

PERFORMING ARTS

DANCE: BALLET

Solo Ballet Competition

Description

Perform a series of rhythmic and highly technical patterned bodily movements demonstrating your mastery of formal ballet technique, artistry, and musicality.

Overview

Demonstrate your mastery of ballet technique, artistry, and musicality by performing a solo piece of your choice in the style of classical ballet, contemporary ballet, neo-classical ballet, or story ballet.

Requirements

1. Performance Time: The solo performance must not exceed five (5) minutes. Exceeding this time limit may result in point deductions or disqualification.
2. Costume: Costumes are optional but should be appropriate to the style and theme of the choreography.
3. Style: The theme and style of the performance must be clearly identified to the judges prior to the presentation. Acceptable styles include:
 - a. Classical Ballet: Traditional ballet technique, emphasizing grace, precision, and elegance.
 - b. Contemporary Ballet: A blend of classical ballet and modern dance, often incorporating expressive movement and improvisation.
 - c. Neo-Classical Ballet: A modern interpretation of classical ballet, often featuring innovative choreography and contemporary music.
 - d. Story Ballet: A narrative ballet that tells a story through dance, often involving character development and plot.
4. Footwear: The piece must be performed in ballet slippers/flats, or pointe/demi-pointe shoes. Bare feet are only acceptable for Contemporary Ballet.

Necessary equipment:

1. 1 Sound System w/2 Speakers that is electricity based, not battery powered
2. Laptop w/charger or Phone w/Charger
 - a. [Dongle Adapter](#) for Macbooks

3. Aux Adaptor for playback from phones
 - a. USB C to 3.5 mm Aux Jack (most modern devices)
 - b. Lightning to 3.5 Aux Jack (older apple devices)
4. Aux cable
5. Outlet Surge Protector

Judging Criteria

Criteria	Weighting	Description
Technical Proficiency/Skill	25	
Clarity and Consistency in Style	25	
Phrasing/Dynamics/Musicality	25	
Clarity of Intent/Interpretation of Choreography	25	
Point Deduction	-1 to -5	In the event the student performance exceeds 5 mins one point will be deducted for every minute over up to five points.
Total	100	

Technical Proficiency/Skill:

- Alignment
- Strength
- Endurance
- Flexibility
- Coordination

Clarity and Consistency in Style:

- Adherence to the chosen style
- Clear and consistent execution of movements
- Appropriate use of body language and facial expressions

Phrasing/Dynamics/Musicality:

- Sensitivity to the music
- Variation in movement quality and intensity
- Clear phrasing and articulation of steps

Clarity of Intent/Interpretation of Choreography:

- Effective communication of the intended message or story
- Artistic expression and individuality
- Engagement with the audience

Notes for Judges

- Each contestant will have 5 minutes to present their performance and then the judging co-hort will have 5 minutes for any follow up questions and quick deliberations before the next contestant. Each contestant will only have an allocated time frame of 10 minutes.
- You should not under any circumstances engage with the students before or after the competition until the Awards Ceremony has concluded.
- You must provide honest constructive feedback for each contestant that you are judging.
- Scoring Rubric:
 - 95-100 - Qualifies as a Gold Medalist
 - 90+Up - Qualifies as a Silver Medalist
 - 85+Up - Qualifies as a Bronze Medalist
 - Please take heed that the identifying word here is “Qualifies”. There can be multiple contestants that can qualify as gold medalist and if that’s the case the highest score will receive the gold, and silver and bronze will be allocated to the next two highest scores.
 - In the event the highest score is a 90 then there is no gold medalist and there’s only a possibility for a silver and bronze medalist as long as the remaining scores land within the 85+Up region.

Tips for Contestants:

- Choose a piece that suits your strengths and interests.
- Practice regularly and consistently.

- Pay attention to detail.
- Work on your musicality and phrasing.
- Develop your stage presence and confidence.
- Warm up thoroughly before your performance.
- Stay focused and present during your performance.
- Enjoy the experience!

By following these guidelines and tips, you can create a memorable and successful solo ballet performance.

DANCE: CONTEMPORARY

Description

Perform a series of rhythmic and highly technical patterned bodily movements to contemporary/popular music.

Overview

Showcase your dance prowess in this solo competition and perform a series of rhythmic and technical patterned bodily movements set to contemporary/popular music and style.

Requirements:

1. Time Limit: Your solo performance must not exceed 5 minutes. Exceeding this limit may result in point deductions or disqualification.
2. Costume: Costumes are optional but should be appropriate to your choreography.
3. Theme and Dance Form: Clearly identify the theme and dance form of your performance (e.g., Broadway/Musical Theater, Hip-Hop, Jazz, Lyrical, Tap, Afrobeats, Soca, Dancehall, Liturgical, Majorette) to the judges before your performance.
4. Performance Guidelines: Avoid aerobic exercises, miming, cheerleading, and drill team routines.

