

# 138<sup>th</sup> Wenlock Olympian Games



# 2024

The Edge Arts Centre at William Brookes School, Farley Road, Much Wenlock, TF13 6NB

**Speech and Drama**  
*(including Primary Choral Speaking)*

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2024**



Provisional member of



The British  
and  
International  
Federation  
of  
Festivals

Closing date for entries: 26<sup>th</sup> January 2024

<http://www.wenlock-olympian-society.org.uk/live-arts-festival>

Facebook: Wenlock Olympian Live Arts Festival



## SPEECH and DRAMA

*Speech and Drama is a competitive discipline of Live Arts and part of the 138<sup>th</sup> Wenlock Olympian Games 2024.*

*The lead organiser of Speech and Drama is Lucy Willis ('the organiser'), for the Wenlock Olympian Live Arts Subcommittee, on behalf of the Wenlock Olympian Society (referred to as 'we').*

**Closing date for entries is 26<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

**By post to:**

Mrs Lucy Willis  
Live Arts Speech and Drama Lead  
69 Preston Street  
Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY2 5PN

**Please make your payment online via BACS or Faster Payment (see Entry Forms)  
PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH OR CHEQUES!**

The number of entries will dictate how the competitions will be spread over 2 days, therefore, please keep both dates available. The first section of the day will start at 9am and the last section will be complete no later than 6pm (subject to entries).

### **Live Arts Rules and Conditions**

1. Hard copies of competitor entry forms are required in all cases for GDPR and Safeguarding reasons. Secure electronic options are being looked into by the organising Committee for 2025.
2. **No photography/ video recording will be allowed at Live Arts** (except by the appointed Live Arts representative). This is a requirement of the British and International Federation of Festivals ("BIFF") of which Live Arts is a full member <https://www.federationoffestivals.org.uk/>
3. Competitors must be accompanied by a responsible adult at all times.
4. A performance time limit is indicated for each class. Performances exceeding this time may be stopped.
5. The organiser reserves the right to refuse the use of any electrical equipment.
6. The organiser reserves the right to combine or reorganise classes depending on the number of entries received.
7. **Entry Fees:**

Individual entry	= £6.00
Duo entry	= £8.00
Choral Speaking ( <u>maximum</u> entry of 20 performers):	
Up to 8 performers	= £20.00
From 9 to 19 performers	= £24.00
20 performers	= £28.00

8. **Entry Fee Payments:**

All payments are to be made online using BACS or Faster Payment:

**Account Name:** Wenlock Olympian Live Arts

**Account number:** 53220923

**Sort Code:** 20 53 22

**Reference:** SD, Initial and Surname of the competitor – if the whole surname cannot be used please include as many letters as possible. For Duologue classes one surname is sufficient.

For **Choral Speaking** entries please use the appropriate School Name instead of Surname.

Please email your reference to the organiser ([liveartsspeechanddrama@gmail.com](mailto:liveartsspeechanddrama@gmail.com)) and the amount once you have made your online payment.

8. **Age Groups:**

'Year', means school year, not age:

**Primary** – Competitors up to and including Year 6

**Senior** – Competitors from Year 7 to Year 13/First Form to Upper Sixth

**Competitors must be aged 18 or under on 31st August 2024.**

9. No adults can compete in any event, except for Choral Speaking, when an adult may take part only as a conductor.

10. Competitors will be notified of the date and time of their classes by no later than 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024.

11. Please contact the organiser if you have not received entry information by the 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2024.

12. Competitors will have their initial and surname printed in the official programmes for sale at the Live Arts Festival, unless an anonymity request is received by the Safeguarding Lead (Carole Nicholls [liveartsmusic@gmail.com](mailto:liveartsmusic@gmail.com)). In line with the Data Protection policy, no personal information will be shared with third parties under any circumstance.

13. The organiser regrets that no changes can be made to competition timings once the programme has been finalised, so please ensure competitor's availability to compete on the 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> March 2024 before returning the entry form. Entry fees will only be reimbursed at the discretion of the organiser.

14. **Prizes:**

Each competitor (excluding Choral Speaking) will be awarded a participation certificate. Choral Speaking groups will be awarded one group participation certificate.

