

SCSTA MIDDLE SCHOOL FESTIVAL

ORAL INTERPRETATION

Event Rules

4 entries per team

Contestants may choose one poem, combination of poems that develop a theme, or narrative prose. The literature should be published and of literary merit. The selection may be either serious or humorous, but cuttings from plays and monologues are not allowed. **An oral interpretation must be delivered from a prepared manuscript.** A brief slate must be included, noting the author(s) and title(s) of the piece(s) to be performed. Interpreters may choose to include segues between selections. Interpreters should focus on communicating their material to the audience in its intellectual, emotional, and aesthetic entirety with suggestive movement only. No crosses, sitting, kneeling, or other large bodily movements are permitted in oral interpretation. Gestures, facial expressions and movements from waist-up are appropriate and encouraged. Characters should be created with clear physical and vocal variations.

TIME LIMIT: 1-4 minutes, including slate.

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Performer _____

Preliminary Round

Final Round

Middle School _____

Time: _____ minutes (*Limit 1-4 minutes*)

Criteria	Superior	Advanced	Proficient	Basic Level	Emerging
	5 Points	4 Points	3 Points	2 Points	1 Point
Professionalism & Preparedness <i>Score</i> _____	Performance is incredibly poised, well-rehearsed, and innovative.	Performance is poised and innovative. Student seems prepared but might benefit from a couple more rehearsals.	Performance has some poise and has some rehearsal. Student seems to be somewhat unprepared to present.	Performance lacks poise and lacks rehearsal. Student does not seem prepared to present.	Performance is extremely short or unfocused because of lack of preparation.
Organization <i>Score</i> _____	Segues were incredibly smooth and excellent characterization created. Piece(s) were incredibly clear, coherent, and enjoyable.	Segues were very smooth and good characterization created. Piece(s) were clear, coherent, and enjoyable.	Segues were smooth and characterization was created. Piece(s) were somewhat clear, coherent, and enjoyable.	Segues were somewhat smooth and characterization was somewhat created. Piece(s) lacked clarity, coherency, and were not enjoyable.	Segues were not smooth and characterization was not created, and the story was unclear. Piece(s) were not clear, coherent, and enjoyable.
Vocal Technique <i>Score</i> _____	Performers used excellent projection, articulation, tempo, and inflections that are appropriate for the piece(s); vocal interpretation is used creatively and expertly communicates character(s).	Performers used great projection, articulation, tempo, and inflections that are very appropriate for the piece(s); vocal interpretation very clearly communicates character(s).	Performers used projection, articulation, tempo, and inflections that are appropriate for the piece(s); vocal interpretation clearly communicates character(s).	Performers struggle to use projection, articulation, tempo, and inflections that are appropriate for the piece(s); vocal interpretation attempts to communicate character(s).	Performers did not use projection, articulation, tempo, and inflections that are appropriate for the piece(s); vocal interpretation did not communicate character(s).
Delivery <i>Score</i> _____	Performer used excellent postures gestures, and facial expressions, expertly engaged body and voice to portray character, and frequently looked up from manuscript(s).	Performer used very appropriate postures gestures, and facial expressions, engaged body and voice very well to portray characters, and adequately looked up from manuscript(s).	Performer used appropriate postures gestures, and facial expressions, engaged body and voice to portray characters, and adequately looked up from manuscript(s).	Performer struggled to use appropriate postures gestures, and facial expressions, engaged little body and voice to portray characters, and mostly read manuscript(s) without looking up.	Performer did not use appropriate postures gestures, and facial expressions, did not engage body and voice to portray characters, and did not look up from manuscript(s).
Overall Performance <i>Score</i> _____	Performer established an excellent connection with the audience and demonstrated excellent focus and concentration throughout the piece(s). Piece(s) were incredibly appropriate for performer.	Performer established a great connection with the audience and demonstrated great focus and concentration throughout the piece(s). Piece(s) were very appropriate for performer.	Performer established a connection with the audience and demonstrated focus and concentration throughout the piece(s). Piece(s) were appropriate for performer.	Performer established little connection with the audience and lost some focus and concentration throughout the piece(s). Piece(s) were somewhat appropriate for performer.	Performer did not establish a connection with the audience and had little to no focus and concentration throughout the piece(s). Piece(s) did not suit performer.

_____ **TOTAL POINTS (25 possible)** *Superior (21-25)* *Excellent (16-20)* *Good (11-15)* *Fair (0-10)*

Judge's Comments:

Judge's Signature _____ Judge's Affiliation _____

FOR TALLY ROOM ONLY	
_____	Deductions (-1.25 for over/under time)
_____	ADJUSTED TOTAL POINTS