Necessary equipment:

1. 1 Sound System w/2 Speakers that is electricity based, not battery powered
2. Laptop w/charger or Phone w/Charger
 - a. [Dongle Adapter](#) for Macbooks
3. Aux Adaptor for playback from phones
 - a. USB C to 3.5 mm Aux Jack (most modern devices)
 - b. Lightning to 3.5 Aux Jack (older apple devices)
4. Aux cable
5. Outlet Surge Protector

Judging Criteria

Criteria	Weighting	Description
Technical Proficiency/Skill	25	
Clarity and Consistency in Style	25	
Phrasing/Dynamics/Musicality	25	
Clarity of Intent/Interpretation of Choreography	25	
Point Deduction	-1 to -5	In the event the student performance exceeds 5 mins one point will be deducted for every minute over up to five points.
Total	100	

Technical Proficiency/Skill:

- Alignment
- Strength
- Endurance
- Flexibility
- Coordination

Clarity and Consistency in Style:

- Adherence to the chosen style
- Clear and consistent execution of movements
- Appropriate use of body language and facial expressions

Phrasing/Dynamics/Musicality:

- Sensitivity to the music
- Variation in movement quality and intensity

- Clear phrasing and articulation of steps

Clarity of Intent/Interpretation of Choreography:

- Effective communication of the intended message or story
- Artistic expression and individuality
- Engagement with the audience

Notes for Judges

- Each contestant will have 5 minutes to present their performance and then the judging co-hort will have 5 minutes for any follow up questions and quick deliberations before the next contestant. Each contestant will only have an allocated time frame of 10 minutes.
- You should not under any circumstances engage with the students before or after the competition until the Awards Ceremony has concluded.
- You must provide honest constructive feedback for each contestant that you are judging.
- Scoring Rubric:
 - 95-100 - Qualifies as a Gold Medalist
 - 90+Up - Qualifies as a Silver Medalist
 - 85+Up - Qualifies as a Bronze Medalist
 - Please take heed that the identifying word here is “Qualifies”. There can be multiple contestants that can qualify as gold medalist and if that’s the case the highest score will receive the gold, and silver and bronze will be allocated to the next two highest scores.

In the event the highest score is a 90 then there is no gold medalist and there’s only a possibility for a silver and bronze medalist as long as the remaining scores land within the 85+Up region.

Tips for Contestants:

- Practice, Practice, Practice: The more you practice, the more confident you'll be.
- Choose a Strong Song: Select a song that complements your dance style and inspires your performance.
- Tell a Story: Use your body to convey a story or emotion through your dance.
- Master the Fundamentals: Focus on strong technique and clean lines.
- Perform with Passion: Let your enthusiasm shine through your performance.
- Connect with the Music: Feel the rhythm and let it guide your movements.
- Stage Presence: Command the stage with confidence and charisma.

- Dress to Impress: Choose a costume that enhances your performance and reflects your style.
- Warm-up Before Your Performance: Prepare your body for the physical demands of dancing.
- Have Fun! Enjoy the experience and let your love for dance shine.

DANCE: MODERN

Description

Dance that is performed through a series of improvisation, expressive gestures, and unconventional movements from your emotion/feelings and interpretation of your selected music.

Overview

Are you ready to bring emotion and creativity to life through movement? Modern dance is all about interpreting music and feelings with expressive gestures, improvisation, and unconventional moves that tell a story. For this performance, your routine must be rooted in one or more recognized modern dance techniques—such as Dunham, Graham, Horton, Humphrey, Limon, or another established style. Let your artistry shine as you push boundaries and share your unique expression!

Requirements

1. Time Limit: Your solo performance must not exceed 5 minutes. Exceeding this time limit may result in point deductions or disqualification.
2. Costumes: Costumes are optional, but they should be appropriate to the theme and style of your choreography.
3. Theme: Clearly identify the theme of your performance to the judges prior to your presentation. This will help the judges understand your artistic intent.
4. Technique: Your performance must be rooted in one or more of the following modern dance techniques: Dunham, Graham, Horton, Humphrey, Limon, or other recognized modern dance techniques.