Gold, Silver and Bronze Wenlock Olympian medals will be awarded to the winners in each class (unless otherwise stated in the Schedule). In the event that 3 Gold medals are awarded, Silver and Bronze medals will not be awarded, if 2 Silver medals are awarded a Bronze medal will not be awarded, but multiple Bronze medals may be awarded following 1 Gold medal and 1 Silver medal. In the Group Choral Speaking section, where relevant, one Gold, Silver and Bronze will be awarded with the corresponding participation certificate. All other performers in the winning groups will receive a medal, which must be collected by the teacher at the end of the festival.

**Prizes (continued):**

Special trophy awards will be given to the following:

- SPEECH AND DRAMA PERFORMER OF THE YEAR - PRIMARY
- SPEECH AND DRAMA PERFORMER OF THE YEAR - SENIOR

15. The decision of the adjudicator shall be final and binding.

**Speech and Drama Specific Rules and Conditions**

1. **Categories:**

There are 7 Speech and Drama categories in which to enter. Competitors can enter each category but must only enter once, according to their age group:

1. Choral Speaking (*Primary only*)
2. Verse Speaking
3. Reading for Performance
4. Acting (excluding Shakespeare) - Solo
5. Acting (excluding Shakespeare) - Duologue
6. Acting, Shakespeare - Sonnet or Solo
7. Acting, Shakespeare - Duologue

For Live Arts Musical Theatre, please see Music Schedule <https://wenlock-olympian-society.org.uk/wenlock-olympian-society-arts/live-arts-music/>

Due to the lack of entries for the past few years, there will not be Creative Writing classes in Live Arts 2024.

2. All selected repertoire must be performed in English.

3. **Copyright Compliance:**

As a full member of BIFF, Live Arts pays an annual copyright fee. Subsequently, Live Arts has entered into an agreement with the Authors' Licensing and Collecting Society (ALCS). This means that performers do not have to seek copyright permission for any poetry, prose or solo dramatic items performed to a time limit of 10 minutes. ACTING DUOLOGUES, excluding Shakespeare, (p9) ARE NOT COVERED BY THIS AGREEMENT. Therefore, competitors are responsible for obtaining Performing Rights by application to the publishers and by payment of any stipulated fee before the date of the competition. If anyone is unsure what they need to do in this respect, they should call 01625 428297, the British & International Federation of Festivals, for advice.

To qualify for copyright indemnity:

- at the start of each competitor class the title of the work and the author's name must be announced. For all Acting competitions the character name must be announced also; and
- the competitor must not change any wording.

Competitors and teachers should know that their participation in Live Arts means that authors will be directly reimbursed as a consequence of their work being performed at the Festival.

4. ***Capacity of the Venue - Choral Speaking Only:***

Due to the capacity of the venue (both seating and car parking) and for Health & Safety reasons, a maximum of 5 groups can compete (with no more than 20 competitors in each group). Entry to the Choral Speaking category is on a first come first served basis. Contacts will be alerted immediately by the organiser if they cannot compete. Audience seating is limited and will be on a first-come-first-served basis.

5. ***Costume, Props and Make Up:***

Costume is permitted for all Acting (including Shakespeare) classes (i.e. categories 4-7).

Nudity is not permitted.

The organiser can provide a small table and up to 2 chairs. Competitors must ensure to have warned the organiser in advance should they be required. For reasons of Health & Safety, please note that performers must not stand on them.

The organiser reserves the right to refuse any prop which they deem inappropriate or is deemed potentially harmful if not used appropriately. No electronic devices may be used unless required as a prop. If a device is to be used, it must be approved by the adjudicator before the start of the performance.

The adult(s) responsible for the performer(s) must always take full responsibility for the supply and safe operation of all props and in all circumstances within the venue.

Animals (except guide dogs) and pyrotechnics (including cigarettes and e-cigarettes) are not permitted within the venue.

Stage make-up must not be worn for the Speech and Drama section of Live Arts competitions.

## 1. Choral Speaking (Primary only)

**IMPORTANT** – See Speech and Drama Rules and Conditions

**4. Capacity of the Venue - Choral Speaking Only** (p4).

The group (**up to a maximum of 20 competitors\***) will perform one poem from memory.

