

# Chester Festival of Performing Arts

***Speech and Drama Festival***  
**22<sup>nd</sup> MARCH 2025**

## ***SYLLABUS***

***LAST DATE FOR ENTRIES: 1<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY 2025***



**SUPPORTING &  
CHAMPIONING  
VOLUNTARY MUSIC**

Affiliated to Making Music

# **CHESTER FESTIVAL OF PERFORMING ARTS**

## **PRESIDENT**

**Lady Rose Cholmondeley**

## **VICE-PRESIDENT**

**Mrs Sue Fisher**

## **OFFICERS**

**Chairman: Mrs. D. Rooney**  
**Vice-Chairman: Mrs W. Morris**  
**Treasurer: Mrs. L. Moyes**  
**Secretary: Mr, P. Moyes**

## **COMMITTEE**

**Mr J. Banks, Mrs. C Faithfull,**  
**Mrs. W. Morris, Mrs. L. Moyes**  
**Mr.P Moyes, Mr Simon Bate**

## **SPEECH & DRAMA SECRETARY**

**Mrs C. Faithfull,**  
**Holly Bank Cottage,**  
**Cross O'Th'Hill,**  
**Malpas**  
**Tel: 01948 860422; 07872 050592**  
**cfaithfull@btinternet.com**

## **TROPHY SECRETARY**

**Mrs W. Morris,**  
**65 Pearl Lane,**  
**Vicars Cross,**  
**Chester. CH3 5NU.**  
**Tel: 07708 755712**

**SPEECH AND DRAMA FESTIVAL**  
**THE QUEEN'S SENIOR SCHOOL, CITY WALLS RD, CH1 2NN**  
**SATURDAY MARCH 22nd 2025**

**ADJUDICATORS**

**MARCIA CARR M Phil. BA (Hons), LLCM, LLAM, ALAM**

**TINA DOYLE MNATD, FNEA**

**ELLEN EDWIN-SCOTT MA**

**LOVEDAY INGRAM MA**

**SUSAN MACKAY ALAM, LLAM,**

**The Chester Festival of Performing Arts  
is pleased to announce that it has entered into  
an agreement with the Author's Licensing and Collecting Society.**

**This means that entrants do not have to seek copyright  
permission for any poetry, prose or solo dramatic items  
to a time limit of 10 minutes.**

**Dramatic items must be announced with title and author  
at the time of performance to qualify for copyright indemnity,  
and the performer must not change the words or gender of the character.**

**Performers and teachers will be delighted to know  
that their participation in this festival means that  
authors will be directly reimbursed as a consequence of  
their works being performed at this festival.**

**Duologues and group dramatic activities are not covered  
by this agreement, and copyright for these items should be  
sought by performers at the time of entry.**

**Chester Festival of Performing Arts  
is a charitable company limited by guarantee  
incorporated in 2004 as an  
Association not for profit  
Registered Charity No.1103517  
Registered Office: 27 Bryn Awelon, Mold, CH7 1LT**

**RULES AND CONDITIONS OF ENTRY**  
**ALL COMPETITORS WILL BE ASSUMED TO HAVE READ AND AGREED TO**  
**ABIDE BY THESE CONDITIONS.**  
**PLEASE TAKE CAREFUL NOTE:**

1. **Last date for entries. Please note that it will not be possible to accept entries after the date printed on the front cover of this syllabus stating last date for entries. Official entry forms must be used.**
2. **Acknowledgement of entries cannot be given separately from the timing/admission cards which are sent to all competitors just before the festival.**
3. **All Challenge Trophies and Shields are the property of the Chester Festival of Performing Arts and are held by winners for eleven months. They must be cleaned, adequately packed and returned to the following address NOT LATER THAN FOUR WEEKS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF COMPETITION to**