Necessary equipment:

1. 1 Sound System w/2 Speakers that is electricity based, not battery powered
2. Laptop w/charger or Phone w/Charger
 - a. [Dongle Adapter](#) for Macbooks
3. Aux Adaptor for playback from phones
 - a. USB C to 3.5 mm Aux Jack (most modern devices)
 - b. Lightning to 3.5 Aux Jack (older apple devices)
4. Aux cable
5. Outlet Surge Protector

Judging Criteria

Criteria	Weight	Description
Technical Proficiency/Skill	25	Alignment, strength, endurance, flexibility, and coordination.
Clarity and Consistency in Style	25	The clarity and consistency of your chosen modern dance style.
Phrasing/Dynamics/Musicality	25	The quality of your phrasing, dynamic range, and musical interpretation.
Clarity of Intent/Interpretation of Choreography	25	The clarity of your artistic intent and your ability to convey emotion through movement.
Point Deduction	-1 to -5	In the event the student performance exceeds 5 mins one point will be deducted for every minute over up to five points.
Total	100	

Notes for Judges

- Each contestant will have 5 minutes to present their performance and then the judging co-hort will have 5 minutes for any follow up questions and quick deliberations before the next contestant. Each contestant will only have an allocated time frame of 10 minutes.
- You should not under any circumstances engage with the students before or after the competition until the Awards Ceremony has concluded.
- You must provide honest constructive feedback for each contestant that you are judging.

- Scoring Rubric:
 - 95-100 - Qualifies as a Gold Medalist
 - 90+Up - Qualifies as a Silver Medalist
 - 85+Up - Qualifies as a Bronze Medalist
 - Please take heed that the identifying word here is “Qualifies”.
There can be multiple contestants that can qualify as gold medalist and if that’s the case the highest score will receive the gold, and silver and bronze will be allocated to the next two highest scores.

In the event the highest score is a 90 then there is no gold medalist and there’s only a possibility for a silver and bronze medalist as long as the remaining scores land within the 85+Up region.

Tips for Contestants

- Choose a strong theme: A strong theme will help guide your choreography and performance.
- Master the technique: Practice your chosen technique regularly to ensure that your movements are precise and expressive.
- Connect with the music: The music should inspire your movement and enhance your performance.
- Express yourself: Let your emotions shine through your movement.
- Practice, practice, practice: The more you practice, the better your performance will be.
- Perform with confidence: Believe in yourself and your choreography.
- Enjoy the process: Dance is a form of self-expression, so have fun!

By following these tips and focusing on the judging criteria, you can create a powerful and memorable performance!

DANCE: CULTURAL

(FKA: DANCE TRADITIONAL)

Description

Perform rhythmic and patterned body movements to music that reflects the culture or life of the people from a certain tribe, region, or nation.

Overview

Showcase your passion and perform a solo dance that tells a powerful story, reflecting the rich traditions and vibrant rhythms of a specific tribe, region or nation. Your performance should showcase a local cultural dance—one that is often passed down through generations and deeply connected to a community's history, customs, and environment. Step into the rhythm of your roots and bring your passion to the stage!

Requirements

- Time Limit: Your solo performance must not exceed 5 minutes. Exceeding this limit may result in point deductions or disqualification.
- Costume: Costumes are optional but should be appropriate to the theme and style of your dance.
- Theme and Form: Clearly state the theme, dance style, and form of your performance before you begin.
 - Forms: Examples of dance forms include (but are not limited to): African, West African, Central African, Step, Afro-Haitian, Afro-Cuban, Soca, Dancehall, Cuban, Afro-Latin, and more.

Necessary equipment:

1. 1 Sound System w/2 Speakers that is electricity based, not battery powered
2. Laptop w/charger or Phone w/Charger
 - a. [Dongle Adapter](#) for Macbooks
3. Aux Adaptor for playback from phones
 - a. USB C to 3.5 mm Aux Jack (most modern devices)
 - b. Lightning to 3.5 Aux Jack (older apple devices)
4. Aux cable
5. Outlet Surge Protector

Judging Criteria

Criteria	Weight	Description
Technical Proficiency/Skill	25	Demonstrates strong technique, including alignment, strength, endurance, flexibility, and coordination.
Clarity and Consistency in Style	25	Clearly conveys the chosen dance style and maintains consistency throughout the performance.
Phrasing/Dynamics/Musicality	25	Effectively uses phrasing, dynamics, and musicality to enhance the storytelling and emotional impact of the performance.
Clarity of Intent/Interpretation of Choreography	25	Clearly communicates the intended message or story through the choreography.
Point Deduction	-1 to -5	In the event the student performance exceeds 5 mins one point will be deducted for every minute over up to five points.
Total	100	

Notes for Judges

- Each contestant will have 5 minutes to present their performance and then the judging co-hort will have 5 minutes for any follow up questions and quick deliberations before the next contestant. Each contestant will only have an allocated time frame of 10 minutes.