The selection must be published and age appropriate.

The group should demonstrate:

- vocal skills (to include audibility and clarity of diction)
- use of body language (i.e. alignment, facial expressions and occasional gestures)
- listening and interacting with one another

A legible, clean copy of the poem must be provided at the start of the class for the adjudicator. It will be returned to the competitor at the end of the class.

Small hand props are permitted but must be minimal. No electronic devices are permitted to be used unless required as a prop. If one is to be used, it must be approved by the adjudicator at the start of the competition class and must be switched off.

To comply with copyright indemnity:

- at the start of their performance, the group (either one or more) must announce their poem with the title and the author; and
- the group must not change the wording of the poem.

There is a **specific time allowance limit of 8 minutes** for the whole performance. The adjudicator reserves the right to deduct marks or stop a performance if the time limit is exceeded.

\* There is a maximum of 20 competitors per entry due to venue capacity.

## 2. Verse Speaking

The competitor will recite one poem of their own choice from memory.

The work must be published and age appropriate.

A legible, clean copy of the poem must be provided with the entry form. It will be returned to the competitor at the end of the class.

The competitor should demonstrate:

- vocal skills (i.e. audibility, clarity and variation in volume, pace, pitch and pause)
- use of body language (i.e. alignment, facial expressions and occasional gestures)

To qualify for copyright indemnity:

- at the start of their performance, the competitor must announce the poem's title and the name of the poet.
- the performer must not change the wording of the poem.

There is a specific time allowance limit for each age group. The adjudicator reserves the right to deduct marks or stop a performance if the time limit is exceeded. All timings exclude announcement of pieces.

### **Primary (Up to and including Year 6)**

**PERFORMANCE TIME LIMIT = Up to 2 minutes**

### **Senior (Years 7-13/ First-Upper Sixth Form)**

**PERFORMANCE TIME LIMIT = Up to 3 minutes**

### **3. Reading for Performance**

The competitor will:

- read a passage of prose of their own choice (they must not memorise the reading but read it aloud from a book or folder); and
- announce the prose passage with the book's title and the author's name.

The selection must be published and age appropriate.

For Creative Writing competitions see <https://www.wenlock-olympian-society.org.uk/wenlock-olympian-society-arts/creative-short-story/>

The competitor should demonstrate:

- vocal skills (i.e. audibility, clarity and variation in volume, pace, pitch and pause)
- use of body language (i.e. alignment, facial expressions and occasional gestures)

Small hand props are permitted but must be minimal. No electronic devices are permitted to be used unless required as a prop. If one is to be used, it must be approved by the adjudicator at the start and must be switched off.

To comply with copyright indemnity:

- at the start of their performance, each competitor must announce their passage of prose (text) with the title and the author; and
- the competitor must not change the wording.

There is a specific time allowance limit for each age group. The adjudicator reserves the right to deduct marks or stop a performance if the time limit is exceeded. All timings exclude announcement of piece.

#### **Primary (Up to and including Year 6)**

**PERFORMANCE TIME LIMIT = Up to 2 minutes**

#### **Senior (Years 7-13/First-Upper Sixth Form)**

**PERFORMANCE TIME LIMIT = Up to 3 minutes**



#### **4. Acting (excluding Shakespeare) – Solo Scene**

The solo competitor will:

- perform a solo (monologue) scene from memory;
- announce the title of the play/book and the playwright/author; and
- announce the character's name.

The scene must be age-appropriate and selected from either: a published play; or a screenplay; or a published collection of solo scenes; or adapted from the dialogue of a published novel.

A legible, clean copy of the scene to be performed must be provided with the entry form. It will be returned to the competitor at the end of the class.

The competitor should demonstrate:

- vocal skills (i.e. audibility, clarity and variation in volume, pace, pitch and pause)
- use of body language (i.e. alignment, facial expressions and occasional gestures)
- appropriate use of performance space

Full costume is permitted. Stage make-up must not be worn. Please refer to **Speech and Drama Rules and Conditions 5. Costume, Props and Make Up** (p4) for further details.

