

2026 SPEECH & DRAMA SYLLABUS
for
THE 58TH ANNUAL EISTEDDFOD
ORGANISED BY
TAREE AND DISTRICT EISTEDDFOD SOCIETY INC.

www.tareeeisteddfod.com.au

President: Tim Stack OAM and Julie Edwards

Secretary: Julie Edwards

Treasurer: Rosemary Latimore

Major Sponsor: STACKS FINANCE



**“The important thing is not to win a prize or beat a rival,
but to pace one another on the road to excellence.”**

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES: Friday April 3, 2025.

ALL ENTRIES AND FEES TO BE SUBMITTED ONLINE AT www.comps-online.com.au

Venue: Manning Entertainment Centre, 33 Manning River Drive, Taree.

Coordinator: Rhonda Evans

Contact Details: rhonda.keith.evans@gmail.com or phone 0407885803

Adjudicator: Mrs Toni Fatherley

Tentative Dates: May 18 to May 22, 2026

GRAND CONCERT: Saturday 13 June 2026 (to be confirmed)

AGE

A competitor's age for entry purposes is taken as at 1st January in the year of the event.

DONATIONS

Please consider making a donation. Every contribution, large or small, helps to keep our wonderful eisteddfod running. Your donation goes towards purchasing trophies and providing cash awards.

Donations can be included when submitting your entry at www.comps-online.com.au

Thank you to all our generous donors from last year.

ADMITTANCE TO THE THEATRE FOR PERFORMANCES

We ask that everyone who enters the theatre pay a session fee. This assists us in covering some of our running costs. Full day and season tickets are also available.

PROGRAM

The program will be available from the Eisteddfod website once all entries are received and collated. The cost of the program is automatically added to your cart when you enter online.

RULES AND CONDITIONS

The Eisteddfod Rules and Conditions are available on our website

SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS AND PRIZES.

THE DENVA BIRD MEMORIAL AWARD FOR THE MOST PROMISING PERFORMER.

A sum of \$500 will be awarded to the competitor adjudged by the adjudicator to be the most promising performer in the Speech and Drama Section of this Eisteddfod.

ROMA LIGGINS PERPETUAL SCHOLARSHIP.

A \$2500 scholarship will be awarded to an outstanding competitor in the 2025 eisteddfod. This scholarship is open to any competitor of any age and in any section of the eisteddfod. One competitor will be chosen by the adjudicator from each of the six sections. The Committee of the T.D.E.S. will then choose the successful competitor. Their name will be announced at the Grand Concert. A competitor will only be eligible for this scholarship once.

N.I.D.A. SCHOLARSHIP.

A scholarship to attend the N.I.D.A. Summer School for one week will be awarded to a competitor 15 years and over who is considered by the adjudicator to benefit the most by this experience. This is not a cash award but will pay for tuition and accommodation for one week in Sydney. A competitor cannot win this scholarship in consecutive years.

One week's tuition and accommodation at NIDA will be made available to one competitor in the drama section of the 2025 Eisteddfod.

To qualify (1) a competitor must be between 15 and 23 years of age

(2) a competitor must have competed in either the Intermediate or Senior Championship.

The winner of this scholarship will not necessarily be the championship winner but the competitor whom the adjudicator feels would benefit the most from further tuition.

SPECIAL SCHOLARSHIP.

A scholarship of \$500 is given to a talented competitor in the Speech and Drama section who has been nominated by the adjudicator but has not won the Roma Liggins Scholarship.

ENCOURAGEMENT AWARDS.

The Manning Valley Businessman's Assoc. donate 2 x \$50 cash awards for two outstanding male competitors in the 2011 eisteddfod.

The Taree Arts Council donate an encouragement award to a promising performer 12 years and under.

There are 2 x \$50 cash awards to one female and one male competitor who is judged by the adjudicator to be outstanding in a duologue or group performance.

Cash awards will be given for all ages throughout the sections.

'SMILE' SCHOLARSHIPS A number of these scholarships will be available throughout the sections of the eisteddfod and are to be used for further tuition or workshops. They will be awarded by the adjudicator.

TO ALL AGE GROUPS

OFFENSIVE OR DEROGATORY LANGUAGE WILL NOT BE TOLERATED IN SPEECH AND DRAMA. WE FEEL THIS RULE IS NECESSARY BECAUSE OF THE VARYING AGES IN THE AUDIENCE, SO IF YOU ARE UNSURE, WORK TO A 'G' RATING.