- You should not under any circumstances engage with the students before or after the competition until the Awards Ceremony has concluded.
- You must provide honest constructive feedback for each contestant that you are judging.
- Scoring Rubric:
 - 95-100 - Qualifies as a Gold Medalist
 - 90+Up - Qualifies as a Silver Medalist
 - 85+Up - Qualifies as a Bronze Medalist
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Tips for Contestants

- Choose a theme that resonates with you: Select a theme that you are passionate about and that allows you to express yourself creatively.
- Master the technique: Practice your chosen dance style regularly to refine your technique and build your confidence.
- Tell a story: Use your body movements and facial expressions to convey a clear and compelling narrative.
- Connect with the music: Feel the rhythm and let the music guide your movements.
- Practice, practice, practice: Rehearse your performance multiple times to ensure a smooth and polished presentation.
- Project your energy: Perform with passion and enthusiasm to captivate your audience.
- Have fun: Enjoy the process and the opportunity to share your talent with others.

DRAMATIC ARTS: ACTING

Description

The art of staging or acting plays.

Overview

Display your acting talent by performing a compelling monologue from a published theatrical play—all from memory. Step into the spotlight, embrace the power of storytelling, and let your performance leave a lasting impression!

Requirements

1. Performance Length: 3-5 minutes. Exceeding this time limit will result in a one-point deduction for each minute overtime.
2. Material: The performance must be a monologue from a published play. No poems, sermons, stand-up comedy routines, or movie excerpts are allowed.
3. Literary Quality: The chosen monologue should be of high literary quality.
4. Memorization: The performance must be memorized.
5. Props and Costumes: Optional. Costumes, makeup, and hand props may be used to enhance the performance.
6. Performance Style: Puppetry, oratory, and forensic pieces are not permitted. Monologues from musical theater are allowed, but accompanying songs cannot be used.

Necessary equipment:

1. 1 Sound System w/2 Speakers that is electricity based, not battery powered
2. Outlet Surge Protector

Judging Criteria

Criteria	Points	Description
Projection	10	
Structure	10	

Memorization	10	
Movement	10	
Emotional Connection and Honesty	10	
Imagination and Creativity	15	
Stage Presence	10	
Character Work	10	
Specificity of Acting Choices	10	
Creation of the Space	5	
Point Deduction	-1 to -5	In the event the student performance exceeds 5 mins one point will be deducted for every minute over up to five points.
Total	100	

Notes for Judges

- Each contestant will have 5 minutes to present their performance and then the judging co-hort will have 5 minutes for any follow up questions and quick deliberations before the next contestant. Each contestant will only have an allocated time frame of 10 minutes.
- You should not under any circumstances engage with the students before or after the competition until the Awards Ceremony has concluded.
- You must provide honest constructive feedback for each contestant that you are judging.
- Scoring Rubric:
 - 95-100 - Qualifies as a Gold Medalist

- 90+Up - Qualifies as a Silver Medalist
- 85+Up - Qualifies as a Bronze Medalist
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In the event the highest score is a 90 then there is no gold medalist and there’s only a possibility for a silver and bronze medalist as long as the remaining scores land within the 85+Up region.

Tips for Contestants

- Choose a strong monologue: Select a piece that challenges you and allows you to showcase your acting range. It should be age appropriate.
- Understand your character: Delve deep into your character's motivations, desires, and backstory.
- Practice, practice, practice: Rehearse your monologue until it becomes second nature.
- Use the stage effectively: Utilize the stage space to create a dynamic and engaging performance.
- Connect with the audience: Make eye contact and engage with the audience emotionally.
- Trust your instincts: Don't be afraid to take risks and bring your unique interpretation to the role.
- Enjoy the process: Have fun and let your passion for acting shine through.

MUSIC INSTRUMENTAL: CLASSICAL

Description

Perform classical music from the Western Hemisphere using an instrument of your choice with or without accompaniment.

Overview

Perform classical music from the Western Hemisphere using an instrument of your choice with or without accompaniment. This style of music is defined by its focus on balance, clarity, and moderation, requiring you to showcase your technical precision and artistic interpretation from the original composer's manuscript/sheet music.

Requirements

Solo Performance: Your musical selection must be specifically written for solo performance. It may be an excerpt but should not exceed 5 minutes. Exceeding this limit will result in point deductions.

1. Digital Sheet Music: Submit a clear, well-aligned digital copy of your sheet music.
2. Authentic Performance: If your selection requires piano accompaniment, please perform it as such.
3. Appropriate Choice: Ensure your chosen composition aligns with the instrument's nature and your musical proficiency.
4. Your Artistic Expression: The choice of music and instrument is entirely yours.
5. Provided Instrument: The only instrument provided for the performance will be a piano.
6. Live Accompaniment: Live accompaniment is permitted.

