in prose, it is not. Performers may choose any type of poetry, including, but not limited to those listed below.

Performance choices should be matched to the author's intention and style.

**Lyric**—a short, unified poem expressing the poet's own experience and emotion, usually presented in a relaxed stance with no movement. The speaker interprets with it: e.g. *Solitude* by Bliss Carmen, *To Autumn* by Keats, sonnets of Shakespeare and Wordsworth.

**Narrative**— a poem which tells a story and usually has dialogue; the telling of the story is the primary concern of the speaker: e.g. *The King's Breakfast* by A.A. Milne, *The Raven* by E.A. Poe, *The Cattle Thief* by Pauline Johnson.

**Dramatic**— in a dramatic poem, a character distinct from the performer and the poet speaks, revealing personality and attitudes. The primary concern of the poem is to reveal character, rather than tell a story: e.g. *My Last Duchess* by Robert Browning, *Patterns* by Amy Lowell.

**Sonnet**— a sonnet is a fixed poem, traditionally consisting of 14 lines of iambic pentameter with a set rhyme scheme.

**Slam Poetry**—idea or thematic connection poems with voice, humour, rhythm, exaggeration, and wordplay, written for performance to an audience. Excerpts may be presented, as these poems are often very long. Suggested resource books include *Word Warriors* (Olson), *Take the Mic* (Smith), and *Poetry Slam* (Glazner).

**Free Verse**—Poetry or a poem without regular rhythm or rhyme, yet still providing artistic expression. (e.g. poems by Walt Whitman, Carl Sandburg, T.S. Eliot).

**CHORAL SPEAKING:** Vocal interpretation of a poem by a group of voices. Voices should tone together resonantly and harmoniously. Single or smaller group voices interspersed could be used for nuance, texture, variety, and dynamics. Speakers should have an emotional understanding of the rhythm, (all speakers using the same rhythm), speaking as one in chorus (blending of voices), and imaginative vocal colour.

**PROVINCIAL ELIGIBILITY:** Please be advised that those participants interested in qualifying for a provincial nomination must have performed in a minimum of two solo classes in the Speech and Dramatic Arts division and have received a mark of 85 or better in at least two of those classes. If nominated to participate in the provincial festival, the nominees may choose to enter the Optional Parallel Shakespeare Class.

The above rule does not apply to the Shakespeare Open Duo Class where a participant must have participated in a Shakespeare Duo Class at the local level. Participants in this class need not be competing in any other Speech Arts classes at the provincial festival but may attend just for this class.

Also, be aware that the speech and dramatic arts syllabus of the Kootenay Festival of the Arts is not necessarily the same as the provincial syllabus and for further information regarding provincials, click on to the link to the Performing Arts BC website. <http://bcprovincials.com/syllabus.aspx>

**PROVINCIAL AGE LEVELS:** (Age as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the current festival year)

Junior: Age 11–13 years	Minimum Grade 6 level
Intermediate: Age 17 years and under	Minimum Grade 7 level
Senior: Ages 23 years and under	Minimum Grade 8 level

**SOLO SPOKEN POETRY:** All classes are to be own choice. See “Own Choice” Rule.

**Narrative Solo:**

SA-1 11 years and under  
SA-2 12-13 years  
SA-3 14 – 16 years  
SA-4 17-23 years

**Lyric Solo:**

SA-5 11 years and under  
SA-6 12-13 years  
SA-7 14-16 years  
SA-8 17-23 years

**Dramatic Solo:**

SA-9 11 years and under  
SA-10 12-13 years  
SA-11 14-16 years  
SA-12 17-23 years

**Slam Poetry Solo:**

SA-13 11 years and under  
SA-14 12-13 years  
SA-15 14-16 years  
SA-16 17-23 years

**Sonnet:**

SA-17 14-16 years  
SA-18 17-23 years

**CHORAL SPEAKING:** All classes to be own choice. See “Own Choice” Rule.

Split-grade – enter the grade category of the oldest participants.

SA-19 Kindergarten	SA-24 Grade 5
SA-20 Grade 1	SA-25 Grade 6
SA-21 Grade 2	SA-26 Grade 7
SA-22 Grade 3	SA-27 Grade 8-9
SA-23 Grade 4	SA-28 open

**ORIGINAL POETRY:** Solo Spoken Poetry - One Selection, Own Choice (see “Own Choice” rule).

Must be written and recited by same person.

SA-29 11 years and under	SA-31 14-16 years
SA-30 12-13 years	SA-32 17-23 years

**OPEN POETRY:** Solo Spoken Poetry

SA-33 11 years and under	SA-35 14-16 years
SA-34 12-13 years	SA-36 17-23 years

**CANADIAN POETRY:**

SA-37 11 years and under	SA-39 14-16 years
SA-38 12-13 years	SA-40 17-23 years

**SACRED READING:** One selection; own choice (see “Own Choice” rule); not to exceed 3 minutes. These passages should not be memorized; it is preferable to use the book. There should be eye contact with audience. To be read from any translation.

SA-41 11 years and under	SA-43 14-16 years
SA-42 12-13 years	SA-44 17-23 years

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE SPEECH ARTS:** Language other than English; details of selection to be included with entry form; One selection, own choice (see “Own Choice” rule; should give a brief introduction, in English.

**Foreign Language: Solo Spoken Poetry**

SA-45 11 years and under	SA-47 14-16 years
SA-46 12-13 years	SA-48 17-23 years

**Foreign Language: Choral Speaking**

SA-49 11 years and under  
SA-50 12-13 years

SA-51 14-16 years  
SA-52 17-23 years

**PUBLIC SPEAKING:** Own Choice; not to exceed 3 minutes (see “Own Choice” rule)

SA-53 11 years and under  
SA-54 12-13 years

SA-55 14-16 years  
SA-56 17-23 years

**PROSE**

SA-57 11 years and under  
SA-58 12-13 years

SA-59 14-16 years  
SA-60 17-23 years

**DRAMA:** One selection, own choice; no scenery required; no microphones.

**Solo – Modern**

SA-61 13 years and under  
SA-62 16 years and under  
SA-63 23 years and under

**Solo – Traditional** (other than Shakespeare)

SA-64 13 years and under  
SA-65 16 years and under  
SA-66 23 years and under

**Solo – Shakespeare:**

SA-67 13 years and under  
SA-68 16 years and under  
SA-69 23 years and under

**Duo – Shakespeare:** not to exceed 10 min.

SA-70 13 years and under  
SA-71 16 years and under  
SA-72 23 years and under  
SA-73 Open (any combination of ages)

**Group Scene:** 3 or more performers, not to exceed 15 minutes.

**Group – Modern**

SA-74 14 years and under  
SA-75 17 years and under  
SA-76 30 years and under

**Group – Traditional** (e.g. Shakespeare)

SA-77 14 years and under  
SA-78 17 years and under  
SA-79 30 years and under

**DUOLOGUES:** Poetry or Drama– One entry per duologue only; costumes must be kept simple; minimum props.

**Own Choice** – not to exceed 10 minutes.

SA-80 9 years and under  
SA-81 11 years and under  
SA-82 14 years and under

SA-83 17 years and under  
SA-84 30 years and under

