

BANGOR SPEECH FESTIVAL 2025

25th to 28th March 2025

Hamilton Road Community Hub, Hamilton Road, Bangor

SYLLABUS

Closing date for entries 13th Decemebr 2024

Competitor's age on 1st March 2025 determines class of entry

Poems are taken from one of the following books:

Reference A - **Read me out loud** chosen by Nick Toczek and Paul Cookson

ISBN 978-0-330-44621-1

Reference B - **The Poetry Chest** chosen by John Foster

ISBN 978-0-19-276341-9

Reference C - **The Big Amazing Poetry Book** chosen by Gaby Morgan

ISBN 978-1035003846

IMPORTANT Some of these poems may appear in other books or online. Words and punctuation can vary in different editions. In order to avoid mistakes in performance it is therefore very important that the above books are used.

A set of the books will be available for reference at the Help Desk in Bangor Library.

[PLEASE READ THE IMPORTANT NOTICES ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE.](#)

IN ALL CLASSES WHERE THERE IS AN OWN CHOICE THE FOLLOWING REGULATIONS APPLY:

- A COPY OF THE POEM/SPEECH
- -TOGETHER WITH THE NAME OF THE BOOK FROM WHICH IT IS TAKEN
- - AND THE ISBN NUMBER OF THE BOOK
- MUST BE FURNISHED TO THE FESTIVAL SECRETARY NOT LATER THAN 1ST MARCH 2005.

THE COPY SHOULD BE MARKED WITH THE NUMBER OF THE CLASS AND THE NAME OF THE ENTRANT.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS REQUIREMENT WILL RESULT IN THE ENTRANT NOT BEING PERMITTED TO PERFORM.

BANGOR SPEECH FESTIVAL REGRETS THIS REQUIREMENT BUT IT IS NECESSARY IN THE LIGHT OF CHANGES IN THE COPYRIGHT PROVISIONS AFFECTING FESTIVALS AND IS BEYOND OUR CONTROL.

WHERE THERE IS AN OWN CHOICE, THE USE OF COARSE, OFFENSIVE OR BLASPHEMOUS LANGUAGE AND INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT IS TO BE DEPRECATED.

They must be submitted to the Festival by 1st March 2025. Extra copies of the selection should be brought at the time of the Competition. Entry fee £6.

- Class 6 Theme 16 years and over**
- PLEASE READ THE IMPORTANT NOTICE ON PAGE 2 OF THIS SYLLABUS. THE REQUIREMENTS SET OUT APPLY TO THIS CLASS.
- A Programme of prose, poetry and drama on a theme of the Competitor's own choice. Approximately 12 minutes.
- All or part of the programme may be read.
- Entry fee £6.
- Class 7 Scripture Reading 16 years and over**
- Revelation, Chapter 21, Verses 1-8 (The Authorised Version should be used)
- Entry fee £6.
- Class 8 Shakespeare 16 years and over**
- Own Choice Sonnet
- Own choice scene
- Entry fee £6.
- Class 9 Repertoire over 16 years**
- Own choice of one of the following:
- Fear no more the heat of the sun (Cymbeline Act IV Sc 2 lines 257-281 (to be spoken for solo voice)- Shakespeare
 - If – Rudyard Kipling
 - For the Fallen – Laurence Binyon

INTERMEDIATE SECTION

Class 15 Verse Speaking 14 & 15 years

Timothy Winters - Charles Causley

C82

Entry fee £5

Class 16 Sonnet Speaking 14 & 15 years

PLEASE READ THE IMPORTANT NOTICE ON PAGE 2 OF THIS SYLLABUS. THE REQUIREMENTS SET OUT APPLY TO THIS CLASS.

Own Choice

Entry fee £5

Class 17 Traditional Ballad Speaking 14 & 15 years

(i.e. a narrative poem, a ballad from the anonymous oral tradition)

Own Choice

Entry fee £5

Class 18 Intermediate recital 14 & 15 years

PLEASE READ THE IMPORTANT NOTICE ON PAGE 2 OF THIS SYLLABUS. THE REQUIREMENTS SET OUT APPLY TO THIS CLASS.

A 10 minute programme to be prepared from the work of any one poet. Competitors will memorise one long or two short poems and will read another selection chosen by the Adjudicator from the Competitor's programme. Quality and balance of programme will be taken into account. The programme should be accompanied by an essay relating to it and the chosen poet. Recitals which should be in a light folder require only simple presentation with, if wished, a minimum of illustration.