Necessary equipment:

1. 1 Sound System w/2 Speakers that is electricity based, not battery powered
2. Laptop w/charger or Phone w/Charger
 - a. [Dongle Adapter](#) for Macbooks
3. Aux Adaptor for playback from phones
 - a. USB C to 3.5 mm Aux Jack (Most modern devices)
 - b. Lightning to 3.5 Aux Jack (older apple devices)
4. Aux cable
5. Outlet Surge Protector

Judging Criteria

Criteria	Weight	Description
Interpretation, Expression, Tempo, Phrasing, and Historically Appropriate Style	20	
Intonation and Touch (Piano)	20	
Stage Presence and Choice of Music	20	
Technique, Articulation, Breathing, Rhythm, Facility, and Accuracy	20	
Tone Quality, Beauty, Control, and Characteristic Timbre	20	
Point Deduction	-1 to -5	In the event the student performance exceeds 5 mins one point will be deducted for every minute over up to five points.
Total	100	

Notes for Judges

- Each contestant will have 5 minutes to present their performance and then the judging co-hort will have 5-10 minutes for any follow up questions and quick deliberations before the next contestant. Each contestant will only have an allocated time frame of 10-15 minutes.
- You should not under any circumstances engage with the students before or after the competition until the Awards Ceremony has concluded.
- You must provide honest constructive feedback for each contestant that you are judging.
- Scoring Rubric:
 - 95-100 - Qualifies as a Gold Medalist
 - 90+Up - Qualifies as a Silver Medalist

- 85+Up - Qualifies as a Bronze Medalist
 - Please take heed that the identifying word here is “Qualifies”.
There can be multiple contestants that can qualify as gold medalist and if that’s the case the highest score will receive the gold, and silver and bronze will be allocated to the next two highest scores.

In the event the highest score is a 90 then there is no gold medalist and there’s only a possibility for a silver and bronze medalist as long as the remaining scores land within the 85+Up region.

Tips for Contestants

- Choose Wisely: Select a piece that showcases your strengths and aligns with the competition's historical focus.
- Practice Makes Perfect: Dedicate ample time to practice, focusing on technique, musicality, and historical style.
- Master the Instrument: Develop a deep understanding of your instrument's capabilities and limitations.
- Embrace the Stage: Project confidence, engage with the audience, and let your passion for music shine.
- Seek Feedback: Consult with experienced musicians or teachers to refine your performance and address any weaknesses.
- Embrace the Historical Context: Research the historical period of your chosen piece to better understand its stylistic nuances.
- Enjoy the Experience: Remember, the most important aspect is to have fun and share your musical talent with others.

MUSIC INSTRUMENTAL: CONTEMPORARY

Description

The art of performing with an instrument of your choice to produce popular music with the tones of the present.

Overview

This competition celebrates the artistry of solo instrumental performance using contemporary musical styles. Contestants are encouraged to showcase their unique interpretation and technical prowess through a captivating performance.

Requirements

1. Musical Selection:
 - a. Choose a solo piece specifically composed for your instrument.
 - b. Ensure the piece does not exceed 5 minutes in duration. Exceeding this limit will result in point deductions.
2. Performance Format:
 - a. Your performance must be a solo presentation.
 - b. If your piece requires additional musicians, you are responsible for providing them.
 - c. Alternatively, you can bring your own accompanist.
3. Sheet Music Submission:
 - a. Submit one clear, well-aligned digital copy of your sheet music.
4. Instrument and Equipment:
 - a. A piano will be provided for your performance.
 - b. You must provide any additional instruments or equipment needed.
5. Musical Style and Instrument Choice:
 - a. Select a piece that aligns with contemporary musical styles, such as R&B, Broadway, Jazz, Gospel, Blues, etc.
 - b. The choice of instrument and musical piece is entirely yours.
 - c. Live accompaniment is permitted.

Necessary equipment:

1. 1 Sound System w/2 Speakers that is electricity based, not battery powered
2. Laptop w/charger or Phone w/Charger

- a. [Dongle Adapter](#) for Macbooks
3. Aux Adaptor for playback from phones
 - a. USB C to 3.5 mm Aux Jack (most modern devices)
 - b. Lightning to 3.5 Aux Jack (older apple devices)
4. Aux cable
5. Outlet Surge Protector

Judging Criteria

Criteria	Weighting	Description
Effectiveness of Style, Improvisation	20	
Intonation, Touch (Piano)	20	
Stage Presence, Choice of Music	20	
Technique, Articulation, Breathing, Tonicity, Rhythm, Facility	20	
Tone Quality, Beauty, Control, Characteristic Timbre	20	
Point Deduction	-1 to -5	In the event the student performance exceeds 5 mins one point will be deducted for every minute over up to five points.
Total	100	

Notes for Judges

- Each contestant will have 5 minutes to present their performance and then the judging co-hort will have 5-10 minutes for any follow up questions and quick deliberations before the next contestant. Each contestant will only have an allocated time frame of 10-15 minutes.
- You should not under any circumstances engage with the students before or after the competition until the Awards Ceremony has concluded.

