



Public Speaking

Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition

MPPS

Welcome to the Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition! For 27 years this competition has been encouraging primary school students to explore ideas of multiculturalism in Australia while they practise their public speaking skills and improve their confidence. Every year around 2,000 students are chosen to represent their schools in the local finals which will hopefully be running live and in-person all around the state in 2022 – hope to see you at one of them!

Who can enter the competition?

The Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition is open to all NSW government primary schools. The competition has two different age divisions – one for Years 3 and 4 students and one for Years 5 and 6 students. Schools can enter up to two contestants in each of the age divisions, totalling four contestants overall.

How do schools enter the competition?

The online entry form for the competition is available at artsunit.nsw.edu.au. Entries should be submitted before close of business on Friday 25 March 2022. Please ensure that you include contact details for the teacher who will be looking after the entry.

How much does entry cost?

The entry fee for the competition is \$20.00 per contestant, which means a maximum of \$80.00 per school. Schools will automatically be debited for this amount once they submit their entry form. Please advise your school's finance department that this will occur, and note that fees are due on entry and can't be refunded even where students might subsequently withdraw.

What are the speaking requirements?

At each stage of the competition contestants present both a prepared speech and an impromptu speech. For their prepared speech, contestants must choose a topic from the list at the bottom of the next page. The prepared speech must convey a multicultural message. The impromptu speech topic will be on a general, non-multicultural theme, and contestants will have 5 minutes to write their impromptu speeches, starting with only blank palm cards or paper. The speaking times are outlined below. Note that speakers are expected to finish at or just beyond the official speaking time, and it will be considered poor timing to reach the continuous bell.

Division / speech	Warning bell	Speaking time	Continuous bell
Years 3 and 4 prepared	2 minutes	3 minutes	4 minutes
Years 3 and 4 impromptu	30 seconds	1 minute	1 ½ minutes
Years 5 and 6 prepared	3 minutes	4 minutes	5 minutes
Years 5 and 6 impromptu	1 ½ minutes	2 minutes	2 ½ minutes

What are the rules of the competition?

Other than the entry rules and speaking times detailed above, it should also be noted that contestants are not allowed to use any props or external aids such as Powerpoint presentations during their speeches. They are encouraged to speak from palm cards and must present without the use of a lectern or microphone. Finally, a reminder that the prepared speech must explore multiculturalism.



What are the adjudicators looking for?

The adjudicators will make their decision based on the matter, manner and method of the speakers. They will expect contestants to be confident and engaging, and will prefer speeches which balance personal opinion with information, and humour with sincerity. The prepared speeches need to show an understanding of multiculturalism, but the impromptu speeches do not. Finally, adjudicators will give equal consideration to the prepared and impromptu speeches. Detailed advice for speakers will be available on our website at artsunit.nsw.edu.au.

How does the competition run?

Schools will likely need to conduct their own internal competition to select their two representatives for each age division. Next we'll let you know the date and venue of the local final we've assigned you to. Local finals will run in the last 4 weeks of Term 2 at host schools, but we'll hold online finals if changing health advice requires it or for speakers can't travel to their nearest final. The winners of local finals will proceed to regional finals which will be held in the second half of August. Regional winners will go on to compete at the state finals which will run in late October for Years 3 and 4 and mid-November for Years 5 and 6.

What are the prizes?

All contestants involved in the competition will receive a certificate acknowledging their participation. Certificates of congratulations will then be awarded to all local and regional winners. State finalists will receive a silver medallion, and the state winners in each division will receive a gold medallion and a perpetual trophy.

Who are the organisers of the competition?

The Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition is organised by the Arts Unit and the Multicultural Education team, both from the NSW Department of Education. In addition, the competition is made possible by the funding of the Multicultural team.

Contact details

If you have any questions about the competition, please contact Justine Clarke, Speaking Competitions Officer on (02) 8512 1172, or justine.clarke@det.nsw.edu.au. You can also check our website at artsunit.nsw.edu.au.

2022 Years 3 and 4 topics

In my language
History matters
Racism – no way!
Australia on the screen
The power of sport
Who is responsible?
My place
A safe place to call home
Symbols of Australia
Kids lead the way!

2022 Years 5 and 6 topics

In my language
The story of Australia
Everyday racism
Representation
Australia Day
Rights and responsibilities
Identity – it's complicated!
Welcome to country
Crossing borders
Healing