

PERFORMING *Arts* BC

ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL FESTIVALS

Welcome and Congratulations!

Dear Provincial Festival Participant in Speech & Dramatic Arts and Public Speaking and Storytelling:

On behalf of the Provincial Board of Directors and our Member-Festivals, congratulations on being selected to represent your local Festival at the 2026 Performing Arts BC Provincial Festival in Prince George, June 1 – 5. We sincerely hope your time will be filled with interesting, educational and challenging experiences.

Your participation begins now:

- Completed Entry Forms must be returned to your local festival **by their deadline**.
- Check your registration confirmation for accuracy and report any problems or errors to your local festival representative. **You must return the signed waiver attached to the registration confirmation to complete your registration.**
- If you are paying your own fees, please mail a cheque, pay by e-transfer or use PayPal. The registration confirmation will tell you exactly how much is owing and how to submit payment.

Be aware of the rules and procedures:

- Read this Letter and Performance Guide so that you are aware of the rules.
- Read the 2025/26 Official Syllabus so that you are aware of the rules
- Information will be posted on the website as it becomes available.
- Many performers enter more than one local Festival, which is allowed. However you may only be recommended for the Provincial Festival from ONE. Once you have accepted a recommendation, you must inform subsequent Festivals in which you are entered that you are no longer eligible for recommendation.
- All speech arts performances will be in 'recital-style'. You will perform all your works one after the other and you will set the pace of the performance. You will not need to wait for a nod from the adjudicator, rather move on to the next piece when you are ready.

Costumes and Props:

- As performances are in recital-style, costumes may be worn for all selections if it is required for the Drama selection, but should be kept to an absolute minimum and may be something as simple as adding a scarf or picking up a book. Check the Syllabus regarding props.
- Costumes are permitted in the parallel Shakespeare classes.

Parallel Classes: Adjudicator recommendation is not required

- Most performers recommended in a Speech Arts class may also choose to perform in the parallel Shakespeare class. Please note that there is no Provincial Excellence Shakespeare class.
- Note: you are allowed to perform in this parallel class at a higher level than your main class if you won this class in a preceding year. Please refer to the 2025/26 Syllabus for more information, or check the website.

Time limits:

- Total times must be observed – time selections carefully as you prepare. Check the Syllabus to understand the maximum time allowed and how the timing will be done.

Copyright:

- All performers must comply with laws regarding **copyright**.
- In general, photocopies are not allowed unless they are authorized by the publisher or CanCopy.

Schedule and order of performance:

- Is determined by the Provincial office and may not be changed by a performer except by special permission of the President and/or Executive Director.
- Class times and performance schedules will be available in your Programme which you will receive at Registration.
- Check the website for tentative and then finalized schedules.

Accommodation, venues:

- A list of accommodations in Prince George holding blocks of rooms for the Provincial Festival will be listed on the PABC website.
- A list of performance venues will be posted on the website.

Registration:

- Starts on Monday, June 1 at 12noon at UNBC and will stay open until 9:00pm.
- Registration reopens Tuesday morning at 7:30am in the same location and that afternoon will move to the festival office located in the same building, and will stay open all day through Friday morning at 12noon.
- You must register in person and have received a name tag before you will be able to perform. At registration you will also receive a Festival Programme.
- Your name tag also allows you free admission to any competitive sessions throughout the festival. Admission for non-festival participants is \$5 a session. \$20 weekly passes will be available at registration and at venues.

Concert Tickets:

- Tickets for the Wednesday evening Highlights concert, the Thursday Dance Finals concert and the Friday evening Provincial Excellence concert will be available for purchase. Tickets prices will be posted at a later date. Please check the PABC website for concert locations and pre-concert ticket sales. **Cash sales are preferable for all passes and tickets, please.**
- Tickets are not required for the daily noon-time Music and Speech Arts Future Stars Concerts or the Dance Future Stars concerts. Admission free with participant name tag or \$5 at the door for all others.

Classes, Workshops, and Attendance:

- You are expected to attend all the sessions of your competition as well as the Adjudication sessions – these may be two or three sessions.
- If you are a class Winner, you will be asked to perform in either the Wednesday or the Gala Concert on Friday evening.
- There may be other workshops offered during the festival. It is hoped that you will attend these sessions.

For further information: Read the Procedure Guide attached, stay in touch with your local Festival official, and check the PABC website frequently.

Once again, congratulations and welcome to the Provincial Festival!

Sincerely,

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PROCEDURE GUIDE FOR SPEECH & DRAMATIC ARTS PARTICIPANTS

Be early: it is suggested that you arrive at your competition/class at least 20 minutes ahead of the start. You **MUST** check in there with the door person, showing your scripts/books which you should have clearly identified with your name, and the pages of selections to be performed. The selected material must be indicated clearly, noting the page, starting and finishing lines. The use of photocopied material is prohibited unless approved through CanCopy or a publisher's letter.

In addition to the original copy of the work, competitors must provide a typed copy of the exact passages they are performing, labelled with their name, class and section (ie poetry, prose etc). These copies will be destroyed following the class.

All speech arts performances will be in recital-style. You will perform your 3 or 4 selections back-to-back and you, as the performer, will set the pace of the performance. Costumes should be kept to a minimum as there is no place provided either on or off stage, for costume changes. **A theme is required in the Senior Speech and Dramatic Arts class.**

All selections must be memorized, but notes may be used for the Public Speaking class.

You must attend all sessions of your class.

Warm up your voice in the warm-up area before the start of the session then be seated in the audience.

Wait to be called – the Adjudicator's assistant will introduce you by Name and Local Festival.

When you have been called, hand in your scripts/books to the Adjudicator's Assistant on your way to the stage. Set small props as needed.

The adjudicator will give the signal for you to commence – introduce yourself and announce the names of your selections and proceed.

Time limits are important! Please note that **all times are total times on stage and include times between pieces and applause.** Should the timer ring the bell indicating you have exceeded the total time limit, stop at once. Please plan your performance carefully so that you are not disqualified.

Following your performance, bow, leave the stage and resume your seat. Depending upon the Adjudicator's directions, you may be able to pick up your books/scripts following each session, or they may be retained for the Adjudications. If they are not retained, please bring all your scripts/books to the Adjudication session – and again, please come early to check in.

Winners, Runners-Up and Honourable Mentions will be announced at the conclusion of the Adjudications. All performers will receive a Participation Certificate; Winners will also receive a medal. Winners and Runners-Up will receive appropriate Certificates.

If you are a Winner or Runner-Up, you must check in immediately with the Adjudicator's Assistant following that announcement for further instructions regarding your possible performance in either the Wednesday or Friday evening concerts. They will be able to give you more information.

As a courtesy to your hosts, please wear appropriate attire for the performances and Concerts.

No contact is to be made with the adjudicator until all competitions for your level at the Festival are complete.

BEST WISHES!