- You must provide honest constructive feedback for each contestant that you are judging.
- Scoring Rubric:
 - 95-100 - Qualifies as a Gold Medalist
 - 90+Up - Qualifies as a Silver Medalist
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In the event the highest score is a 90 then there is no gold medalist and there’s only a possibility for a silver and bronze medalist as long as the remaining scores land within the 85+Up region.

Tips for Contestants

- Choose a piece that suits your strengths and interests.
- Practice diligently to master the technical aspects of your piece.
- Develop a strong stage presence and connect with the audience.
- Pay attention to dynamics, phrasing, and articulation.
- Consider incorporating improvisation to add spontaneity and creativity to your performance.
- If you choose to use an accompanist, ensure clear communication and rehearsal time.
- Dress professionally and appropriately for the performance.
- Most importantly, enjoy the process and have fun!

MUSIC VOCAL: CLASSICAL

Description

Perform classical music from the Western Hemisphere using your voice with accompaniment.

Overview

Perform classical music from the Western Hemisphere using your voice with accompaniment. This style of music is defined by its focus on balance, clarity, and moderation, requiring you to showcase your technical precision and artistic interpretation from the original composer's manuscript/sheet music.

Requirements

1. Song Selection: Choose one song that does not exceed five minutes in length. Exceeding this time limit may result in disqualification.
2. Accompaniment:
 - a. Local and National Competitions: Accompaniment will be provided upon request.
 - b. Contestant Provided Accompaniment: If you choose to bring your own accompanist, please ensure they are prepared to perform without a backing track.
3. Sheet Music: Submit one copy of your sheet music.
4. Memorization: The performance must be memorized.
5. Costumes: Costumes are optional but must be appropriate for the piece.
6. Instrument: The only instrument provided for performance will be a piano.

Necessary equipment:

1. 1 Sound System w/2 Speakers, a microphone, and necessary cables that is electricity based, not battery powered
2. Laptop w/charger or Phone w/Charger
 - a. [Dongle Adapter](#) for Macbooks
3. Aux Adaptor for playback from phones
 - a. USB C to 3.5 mm Aux Jack (most modern devices)
 - b. Lightning to 3.5 Aux Jack (older apple devices)

4. Aux cable
5. Outlet Surge Protector

Judging Criteria

Criteria	Weight	Description
Choice of Music	10	Selection of a suitable repertoire piece
Diction	25	Correct pronunciation and articulation
Interpretation	10	Expressive performance, phrasing, and adherence to historical style and tempo
Intonation	10	Accuracy of pitch
Stage Presence	10	Confidence, poise, and connection with the audience
Technique	10	Breathing, posture, rhythm, and accuracy
Tone Quality	25	Beauty of sound and vocal control
Point Deduction	-1 to -5	In the event the student performance exceeds 5 mins one point will be deducted for every minute over up to five points.
Total	100	

Notes for Judges

- Each contestant will have 5 minutes to present their performance and then the judging co-hort will have 5-10 minutes for any follow up questions and quick deliberations before the next contestant. Each contestant will only have an allocated time frame of 10-15 minutes.
- You should not under any circumstances engage with the students before or after the competition until the Awards Ceremony has concluded.
- You must provide honest constructive feedback for each contestant that you are judging.
- Scoring Rubric:
 - 95-100 - Qualifies as a Gold Medalist
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In the event the highest score is a 90 then there is no gold medalist and there’s only a possibility for a silver and bronze medalist as long as the remaining scores land within the 85+Up region.

Tips for Contestants

- Choose Wisely: Select a song that showcases your strengths and aligns with your vocal range and style.
- Practice, Practice, Practice: Consistent practice is key to mastering your piece.
- Know Your Music: Understand the historical context and stylistic nuances of your chosen song.
- Master the Text: Pay close attention to diction and pronunciation.
- Connect with the Music: Convey the emotions and story of the song through your performance.
- Mind Your Body: Maintain good posture and breath control.
- Stage Presence Matters: Project confidence and engage with the audience.
- Embrace Feedback: Use feedback from judges and coaches to improve your performance.
- Enjoy the Experience: Have fun and let your passion for music shine!

MUSIC VOCAL: CONTEMPORARY

Description

The art of performing with the human voice with rhythmic tones or sounds to produce popular music with the tones of the present.

Overview

This competition focuses on the art song repertoire of the late 20th, and 21st centuries, emphasizing balance, clarity, and moderation.