To comply with copyright indemnity:

- at the start of their performance, each competitor must announce their scene with the title and the author/ playwright as well as the character's name.
- the competitor must not change the wording.

There is a specific time allowance limit for each category. The adjudicator reserves the right to deduct marks or stop a performance if the time limit is exceeded.

#### **Primary (Up to and including Year 6)**

**PERFORMANCE TIME LIMIT = a minimum of 2 minutes and no more than 3 minutes**

#### **Senior (Years 7-13/ First-Upper Sixth Form)**

**PERFORMANCE TIME LIMIT = a minimum of 3 minutes and no more than 5 minutes**

## 5. Acting (excluding Shakespeare) – Duologue Scene

The two (duologue) competitors will:

- perform a duologue scene from memory;
- announce the title of the play/book and the playwright/author; and
- announce individually the character's name.

The scene must be age-appropriate and be selected from either: a published play; or a screenplay; or a published collection of solo scenes; or adapted from the dialogue of a published novel.

A legible, clean copy of the scene to be performed must be provided with the entry form. It will be returned to the competitor at the end of the class.

The competitors should demonstrate:

- vocal skills (i.e. audibility, clarity and variation in volume, pace, pitch and pause)
- use of body language (i.e. alignment, facial expressions and occasional gestures)
- appropriate use of performance space

Full costume is permitted. Stage make-up must not be worn. Please refer to **Speech and Drama Rules and Conditions 5. Costume, Props and Make Up** (p4) for further details.

Both duologue competitors are responsible for obtaining Performing Rights. Please refer to **Speech and Drama Rules and Conditions, 3. Copyright Compliance** (p3) for further details.

There is a specific time allowance limit for each category. The adjudicator reserves the right to deduct marks or stop a performance if the time limit is exceeded.

### **Primary (Up to and including Year 6)**

**PERFORMANCE TIME LIMIT = a minimum of 2 minutes and no more than 3 minutes**

### **Senior (Years 7-13/ First-Upper Sixth Form)**

**PERFORMANCE TIME LIMIT = a minimum of 3 minutes and no more than 5 minutes**

## 6. Acting, Shakespeare – Sonnet or Solo Scene

The solo competitor will:

- perform either a sonnet or solo scene/monologue by William Shakespeare;
- announce the sonnet number or title of the play; and
- (monologue only) the character's name.

The speech/sonnet must be taken either from *The Arden Shakespeare* or *Cambridge School Shakespeare* editions (do not use downloaded speeches from the internet as the structure of the text may have been changed).

A legible, clean copy of the scene to be performed must be provided with the entry form. It will be returned to the competitor at the end of the class.

The competitor should demonstrate:

- vocal skills (i.e. audibility, clarity and variation in volume, pace, pitch and pause)
- use of body language (i.e. alignment, facial expressions and occasional gestures)
- appropriate use of performance space

Full costume is permitted. Stage make-up must not be worn. Please refer to **Speech and Drama Rules and Conditions 5. Costume, Props and Make Up** (p4) for further details.

There is a specific time allowance limit for each category. The adjudicator reserves the right to deduct marks or stop a performance if the time limit is exceeded.

### All Age Groups

**PERFORMANCE TIME LIMIT = a minimum of 2 minutes and no more than 5 minutes**

## 7. Acting, Shakespeare – Duologue Scene

The two (duologue) competitors will:

- perform a duologue scene by William Shakespeare;
- announce the title of the play; and
- the characters' names.

The speech must be taken either from *The Arden Shakespeare* or *Cambridge School Shakespeare* editions (do not use downloaded speeches from the internet as the structure of the text may have been changed).

A legible, clean copy of the scene to be performed must be provided with the entry form. It will be returned to the competitor at the end of the class.

The competitors should demonstrate:

- vocal skills (i.e. audibility, clarity and variation in volume, pace, pitch and pause)
- use of body language (i.e. alignment, facial expressions and occasional gestures)
- appropriate use of performance space

Full costume is permitted. Stage make-up must not be worn. Please refer to **Speech and Drama Rules and Conditions 5. Costume, Props and Make Up** (p4) for further details.

### All Age Groups

**PERFORMANCE TIME LIMIT = a minimum of 2 minutes and no more than 5 minutes**