**MRS W. MORRIS,  
65 PEARL LANE  
CHESTER CH3 5NU  
07708 755712**

**(IF POSTING REGISTERED POST MUST BE USED)**

**Winners are asked to include the trophy on their house contents insurance. No trophies can be taken outside the British Isles.**

4. **The decision of the Adjudicator shall be final.**
5. **Certificates will be awarded to all competitors with 75 or more marks. Cups and Awards will be given where applicable to winners who attain COMMENDED or higher.**
6. **The Committee reserves the right to appoint additional adjudicators and to alter, modify or cancel any arrangements in the syllabus as may be necessary.**
7. **A copy of the Own Choice item must be given to the Adjudicator before the performance.**
8. **A copy of the adjudicators' comments will be available to all competitors and should be collected from the secretary's desk together with copies of pieces. The Society does not hold itself responsible for copies left behind.**
9. **Competitors not answering to their number when called will be called again at the end of the class.**

10. The sequence of class numbers in the syllabus does not necessarily indicate the order in the programme.
11. In the set pieces the stated edition must be used.
12. No piece may be used in more than one class.
13. No competitor or member of audience is permitted to approach the adjudicator during performance sessions.
14. All school groups must be adequately supervised.
15. Entry fees are to be paid in U.K. currency.

**BACS to CHESTER FESTIVAL OF PERFORMING ARTS; Sort Code: 30-91-92;  
A/c number: 28694468.**

**Cheques payable to CHESTER FESTIVAL OF PERFORMING ARTS.**

16. In accordance with the Performing Rights Society rules, we cannot permit the recording of any performance by tape or video or any form of flash photography or digital equipment.

**THE ACCURATE TIMING OF OWN CHOICE ITEMS IS VITALLY IMPORTANT TO THE RUNNING OF THE PROGRAMME. COMPETITORS WHO EXCEED THE TIME LIMIT WILL BE PENALISED. PLEASE KEEP TO STATED TIMES.**

**The British Federation of Music Festivals standard of marking will be used**

**FAIR: 75 – 77**

**MODERATE: 78 – 80**

**MERIT: 81 – 83**

**COMMENDED: 84 – 86**

**DISTINCTION: 87 – 89**

**OUTSTANDING: 90 +**

**PARENTS AND TEACHERS ARE REMINDED THAT THE SAFETY OF YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR BELONGINGS ARE THEIR RESPONSIBILITY DURING THE FESTIVAL  
ENTRY FORMS AND ENQUIRIES SHOULD BE SENT TO:**

**MRS. C. FAITHFULL,  
HOLLY BANK COTTAGE,  
CROSS O' TH' HILL,  
MALPAS, SY14 8DQ  
TEL: 01948 860422; 07872 050592**

**PLEASE ENCLOSE S.A.E. FOR COMPETITION TIMING/ADMISSION CARDS**

**THIS YEAR WE HAVE DECIDED TO MOVE BACK TO OUR ROOTS IN  
THE CITY CENTRE.**

**OUR SPEECH AND DRAMA FESTIVAL WILL BE HELD AT  
THE QUEEN'S SENIOR SCHOOL WHERE THERE ARE  
SOME GREAT PERFORMANCE SPACES.**

**OUR MUSIC FESTIVAL WHICH WILL BE HELD ON MAY 10<sup>TH</sup> WILL ALSO USE  
THE SCHOOL ALONG WITH OTHER VENUES IN THE CITY.**

**AN ADDITION TO OUR REGULAR SYLLABUS IS AN OPPORTUNITY  
TO PARTICIPATE IN A MASTERCLASS RUN BY ONE OF OUR VERY  
EXPERIENCED ADJUDICATORS FOR YOUNG ACTORS WHO ARE COMPETING  
IN OUR DRAMA CLASSES FOR YEARS NINE AND ABOVE.**