Requirements

1. Song Selection: Choose one song that does not exceed three and half (3.5) minutes in length. Exceeding this time limit will result in point deductions.
2. Accompaniment:
 - a. Local and National Competitions: Accompaniment will be provided.
 - b. Contestant Provided Accompaniment: If you choose to bring your own accompanist, please ensure they are prepared to perform without a backing track.
 - c. Contestants are permitted to perform to a backing/accompaniment track. All sound should be clean and not distorted.
3. Sheet Music: Submit one copy of your sheet music.
4. Memorization: The performance must be memorized.
5. Costumes: Costumes are optional.
6. Instrument: The only instrument provided for performance will be a piano.

Necessary equipment:

1. 1 Sound System w/2 Speakers, a microphone, and necessary cables that is electricity based, not battery powered
2. Laptop w/charger or Phone w/Charger
 - a. [Dongle Adapter](#) for Macbooks
3. Aux Adaptor for playback from phones
 - a. USB C to 3.5 mm Aux Jack (most modern devices)
 - b. Lightning to 3.5 Aux Jack (older apple devices)
4. Aux cable

5. Outlet Surge Protector

Judging Criteria

Criteria	Weight	Description
Choice of Music	10	Selection of a suitable repertoire piece
Diction	25	Correct pronunciation and articulation
Interpretation	10	Expressive performance, phrasing, and adherence to historical style and tempo
Intonation	10	Accuracy of pitch
Stage Presence	10	Confidence, poise, and connection with the audience
Technique	10	Breathing, posture, rhythm, and accuracy
Tone Quality	25	Beauty of sound and vocal control
Point Deduction	-1 to -5	In the event the student performance exceeds 5 mins one point will be deducted for every minute over up to five points.
Total	100	

Notes for Judges

- Each contestant will have 5 minutes to present their performance and then the judging co-hort will have 5-10 minutes for any follow up questions and quick deliberations before the next contestant. Each contestant will only have an allocated time frame of 10-15 minutes.

- You should not under any circumstances engage with the students before or after the competition until the Awards Ceremony has concluded.
- You must provide honest constructive feedback for each contestant that you are judging.
- Scoring Rubric:
 - 95-100 - Qualifies as a Gold Medalist
 - 90+Up - Qualifies as a Silver Medalist
 - 85+Up - Qualifies as a Bronze Medalist
 - Please take heed that the identifying word here is “Qualifies”. There can be multiple contestants that can qualify as gold medalist and if that’s the case the highest score will receive the gold, and silver and bronze will be allocated to the next two highest scores.

In the event the highest score is a 90 then there is no gold medalist and there’s only a possibility for a silver and bronze medalist as long as the remaining scores land within the 85+Up region.

Tips for Contestants

- Choose Wisely: Select a song that showcases your strengths and aligns with your vocal range and style.
- Practice, Practice, Practice: Consistent practice is key to mastering your piece.
- Know Your Music: Understand the historical context and stylistic nuances of your chosen song.
- Master the Text: Pay close attention to diction and pronunciation.
- Connect with the Music: Convey the emotions and story of the song through your performance.
- Mind Your Body: Maintain good posture and breath control.
- Stage Presence Matters: Project confidence and engage with the audience.
- Embrace Feedback: Use feedback from judges and coaches to improve your performance.
- Enjoy the Experience: Have fun and let your passion for music shine!

ORATORY

Description

The art of effective written, and oral presentation to persuade or inform. (This is not a dramatic presentation.)

Overview

Are you a wordsmith with a passion for public speaking? This competition challenges you to harness the power of words to captivate your audience with a compelling speech, either persuading them to a specific viewpoint or enlightening them on a chosen topic.

Requirements:

1. Single Speech, Concise Delivery: Present a single, original speech that doesn't exceed five minutes.
2. Your Unique Voice: The speech must be your own original work, crafted to inform or persuade.
3. Focus on Substance, Not Spectacle: Avoid dramatic performances, costumes, or props.

Necessary equipment:

1. 1 Sound System w/2 Speakers, a microphone, and necessary cables that is electricity based, not battery powered

2. Outlet Surge Protector

Judging Criteria

Criteria	Weight	Description
Delivery	25	Diction, pronunciation, enunciation, emphasis, gestures, tempo, time, and memorization.
Interpretation	25	Subject matter, theme, logic, and emotional connection.
Platform Presence	25	Poise, attitude, audience engagement, and overall impression.
Projection	25	Voice quality, emphasis, tone, pitch, and volume.
Point Deduction	-1 to -5	In the event the student performance exceeds 5 mins one point will be deducted for every minute over up to five points.
Total	100	

Notes for Judges

- Each contestant will have 5 minutes to present their performance and then the judging co-hort will have 5-10 minutes for any follow up questions and quick deliberations before the next contestant. Each contestant will only have an allocated time frame of 10 minutes.