THIS IS VERY HARD TO POLICE AS IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO READ ALL SCRIPTS WHEN THEY ARE HANDED IN JUST BEFORE PERFORMING ON STAGE. SO CHECK YOUR SCRIPT WITH THE COORDINATOR WELL BEFORE THE START OF THE EISTEDDFOD.

THE ADJUDICATOR MAY DISQUALIFY ANY PERFORMER USING UNSUITABLE OR SENSITIVE MATERIAL ON STAGE. PLEASE CHECK BEFOREHAND SO YOU WON'T BE EMBARRASSED BY BEING TOLD TO LEAVE THE STAGE DURING YOUR PERFORMANCE.

******* TIME LIMITS *******

All time limits are strictly monitored.

Performers who exceed time limits will forfeit any placing & receive comments only.

Decision of the timekeeper is final.

HANDWRITTEN SCRIPTS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE. All scripts must be typed and, in a size, easy to read by the penciller. These scripts must be handed in at the back room well before the section starts.

******* ALL PRICES INCLUDE GST. *******

ABN NUMBER: 924974405560

GROUP SECTIONS: \$15 ENTRY FEE for all group sections

VERSE SPEAKING CHOIR Maximum time limit 10 minutes for two poems

SECTION 800 Small Schools:

SECTION 801 Infants:

SECTION 802 Junior Primary:

SECTION 803 Senior Primary.

ONE ACT PLAY OR SKETCH – from a published script

2 minutes for setting up, 2 minutes for clearing. No props fixed to the backdrop. No shaving cream, talc or glass to be used. Hay must be wrapped in plastic. Maximum of 30 pupils per group. Own tape recorder must be supplied.

SECTION 804 Primary

SECTION 805 Junior High (Years 7 & 8)

SECTION 806 Intermediate High (Years 9 & 10)

SECTION 807 Senior High.

Maximum time 10 minutes for all.

PLAY BUILDING

This section is for scripts that pupils have developed themselves.

SECTION 808 Junior High (Years 7 & 8)

SECTION 809 Intermediate High (Years 9 & 10)

SECTION 810 Senior High.

Maximum time 10 minutes for all

MUSICAL THEATRE

SECTION 811 Primary School:

SECTION 812 High School

Maximum time 10 minutes.

UNSCRIPTED DRAMA

Each group will consist of 3-5 actors. Competitors will be allowed 3 minutes to improvise. Lock up conditions will apply. No props.

SECTION 813 – Primary School:

SECTION 814 – Junior High (years 7 & 8)

SECTION 815 – Intermediate High (years 9 & 10)

SECTION 816 - Senior High

Maximum time 2 minutes

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DEBATING

*******ONE HOUR PREPARATION TIME FOR ALL TEAMS INCLUDING PRIMARY*******

SECTION 817 – Primary School Each speaker has 3 minutes to speak (Coach with them for 30 minutes)

SECTION 818 – Sub Junior High Year 7 Each speaker has 3 minutes to speak

SECTION 819 – Junior High Year 8 Each speaker has 3 minutes to speak

SECTION 820 – Intermediate High Years 9 & 10 Each speaker has 5 minutes to speak

SECTION 821 – Senior High Years 11 & 12 Each speaker has 8 minutes to speak

DRAMATIC DUOLOGUE

Own choice. Performance must be from memory. **Time limit 5 minutes**

SECTION 822 – 12 years & under

SECTION 823 – Junior High Years 7 & 8

SECTION 824 – Intermediate High Years 9 & 10

SECTION 825 – Senior High Years 11 & 12

SECTION 826 – Shakespearean Duologue 14 years and over

SOLO SECTIONS: \$12 ENTRY FEE

SECTION 900 - NURSERY RHYME IN COSTUME 6 years & under Time limit 1 ½ minutes

SECTION 900A - SONG IN COSTUME 6 years & under Time limit 1 ½ minutes

SECTION 900B - SONG IN COSTUME 8 years & under Time limit 1 ½ minutes

SECTION 900C - SONG IN COSTUME 10 years & under Time limit 2 minutes

SECTION 900D - SONG IN COSTUME 12 years & under Time limit 3 minutes

SECTION 901 - CHARACTER RECITAL IN COSTUME 8 years & under Time limit 3 minutes

SECTION 902 - CHARACTER RECITAL IN COSTUME 10 years & under Time limit 3 minutes

SECTION 903 - DRAMATIC EXCERPT SHAKESPEAREAN 14 years & over Time limit 5 minutes

DRAMATIC EXCERPT NON-SHAKESPEAREAN

SECTION 904 - 12 years & under Time limit 5 minutes

SECTION 905 - 14 years & under Time limit 5 minutes

SECTION 906 - 16 years & under Time limit 5 minute

SECTION 907 - 23 years & under Time limit 6 minutes

NOVICE DRAMATIC EXCERPT NON-SHAKESPEAREAN

SECTION 908 - Years -7 & 8-Time limit 5 mins

SECTION 909 - Years 9 &10 Time limit 5 mins

SECTION 910 - Years 11&12Time limit 6 mins

These sections are for students who have not won a first place in any Speech and Drama eisteddfod. A script must be handed in to the back room.