**THIS IS NON-COMPETITIVE AND WILL BE AN EXCITING AND ASPIRING  
INSIGHT INTO PREPARATIONS FOR PERFORMANCE**

#### **JUNIOR CLASSES**

**POEMS ARE READILY AVAILABLE OR CAN BE PROVIDED ON APPLICATION**

		<b>Entrance Fee</b>
<b>CLASS 1</b>	<b>VERSE SPEAKING (Year 2 &amp; below)</b>  <b>The Worm – Ralph Bergangren or Lazy Witch – Myra Cohn Livingston</b>	<b>£7.00</b>
<b>CLASS 2</b>	<b>VERSE SPEAKING (Year 2 &amp; below)</b> <b>(Maximum time 1 minute)</b>  <b>Own Choice</b>	<b>£7.00</b>
<b>CLASS 3</b>	<b>VERSE SPEAKING (Year 3)</b>  <b>Home! You're Where It's Warm Inside – Jack Prelutsky or Sunning – James S.Tippet</b>	<b>£7.00</b>
<b>CLASS 4</b>	<b>VERSE SPEAKING (Year 3)</b> <b>(Maximum time 2 minutes)</b> <b>Own Choice</b>	<b>£7.00</b>



<b>CLASS 12</b>	<b>PREPARED READING (Year 3) (Maximum time 2 minutes)</b>	<b>£7.00</b>
	<b>A passage from a favourite book</b>	
<b>CLASS 13</b>	<b>PREPARED READING (Year 4) (Maximum time 3 minutes)</b>	<b>£7.00</b>
	<b>A passage from a favourite book</b>	
<b>CLASS 14</b>	<b>PREPARED READING (Year 5) (Maximum time 3 minutes)</b>	<b>£7.00</b>
	<b>A passage from a favourite book</b>	
<b>CLASS 15</b>	<b>PREPARED READING (Year 6) (Maximum time 3 minutes)</b>	<b>£7.00</b>
	<b>A passage from a favourite book</b>	
<b>CLASS 16</b>	<b>SPIRITUAL READING (Year 3 &amp; 4) (Maximum time 2 minutes)</b>	<b>£7.00</b>
	<b>A reading with a spiritual theme from any source</b>	
<b>CLASS 17</b>	<b>SPIRITUAL READING (Years 5 &amp; 6) (Maximum time 3 minutes)</b>	<b>£7.00</b>
	<b>A reading with a spiritual theme from any source</b>	
<b>CLASS 18</b>	<b>READING AT SIGHT (Years 3 &amp; 4)</b>	<b>£7.00</b>
<b>CLASS 19</b>	<b>READING AT SIGHT (Years 5 &amp; 6)</b>	<b>£7.00</b>



**CLASS 20**                      **SOLO DRAMA (Years 3 & 4)**                      **£7.00**  
**(Maximum time 3 minutes)**

**Own choice**

**CLASS 21**                      **SOLO DRAMA (Years 5 & 6)**                      **£7.00**  
**(Maximum time 3 minutes)**

**Own choice**

**IN GROUP ENTRIES OF FIVE OR MORE COMPETITORS PLEASE GIVE A  
GROUP NAME AS ONLY ONE CERTIFICATE WILL BE AWARDED**

**PLEASE NOTE: COMPETITORS MAY ENTER ONLY ONCE IN ANY ONE  
CLASS**

**CLASS 22**                      **JUNIOR SCENES (Years 3 & 4)**                      **£10.00**  
**(Maximum time 5 minutes)**                      **up to 4 in group**  
**Extract from play of own choice.**                      **+ £1.50 for each**  
**Two or more competitors. Properties**                      **additional member**  
**may be used but no costume or stage make-up to be worn.**

**CLASS 23**                      **JUNIOR SCENES (Years 5 & 6)**                      **£10.00**  
**(Maximum time 5 minutes)**                      **up to 4 in group**  
**Extract from play of own choice.**                      **+ £1.50 for each**  
**Two or more competitors.**                      **additional member**  
**Properties may be used but no**  
**costume or stage make-up to be worn.**

