



SPRING 2024

**VAYA INTERNATIONAL
SPEECH ARTS & DRAMA FESTIVAL
SYLLABUS
ADULTS (19+ YEARS)**

1. Memorization is required except for Speeches, Storytelling and Prose or Sacred reading classes.

2. Costumes and Props The festival will provide the following props: table, stool, chair, and lectern. Costuming and props are only permitted for the Drama selection and for Shakespeare classes and must be integral to the selection. Competitors should choose material which requires an absolute minimum of props and these should be portable. Competitors must be able to set up their props in a minimum amount of time and without assistance. All props and costumes remain the sole responsibility of the competitor. Competitors should use good judgment in selections, and suitable dress for their presentations. It is not intended that students use elaborate costumes. Note: no live flame on stage is permitted.

3. Performing Arts BC has provided the following definitions as guidelines:

Prose: A prose passage is a selection from a story, novel, essay, or similar writing that forms a concise unit. Prose is non-metrical writing: thus, stories written in verse are not appropriate. 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, but should not be performed as a dramatic scene, i.e., there is to be no acting, with only limited movement around the stage. Competitors may stand or be seated.

Drama: In drama the speaker is the character. The selection should be taken from a play written to be presented on the stage by an actor assuming 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 'standalone monologues' (not from longer plays) are poor choices at the provincial level.

Poetry: In poetry the language is molded into some kind of design; in prose it is not. Speakers may choose to perform any type of poetry: lyric, narrative, dramatic or slam – matching performance choices to author 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 rather than identifies with it. (e.g., Solitude by Bliss Carman; To Autumn by Keats; Sonnets of Shakespeare and Wordsworth.)
- Narrative - a poem which tells a story and usually has dialogue: the telling of a 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 poet speaks, revealing personality and attitudes. The primary concert of the poem is to reveal character, rather than tell a story (e.g., My Last Duchess by Robert Browning, Patterns by Amy Lowell)
- Slam Poetry - Idea or thematic connection poems with voice, humour, rhythm, exaggeration, wordplay, written for performance to an audience. Excerpts may be presented as these poems are often very long. Suggested resource books include Word Warriors (Olsen), Take the Mic (Smith): Poetry Slam (Glazner).
- Sonnet – a sonnet is a fixed form lyric poem, traditionally consisting of 14 lines of iambic pentameter with a set rhyme scheme. In Senior Speech, modern sonnets with variations in rhyme scheme and stanzaic structure are permissible, as are caudated, curtal and double sonnets, provided their inclusion fits the overall time allowance. Sources: The Penguin Book of the Sonnet; Making of a Sonnet (Hirsch); The Art of the Sonnet (Burt).

Please see the Rules and Guidelines document for general festival information.

ADULT SOLO CATEGORIES

(No age restrictions except for the Provincial Classes)

SENIOR PROVINCIAL CLASS – BRITISH COLUMBIA RESIDENTS - AGES 15-23 ONLY

This class is mandatory for those wishing to be considered for recommendation to the Provincial Festival. Unless participants 16 years and under have already won the Intermediate Class at the Provincial Festival, it is recommended that they enter our Intermediate Provincial Class.

Students will perform a series of four selections: one each of Poetry, Prose, Dramatic Scene and Sonnet consecutively, recital style, in any order. While unifying themes and/or introductions and transitions are permitted, they are not required and will not be factored into any adjudication. Titles and introductions are not included in the class time limit but should be kept brief. One minute between selections is permitted. ALL SELECTIONS MUST BE MEMORIZED.

The Syllabi published by the major examination bodies, including the Royal Conservatory (Toronto), Conservatory Canada, Trinity College, etc., are suggested for grade level guidance. Recommended Minimum Level: Grade 8.

SA2081

Time Limit: 20 minutes

Entry fee \$220.00

***** NEW *** SENIOR PROVINCIAL PUBLIC SPEAKING AND STORYTELLING – BRITISH COLUMBIA RESIDENTS - AGES 15-23 ONLY**

1. One selection of original Public Speaking
2. And One selection of Storytelling

SA2199

Time Limit 15 minutes

Entry Fee \$110.00

DRAMATIC PROSE READING

Own choice from a favourite book. Material can be chosen from a novel, short story, or essay. Memorization is not required. Costuming and props are permitted.