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MIME SOLO Time limit 3 minutes No props. Own choice

SECTION 911 – 14 years and under

SECTION 912 – 18 years and under

SACRED READING (with a Christian theme)

Reading may be taken from any book, script poem etc which is considered 'sacred' by a Christian group. A copy of the script must be handed in to the back room before the session begins

SECTION 913 - 8 years and under Time limit 1 ½ minutes -

SECTION 914 -10 years and under Time limit 2 minutes

SECTION 915 -12 years and under Time limit 2 minutes

SECTION 916 –18 years and under Time limit 3 minutes

VERSE SPEAKING SOLO

SECTION 917 - 8 years and under Time limit 2 minutes

SECTION 918 -10 years and under Time limit 2 minutes -

SECTION 919 -12 years and under Time limit 2 minutes

SECTION 920 -14 years and under Time limit 2 minutes

SECTION 921 -16 years and under Time limit 3 minutes

SECTION 922- 18 years and under Time limit 3 minutes

NOVICE VERSE SPEAKING SOLO

This section is for competitors who have never won a first place in any verse speaking section in any eisteddfod prior to the closing date. Own choice.

SECTION 923 - 6 years and under Time limit 2 minutes

SECTION 924 - 8 years and under Time limit 2 minutes

SECTION 925 - 10 years and under Time limit 2 minutes

SECTION 926 - 12 years and under Time limit 2 minutes

SECTION 927 - 14 years and under Time limit 2 minutes

SECTION 928 – 18 years and under Time limit 3 minutes

HUMOROUS RECITATION

SECTION 929 - 14 years and under Time limit 2 minutes

SECTION 930 –18 years and under Time limit 3 minutes

AUSTRALIAN VERSE SOLO

SECTION 931 -10 years and under Time limit 2 minutes

SECTION 932 -12 years and under Time limit 2 minutes

SECTION 933- 14 years and under Time limit 3 minutes

SECTION 934- 18 years and under Time limit 3 minutes

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IMPROMPTU READING

Competitors will be given no time to prepare. Lock up conditions applies.

SECTION 935 - 10 years and under

SECTION 936 - 12 years and under

SECTION 937 -16 years and under

SECTION 938 -18 years and under

DRAMATIC IMPROMPTU FOR ONE

Competitors will be allowed 3 minutes to prepare in lock up conditions then 3 minutes to perform.

SECTION 939 - 14 years and under

SECTION 940 - 18 years and under

PREPARED SPEECH Topic of own choice.

SECTION 941 -10 years and under Time limit 3 minutes

SECTION 942 -12 years and under Time limit 3 minutes

SECTION 943 -16 years and under Time limit 4 minutes

SECTION 944 -18 years and under Time limit 5 minutes

RULES FOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. Both qualifying heats must be completed before you qualify for a championship.
2. In all Championships part (A) will be completed by all competitors and then part (B).

SECTION 945 JUNIOR DRAMATIC CHAMPIONSHIP

14 YEARS AND UNDER \$18.00

(A) HUMOROUS RECITATION- Own choice. Time limit 3 minutes

(B) DRAMATIC EXCERPT- Own choice: Shakespearean or Non -Shakespearean. Must not be a repeat of any performance. Time limit 5 minutes

The 2 qualifying heats are: Australian Verse Solo **AND** Dramatic Excerpt.

You must compete in both heats before you can qualify

SECTION 946 INTERMEDIATE OR SENIOR DRAMATIC CHAMPIONSHIP (depending on entry numbers)

18 YEARS AND UNDER

\$18.00

(A) HUMOROUS RECITATION- Own choice. **Time limit 3 minutes**

(B) DRAMATIC EXCERPT- Own choice: Shakespearean or Non- Shakespearean. Must not be a repeat of any performance. **Time limit 6 minutes**

The 2 qualification heats are: Australian Verse Solo **AND** Dramatic Excerpt

You must compete in both heats before you can qualify.