**CLASS 24**                      **PREPARED ORIGINAL SCENE (Year 6 & below)**                      **£10.00**  
**(Maximum time 5 minutes)**                      **up to 4 in group**  
**Every Second Counts**                      **+ £1.50 for each**  
**or**                      **additional member**  
**Grandma's Secret**

**This should be a scene on the given topic, devised by the group  
and given shape and direction for presentation to an audience.**

<b>CLASS 25</b>	<b>SOLO MIME (Years 3 &amp; 4)</b> <b>(Maximum time 3 minutes)</b>	<b>£7.00</b>
	<b>Own choice</b>	
<b>CLASS 26</b>	<b>SOLO MIME (Years 5 &amp; 6)</b> <b>(Maximum time 3 minutes)</b>	<b>£7.00</b>
	<b>Own choice</b>	
<b>CLASS 27</b>	<b>GROUP MIME (Years 3 &amp; 4)</b> <b>(Maximum time 5 minutes)</b>	<b>£10.00</b> <b>up to 4 in group</b> <b>+ £1.50 for each</b> <b>additional member</b>
	<b>Own choice</b>	
<b>CLASS 28</b>	<b>GROUP MIME (Years 5 &amp; 6)</b> <b>(Maximum time 5 minutes)</b>	<b>£10.00</b> <b>up to 4 in group</b> <b>+ £1.50 for each</b> <b>additional member</b>
	<b>Own choice</b>	
<b>CLASS 29</b>	<b>GROUP IMPROVISATION (Years 6 &amp; below)</b> <b>(Maximum time 5 minutes)</b>	<b>£10.00</b> <b>up to 4 in group</b> <b>+ £1.50 for each</b> <b>additional member</b>
	<b>Title will be provided by the adjudicator</b> <b>(10 minutes preparation time)</b>	

### **SENIOR CLASSES**

**POEMS ARE READILY AVAILABLE OR CAN BE PROVIDED UPON APPLICATION**

<b>CLASS 40</b>	<b>VERSE SPEAKING (Years 7 and 8)</b>	<b>£8.00</b>
	<b>Conversation Piece – G.Owen</b> <b>or</b> <b>Geography Lesson – B.Patten</b>	
<b>CLASS 41</b>	<b>OWN CHOICE VERSE SPEAKING (Year 7)</b> <b>Maximum time 2 minutes</b>	<b>£8.00</b>

<b>CLASS 81</b>	<b>OWN CHOICE VERSE SPEAKING (Year 8)</b>  <b>Maximum time 2 minutes</b>	<b>£8.00</b>
<b>CLASS 42</b>	<b>VERSE SPEAKING (Years 9 &amp;10)</b>  <b>Blackberry Picking – S.Heaney</b> <b>or</b> <b>Uncle William – J.Nicholls</b>	<b>£8.00</b>
<b>CLASS 43</b>	<b>OWN CHOICE VERSE SPEAKING (Years 9 &amp; 10)</b>  <b>Maximum time 2 minutes</b>	<b>£8.00</b>
<b>CLASS 44</b>	<b>VERSE SPEAKING (Year 11 &amp; above)</b>  <b>Warming Her Pearls – C.A. Duffy</b> <b>or</b> <b>Upon Westminster Bridge – W. Wordsworth</b>	<b>£8.00</b>
<b>CLASS 45</b>	<b>OWN CHOICE VERSE SPEAKING (Year 11 &amp; above)</b>  <b>Maximum time 3 minutes</b>	<b>£8.00</b>
<b>CLASS 46</b>	<b>POETRY READING CLASS (Year 11 &amp; above))</b>  <b>OWN CHOICE. Two contrasting poems on the same theme TO BE READ.</b> <b>(Maximum time 5 minutes)</b>	<b>£8.00</b>

