

RULES AND GUIDELINES

1. The Festival is under the working management of the VAYA Youth Arts Society. Any questions not dealt with in these rules will be referred to the management whose decisions on such matters will be final and binding. The Objectives of the Festival will be the basis for these decisions.

ABOUT CLASSES & PARTICIPANTS:

2. Competitive classes are open to amateurs only, meaning those whose principal income is not derived from acting. This does not apply to students who teach for the purpose of applying the money to further their musical education. Professional actors are welcome to enter the festival for an adjudication only.
3. Participants may only enter once in each class and only at one age or grade level in each class except where specified.
4. Rules specific to certain classes and categories are stated in their sections of the syllabus.

ABOUT ENTRIES:

5. Festival entries must be received on or before February 24, 2020. Late entries are subject to additional fees.
6. Souvenir festival programmes are included in the entry fee. They will be available for pickup at the Festival reception table.
7. Admission is free for all friends and family members of participants.
8. Only electronic registrations will be accepted.
9. Participants who enter classes with an incorrect choice of repertoire will be reassigned to the appropriate class.
10. Participants may not perform the same repertoire in following years.
11. Participants may not perform the same repertoire in more than one class in the Festival.
12. The Festival will consider creating additional classes not listed in the syllabus. Requests must be made before February 24, 2020.
13. Refunds are subject to a \$10.00 processing fee per participant. No festival entry fees will be refunded after March 15, 2020 unless accompanied by a doctor's note.
14. Up until March 15, 2020, requests for schedule changes will be accommodated if possible. Participants who are only available to perform on certain times and dates should clearly indicate their availability on their registration form. No schedule changes will be possible after March 15, 2020.
15. The Festival reserves the right to refuse any entry without assigning a reason for so doing.

AT THE FESTIVAL:

16. A change of selection cannot be made or announced as a change on the stage at performance time.
17. Original copies of performance selections must be provided for the adjudicator. **PHOTOCOPIES ARE NOT PERMITTED WITHOUT THE EXPRESS WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE PUBLISHER, OR A LETTER FROM THE VENDOR CONFIRMING THAT THE TITLE HAS BEEN ORDERED AND PAID FOR.**
18. Participants should arrive 15 minutes before the time set for their classes, as the time allotted for classes is approximate.

19. Performances may begin when the Adjudicator signals.
20. Adjudicators may stop any performance at any time.
20. Adjudicators may stop performances when the time limit is reached.
22. Complaints and protests must be made in writing during the festival, accompanied by a protest fee of \$25.00. If the protest is sustained by the Festival, the protest fee will be refunded.
23. Participants who must withdraw from a class are requested to notify the Festival Office in advance.
24. Participants, teachers and members of the public are not permitted to speak with the adjudicator. Failure to comply may result in disqualification of a participant. Necessary questions from the participant must be directed to the adjudicator's secretary.
25. Participants, students and teachers are requested to refrain from applying to the adjudicators for lessons during the Festival.
26. Certificates and adjudication comment sheets will be given to participants with their scripts at the completion of the class.
27. The audience is requested to be silent during performances and not to enter or leave the auditorium while a performance is in progress or an adjudication is being given.
28. Flash photography is not permitted performance venues. Video recording of performances by a parent or teacher **is at the adjudicator's discretion**. Permission must be obtained prior to the start of the class. **AUDIO OR VIDEO RECORDINGS OF ADJUDICATIONS IS NOT PERMITTED.**

ABOUT THE PROGRAM PROCEDURE:

29. After the deadlines for entries has passed, the order of the programs will be arranged. Some classes may be combined.
30. In mid-March, a schedule will be forwarded by email to participants and teachers confirming the class number(s), location, date and time.

ABOUT AWARDS:

31. In order to be eligible for any Festival award, a participant must have entered two classes and have received a mark of at least 85% (Silver Certificate) in all classes. However, this does not automatically qualify for an award. The final decision rests with the adjudicators.
32. In order to be eligible for a cash award of \$100.00 or more, a participant must enter either three classes,
33. In order to be eligible to compete at affiliated Provincial or International Festivals, a participant must have entered the Provincial Class.

34. The awards program is ongoing. Full details will be provided in the Festival Program. Check our website (www.vayafestivals.com) for updates.
35. **LIABILITY WAIVER:** Acceptance of a participant's entry into the Vancouver Speech Arts & Drama Festival will release any responsibility of the Festival's Directors, Staff and Volunteers from any claims, demands, damages, actions or causes of action arising out of or in consequence of any loss, injury or damage to any participant or any participant's personal property incurred while attending or participating in the festival.