SA2200 Time limit 10 minutes Entry fee: \$55.00

DRAMATIC PROSE RECITAL

Own choice from a favourite book performed from memory. Material can be chosen from a novel, short story, or essay. Costuming and props are permitted.

SA2201 Time limit 10 minutes Entry fee: \$55.00

SACRED READING

One selection, own choice from the Bible, the Koran, Talmud, or other great sacred works, using an English translation. Memorization is not required.

SA2202 Time limit 5 minutes Entry fee: \$55.00

SHAKESPEARE MONOLOGUE

One selection, own choice. Costuming and props are permitted.

SA2203 Time limit 10 minutes Entry fee: \$55.00

DRAMATIC MONOLOGUE

One selection, own choice from a published play. Costuming and props are permitted.

SA2204 Time limit 8 minutes Entry fee: \$55.00

MOVIE MONOLOGUE

One selection, own choice. Costuming and props are permitted.

SA2205 Time limit 8 minutes Entry fee: \$55.00

STORYTELLING

One selection, own choice taken from fairy tales, fables, essays, fiction, or non-fiction. Students will submit an outline to the adjudicator at the beginning of the class. The story should not be memorized but told in the participant's own words.

SA2206 Time limit 5 minutes Entry fee: \$55.00

STORYTELLING TO A GROUP OF CHILDREN OF A SPECIFIED AGE GROUP

One selection, own choice taken from fairy tales, fables, essays, fiction, or non-fiction. Students will submit an outline to the adjudicator at the beginning of the class. The story should not be memorized but told in the participant's own words.

SA2207 Time limit 5 minutes Entry fee: \$55.00

HUMOUR

One selection, own choice of a humorous selection - prose or verse. May be anecdotal or from a published work.

SA2208 Time limit 5 minutes Entry fee: \$55.00

SOLO MIME

One selection of a mimed story. Students may use background music, two chairs or stools, but no handheld props or stage sets permitted. Title may be announced or displayed on a sign. An outline must be submitted along with video link. Title not required at time of registration.

SA2209 Time limit 3 minutes Entry fee: \$55.00

*****NEW*** MODERN POEM**

One selection, own choice of a poem published between 1900 and 1960.

SA2153 Time limit 7 minutes Entry fee: \$55.00

CONTEMPORARY POEM

One selection, own choice of a poem published after 1960.

SA2210 Time limit 7 minutes Entry fee: \$55.00

LYRIC POEM

See top of Speech Arts section for definition.

SA2211 Time limit 7 minutes Entry fee: \$55.00

Narrative or Dramatic Poem

See top of Speech Arts section for definition.

SA2212 Time limit 7 minutes Entry fee: \$55.00

SONNET

See top of Speech Arts section for definition. Costuming and props are permitted.

SA2213 Time limit 3 minutes Entry fee: \$55.00

Public Speaking

AFTER-DINNER SPEECH

After-dinner Speech to a large gathering attending a reunion or conference or celebratory occasion. Simple audio/visual aids may be used. Prompt cards may be used.

SA2215 Time limit 7 minutes Entry fee: \$55.00

INTRODUCTION AND THANK-YOU SPEECHES

Two speeches, one as an introduction to the main speaker, the other in appreciation of the speech, in a specific setting. Prompt cards may be used.

SA2216 Time limit 7 minutes Entry fee: \$55.00

PERSUASIVE SPEECH OF A MORAL OR POLITICAL ISSUE

Prompt cards may be used.

SA2217 Time limit 7 minutes Entry fee: \$55.00

NEWS FEATURE

News feature for radio told twice - once for a popular entertainment channel and again using the same facts for a serious news programme. Prompt cards may be used.

SA2218 Time limit 7 minutes Entry fee: \$55.00

SHAKESPEARE DUO

One selection, own choice.

SA2229	Time limit 10 minutes	Entry fee: \$70.00
SA2230	Time limit 15 minutes	Entry fee: \$85.00

POETRY DUO

One selection, own choice.

SA2231	Time limit 10 minutes	Entry fee: \$70.00
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GROUP SCENE

One selection, own choice for three or more performers.

SA2147	Time limit 10 minutes	Entry fee: \$70.00
SA2148	Time limit 15 minutes	Entry fee: \$85.00

GROUP SHAKESPEARE SCENE

One selection, own choice for three or more performers.

SA2151	Time limit 10 minutes	Entry fee: \$70.00
SA2152	Time limit 15 minutes	Entry fee: \$85.00