**COMPETITORS WILL READ A PASSAGE FROM A BOOK BY EITHER OF THE SET AUTHORS, BRIEFLY INTRODUCING THE READING  
A COPY OF THE CHOSEN EXTRACT MUST BE PROVIDED FOR THE ADJUDICATOR. TIME LIMITS INCLUDE THE INTRODUCTION**

<b>CLASS 47</b>	<b>PREPARED READING (Year 7)</b> <b>(Maximum time 3 minutes)</b>  <b>An extract from any work by</b>  <b>J.M.Forster</b> <b>or Hannah Gold</b>	<b>£8.00</b>
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<b>CLASS 48</b>	<b>PREPARED READING (Year 8)</b> <b>(Maximum time 3 minutes)</b>	<b>£8.00</b>
	An extract from any work by  Anne Fine or Kiran Millwood Hargrave	
<b>CLASS 49</b>	<b>PREPARED READING (Years 9 &amp; 10)</b> <b>(Maximum time 3 minutes)</b>	<b>£8.00</b>
	An extract from any work by  William Golding or Sue Wallman	
<b>CLASS 50</b>	<b>PREPARED READING (Year 11 &amp; above)</b> <b>(Maximum time 4 minutes)</b>	<b>£8.00</b>
	An extract from any work by  Susan Hill or John Steinbeck	
<b>CLASS 51</b>	<b>SPIRITUAL READING (Years 7 &amp; 8)</b> <b>(Maximum time 3 minutes)</b>	<b>£8.00</b>
	A Reading with a spiritual theme from any source	
<b>CLASS 52</b>	<b>SPIRITUAL READING (Years 9 &amp; 10)</b> <b>(Maximum time 3 minutes)</b>	<b>£8.00</b>
	A Reading with a spiritual theme from any source	
<b>CLASS 53</b>	<b>SPIRITUAL READING (Year 11 &amp; above)</b> <b>(Maximum time 4 minutes)</b>	<b>£8.00</b>
<b>CLASS 54</b>	<b>A Reading with a spiritual theme from any source</b> <b>READING AT SIGHT (Years 7 &amp; 8)</b>	<b>£8.00</b>

<b>CLASS 55</b>	<b>READING AT SIGHT (Years 9 &amp; 10)</b>	<b>£8.00</b>
<b>CLASS 56</b>	<b>READING AT SIGHT (Year 11 &amp; above)</b>	<b>£8.00</b>
<b>CLASS 57</b>	<b>SOLO DRAMA (Years 7 &amp; 8)</b> <b>(Maximum time 3 minutes)</b>	<b>£8.00</b>
	<b>Speech from any drama</b>	
<b>CLASS 58</b>	<b>SOLO DRAMA (Years 9 &amp; 10)</b> <b>(Maximum time 3 minutes)</b>	<b>£8.00</b>
	<b>Speech from any drama</b>	
<b>CLASS 59</b>	<b>SOLO DRAMA (Years 11 &amp; above))</b> <b>(Maximum time 4 minutes)</b>	<b>£8.00</b>
	<b>Speech from any drama</b>	

**IN GROUP ENTRIES OF FIVE OR MORE COMPETITORS PLEASE GIVE  
A GROUP NAME AS ONLY ONE CERTIFICATE WILL BE AWARDED**

**PLEASE NOTE: COMPETITORS MAY ENTER ONLY ONCE**

**IN ANY ONE CLASS**

<b>CLASS 60</b>	<b>GROUP SCENE (Years 7 &amp; 8)</b> <b>(Maximum time 5 minutes)</b>	<b>£10.00</b> <b>up to 4 in group</b> <b>+ £1.50 for each</b> <b>additional member</b>
	<b>OWN CHOICE</b> <b>Two or more competitors</b> <b>Hand props may be used, but no</b> <b>Stage make-up or costume to be worn</b>	
<b>CLASS 61</b>	<b>GROUP SCENE (Years 9 &amp; 10)</b> <b>(Maximum time 5 minutes)</b>	<b>£10.00</b> <b>up to 4 in group</b> <b>+ £1.50 for each</b> <b>additional member</b>
	<b>OWN CHOICE</b> <b>Two or more competitors</b> <b>Hand props may be used, but no</b> <b>Stage make-up or costume to be worn</b>	