- You should not under any circumstances engage with the students before or after the competition until the Awards Ceremony has concluded.
- You must provide honest constructive feedback for each contestant that you are judging.
- Scoring Rubric:
 - 95-100 - Qualifies as a Gold Medalist
 - 90+Up - Qualifies as a Silver Medalist
 - 85+Up - Qualifies as a Bronze Medalist

- Please take heed that the identifying word here is “Qualifies”.

There can be multiple contestants that can qualify as gold medalist and if that’s the case the highest score will receive the gold, and silver and bronze will be allocated to the next two highest scores.

In the event the highest score is a 90 then there is no gold medalist and there’s only a possibility for a silver and bronze medalist as long as the remaining scores land within the 85+Up region.

Tips for Contestants

- Know Your Audience: Tailor your speech to resonate with your specific audience.
- Practice Makes Perfect: Rehearse your speech multiple times to ensure smooth delivery.
- Master Your Material: Memorize your speech thoroughly to avoid relying on notes.
- Project Your Voice: Speak clearly and loudly to engage your audience.

- Use Body Language Effectively: Employ gestures and eye contact to enhance your message.
- Connect Emotionally: Convey passion and sincerity to captivate your listeners.
- Time Yourself: Practice within the five-minute time limit to avoid penalties.
- Seek Feedback: Practice your speech in front of others and solicit constructive criticism.
- Embrace Nervous Energy: Channel your nerves into positive energy to fuel your performance.
- Be Yourself: Let your personality shine through in your delivery.

SPOKEN WORD

(FKA: POETRY PERFORMANCE)

Description:

Craft an original poem or prose and bring it to life through a compelling monologue or dialogue that is performed.

Overview

Your performance can incorporate various styles, including reading, singing, or acting. Spoken word is an art form designed to captivate and engage, so feel free to integrate elements like music, dance, or visual arts to elevate your presentation. Remember to infuse your performance with a sense of spontaneity through extemporaneous speaking, creating an experience that is both dynamic and unforgettable for your audience.

Requirements:

1. Submission: Submit one notarized copy of your original poem or prose.
2. Formatting:
 - Each page must include your name, page number, and unit name and number.
 - Your work should be original, typed in 12-point Calibri or Times New Roman font.
 - Retain the original form of your piece (free verse, rhymed metrical poetry, etc.).

- Do not exceed 3 pages.
3. Performance:
- Perform your work **from memory** before a panel of judges.
 - Your performance must not exceed 3 minutes. Exceeding this limit may result in point deductions or disqualification.

Necessary equipment:

1. 1 Sound System w/2 Speakers, a microphone, and necessary cables that is electricity based, not battery powered
2. Outlet Surge Protector

Judging Criteria:

Criteria	Points	Description
Emotional/Physical Presence	20	
Original Thought	20	
Voice and Articulation	20	
Structure/Form and Overall Presentation	20	
Evidence of Understanding/Accuracy	20	

Point Deduction	-1 to -5	In the event the student performance exceeds 5 mins one point will be deducted for every minute over up to five points.
Total	100	

Emotional/Physical Presence:

- Emotional connection to the topic
- Eye contact, body language, and poise

Original Thought:

- Unique subject matter or perspective
- Avoidance of cliché or derivative ideas

Voice and Articulation:

- Volume, pace, rhythm, and intonation
- Clear pronunciation

Structure/Form and Overall Presentation:

- Effective use of line breaks and stanzas
- Strong title
- Correct grammar and punctuation

Evidence of Understanding/Accuracy:

- Clear comprehension of the material
- Accurate recitation of the text

Notes for Judges

- Each contestant will have 3 minutes to present their performance and then the judging co-hort will have 7-10 minutes for any follow up questions and quick deliberations before the next contestant. Each contestant will only have an allocated time frame of 10 minutes.
- You should not under any circumstances engage with the students before or after the competition until the Awards Ceremony has concluded.
- You must provide honest constructive feedback for each contestant that you are judging.
- Scoring Rubric:
 - 95-100 - Qualifies as a Gold Medalist
 - 90+Up - Qualifies as a Silver Medalist
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In the event the highest score is a 90 then there is no gold medalist and there’s only a possibility for a silver and bronze medalist as long as the remaining scores land within the 85+Up region.

Tips for Contestants:

- **Choose a Topic You're Passionate About:** Your enthusiasm will shine through in your performance.
- **Practice, Practice, Practice:** Rehearse your piece multiple times to perfect your delivery.
- **Connect with Your Audience:** Use eye contact to engage your listeners and create a personal connection.
- **Embrace Extemporization:** Be prepared to think on your feet and adapt to unexpected situations.

- **Pay Attention to Detail:** Proofread your work carefully and ensure your performance is polished.
- **Be Yourself:** Let your unique personality shine through in your performance.
- **Enjoy the Process:** Have fun and express yourself creatively!