

PEACE ARTS FESTIVAL 2026 SYLLABUS

Speech and Dramatic Arts

May 11th – May 16th, 2026

Calvin Kruk Centre for the Arts – 10401 10th Street, Dawson Creek, BC, V1G 3T8

Rules

1. In all levels, performers must verbally introduce the dramatic selection in order to set the scene. These remarks are not included in timing of their selection.
2. Memorization of the script is preferential.
3. Each competitor must submit a copy of their speech arts selection(s) to the adjudicator's secretary prior to the class in which they are to perform.
4. Suitable dress for the presentation is preferential.
5. Costumes are permitted for the Drama and Shakespeare classes. Small Props are permitted in all classes. Costumes and prop selections must be related to the selection.
6. The use of flame or pyrotechnics (lighters, candles, gerbs, etc.) is prohibited.
7. Material that contains obscene, violent, suggestive or sexually explicit language/gestures is not acceptable and may result in disqualification.

Fees

Solo.....\$15.00 per selection
Duo.....\$6.00 each performer

CLASSES

Prose: In prose the speaker is the narrator, with the focus placed on their voice. The selection should include narration description and dialogue. It should be spoken in story-telling style without being performed; there should be no theatrical acting. Competitors may stand or be seated.

Drama: In drama the speaker is the character. The selection can be taken from a published play to be presented on the stage by an actor assuming language, movement, or dress of the character being portrayed. The words should be of one character only. Any additional character(s) lines should be omitted. Monologues are included in the drama class.

Poetry: Speakers may choose to perform either lyric or narrative/dramatic poetry.

-Lyric is a short, unified poem expressing the poet's own emotions and experiences that is to be presented in any artistic manor the performer sees fit. Alongside speaking; song, dance, and acting can be incorporated into the presentation.

-Narrative poems feature an entire story, told by one narrator from beginning to end. It has a focus on plot over emotions. A clear beginning, middle, and end, with one narrator throughout.

Public Speaking: The selection of Public Speaking must be an original extemporaneous speech and not memorized. Notes should be used but not read from. The speech can be persuasive, informational, or entertaining.

SPEECH AND DRAMATIC ARTS CLASSES

Poetry Solo - one selection of either Lyric or Narrative Poetry

Class 500 - Age 8 and under.....	3-minute maximum performance
Class 501 - Age 10 and under.....	3-minute maximum performance
Class 502 Age 12 and under.....	5-minute maximum performance
Class 503 Age 14 and under.....	5-minute maximum performance
Class 504 Age 16 and under.....	5-minute maximum performance
Class 505 Age 18 and under.....	5-minute maximum performance
Class 506 Adult Class.....	5-minute maximum performance

Prose Solo - one selection, own choice

- Class 510 Age 8 and under.....3-minute maximum performance
- Class 511 Age 10 and under.....4-minute maximum performance
- Class 512 Age 12 and under.....5-minute maximum performance
- Class 513 Age 14 and under.....5-minute maximum performance
- Class 514 Age 16 and under.....5-minute maximum performance
- Class 515 Age 18 and under.....7-minute maximum performance
- Class 516 Adult.....7-minute maximum performance

Drama Solo – one selection, own choice

- Class 520 Age 8 and under.....3-minute maximum performance
- Class 521 Age 10 and under.....4-minute maximum performance
- Class 522 Age 12 and under.....5-minute maximum performance
- Class 523 Age 14 and under.....5-minute maximum performance
- Class 524 Age 16 and under.....5-minute maximum performance
- Class 525 Age 18 and under.....7-minute maximum performance
- Class 526 Adult.....7-minute maximum performance

Public Speaking: The selection of Public Speaking must be an original extemporaneous speech and not memorized. The topic should be the speaker’s choice. Notes should be used but not read from. The speech can be persuasive, informational, or entertaining - one selection, own choice.

- Class 550 Age 8 and under.....3-minute maximum performance time
- Class 551 Age 10 and under.....4-minute maximum performance time
- Class 552 Age 12 and under.....4-minute maximum performance time
- Class 553 Age 14 and under.....5-minute maximum performance time
- Class 554 Age 16 and under.....5-minute maximum performance time

Class 555 Age 18 and under.....6-minute maximum performance time

Class 556 Adult.....6-minute maximum performance time

Shakespeare Solo: A speech of one character from a play by William Shakespeare. Lines of other characters may be cut and a solo created if the sense of the passage can be maintained. The solo should be performed as if part of the whole play - one selection, own choice.

Class 540 Age 14 and under.....5-minute maximum performance time

Class 541 Age 16 and under.....5-minute maximum performance time

Class 542 Age 18 and under.....7-minute maximum performance time

Class 543 Adult.....7-minute maximum performance time

Drama Duo: The selection should be taken from a published play written for two or three characters. Each actor assumes the language, movement and dress of the character portrayed. Competitors of different ages shall enter in the older class - one selection, own choice.

Class 530 Age 8 and under.....3-minute maximum performance time

Class 531 Age 10 and under.....4-minute maximum performance time

Class 532 Age 12 and under.....5-minute maximum performance time

Class 533 Age 14 and under.....5-minute maximum performance time

Class 534 Age 16 and under.....5-minute maximum performance time

Class 535 Age 18 and under.....7-minute maximum performance time

Class 536 Adult.....7-minute maximum performance time

Shakespeare Duo: A scene for two or more actors from any of Shakespeare's published plays, to be performed as if from the play in its entirety. Simple costumes and props may be used - one selection, own choice.

Class 545 Age 14 and under.....5-minute maximum performance time
Class 546 Age 16 and under.....5-minute maximum performance time
Class 547 Age 18 and under.....7-minute maximum performance time
Class 548 Adult.....10-minute maximum performance time