<b>CLASS 67</b>	<b>SOLO MIME (Years 9 &amp; 10)</b> <b>(Maximum time 3 minutes)</b>	<b>£8.00</b>
	<b>Own Choice</b>	
<b>CLASS 68</b>	<b>SOLO MIME (Year 11 &amp; above)</b> <b>(Maximum time 4 minutes)</b>	<b>£8.00</b>
	<b>Own Choice</b>	
<b>CLASS 69</b>	<b>GROUP MIME (Years 7 &amp; 8)</b> <b>(Maximum time 5 minutes)</b>	<b>£10.00</b> <b>up to 4 in group</b> <b>+ £1.50 for each</b> <b>additional member</b>
	<b>Own Choice</b>	
<b>CLASS 70</b>	<b>GROUP MIME (Years 9 &amp; 10)</b> <b>(Maximum time 5 minutes)</b>	<b>£10.00</b> <b>up to 4 in group</b> <b>+ £1.50 for each</b> <b>additional member</b>
	<b>Own Choice</b>	
<b>CLASS 71</b>	<b>GROUP MIME (Year 11 &amp; above)</b> <b>(Maximum time 6 minutes)</b>	<b>£10.00</b> <b>up to 4 in group</b> <b>+ £1.50 for each</b> <b>additional member</b>
	<b>Own Choice</b>	
<b>CLASS 72</b>	<b>GROUP IMPROVISATION (Years 7 &amp; 8)</b> <b>(Maximum time 5 minutes)</b>	<b>£10.00</b> <b>up to 4 in group</b> <b>+ £1.50 for each</b> <b>additional member</b>
	<b>Title will be provided by the adjudicator</b> <b>(10 minutes preparation time)</b>	
<b>CLASS 73</b>	<b>GROUP IMPROVISATION (Years 9 &amp; 10)</b> <b>(Maximum time 5 minutes)</b>	<b>£10.00</b> <b>up to 4 in group</b> <b>+ £1.50 for each</b> <b>additional member</b>
	<b>Title will be provided by the adjudicator</b> <b>(10 minutes preparation time)</b>	

<b>CLASS 74</b>	<b>GROUP IMPROVISATION (Year 11 &amp; above)</b> (Maximum time 6 minutes)  Title will be provided by the adjudicator (10 minutes preparation time)	<b>£10.00</b> up to 4 in group + £1.50 for each additional member
<b>CLASS 75</b>	<b>SOLO SHAKESPEARE SCENE (Years 7 &amp; 8)</b> (Maximum time 3 minutes)  Own choice of a speech from any play by Shakespeare	<b>£8.00</b>
<b>CLASS 76</b>	<b>SOLO SHAKESPEARE SCENE (Years 9 &amp; 10)</b> (Maximum time 3 minutes)  Own choice of a speech from any play by Shakespeare	<b>£8.00</b>
<b>CLASS 77</b>	<b>SOLO SHAKESPEARE SCENE (Year 11 &amp; above)</b> (Maximum time 4 minutes)  Own choice of a speech from any play by Shakespeare	<b>£8.00</b>
<b>CLASS 78</b>	<b>SHAKESPEARE DUOLOGUE (Open)</b> (Maximum time 6 minutes)  Any scene for two characters	<b>£10.00</b>
<b>CLASS 79</b>	<b>CLASSICAL DUOLOGUE (Year 9 and over)</b> (Maximum time 5 minutes)  A scene for two characters from any play written Before 1900	<b>£10.00</b>
<b>CLASS 80</b>	<b>PUBLIC SPEAKING (Open)</b> (Maximum time 5 minutes)  Own choice. Notes may be used, but speech must not be read.	<b>£8.00</b>

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