They must be submitted to the Festival by 1st March 2025. Extra copies of the selection should be brought at the time of the Competition.

Entry fee £5

Class 19 Theme 14 & 15 years

PLEASE READ THE IMPORTANT NOTICE ON PAGE 2 OF THIS SYLLABUS. THE REQUIREMENTS SET OUT APPLY TO THIS CLASS.

A programme of prose, poetry and drama on a Theme of the competitor's own choice. All or part of the programme may be read. Time approximately 9 minutes.

Entry fee £5

Class 20 Scripture Reading 14 & 15 years

St Matthew Chapter 7 Verses 1-12 (inclusive). The Authorised Version should be used.

Entry fee £5

Class 21 Prepared Prose Reading 14 & 15 years

THE PASSAGE MUST BE READ FROM THE ORIGINAL PUBLISHED BOOK (Not, for example, from a separate sheet of paper, tablet or phone or other electronic device)

Own Choice from the following (approx. 2 minutes)

Haroum and the Sea of Stories - Salman Rushdie

Great Expectations – Charles Dickens

Noughts and Crosses - Malorie Blackman

Entry fee £5

Class 22 Shakespeare 14 & 15 years

Solo scene of own choice - approximately 2 minutes

Entry fee £5

The winners of classes 15-22 are eligible to compete for the Pinkerton Shield at the final session of the Festival.

Competitors over 15 years are eligible to compete in the Senior Classes 10 and 11

JUNIOR SECTION

Class 23 Verse Speaking 11 - 13 years

Let no-one steal your dreams - Paul Cookson C46

Entry fee £4.50

Class 25 Junior Recital 11 - 13 years

PLEASE READ THE IMPORTANT NOTICE ON PAGE 2 OF THIS SYLLABUS. THE REQUIREMENTS SET OUT APPLY TO THIS CLASS.

A 10 minute programme to be prepared from the work of any one poet. Competitors will memorise one long or two short poems and will read another selection chosen by the Adjudicator from the Competitor's programme. Quality and balance of programme will be taken into account. The programme should be accompanied by an essay relating to it and the chosen poet. Recitals which should be in a light folder require only simple presentation with, if wished, a minimum of illustration.

They must be submitted to the Festival by 1st March 2025. Extra copies of the selection should be brought at the time of the Competition.

Entry fee £4.50

Class 26 Scripture Reading 11 - 13 years

St Luke Chapter 22 Verses 52-62 (inclusive). The Authorised Version should be used.

Class 27 Prepared Prose Reading 11 - 13 years

THE PASSAGE MUST BE READ FROM THE ORIGINAL PUBLISHED BOOK (Not, for example, from a separate sheet of paper or a tablet or phone or other electronic device)

Own Choice (approx 2 minutes) from:

The Iron Woman - Ted Hughes

Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone - J K Rowling

Shadow of the Minotaur - Alan Gibbons

Entry fee £4.50

Class 28 Solo Acting 11 - 13 years

PLEASE READ THE IMPORTANT NOTICE ON PAGE 2 OF THIS SYLLABUS. THE REQUIREMENTS SET OUT APPLY TO THIS CLASS.

Own Choice of speech from a published play or book. Time not to exceed 3 minutes. Simple props and costume may be used.

Entry fee £4.50

The winners of classes 23-28 are eligible to compete for the Milling Cup at the final session of the Festival.

PREPARATORY SECTION

Class 29 Verse Speaking 10 years

The First Bit - Coral Rumble A141

Entry fee £4

Class 30 Memorised Scripture 10 years and under

Ecclesiastes chapter 3 Verses 1 – 8 (inclusive). The Authorised Version should be used.

Entry fee £4

Class 31 Prepared Prose reading 10 years and under

THE PASSAGE MUST BE READ FROM THE ORIGINAL PUBLISHED BOOK (Not, for example, from a separate sheet of paper, tablet or phone or other electronic device)

Choice from the following. Time limit 2 minutes.

The Ghost of Thomas Kempe - Penelope Lively

Born to Run - Michael Morpurgo

George's Marvellous Medicine - Roald Dahl

Entry fee £4

Class 32 Verse Speaking 9 years

A Small Dragon - Brian Patten A25

Entry fee £4

Class 33 Verse Speaking 8 years

I opened a Book - Julia Donaldson C241

Entry fee £4

Class 34	Verse Speaking	7 years
	We've a Pet Pterodactyl - John Foster	B177
	Entry fee £4	
Class 35	Verse Speaking	6 years
	Friends for ever - Paul Cookson	C55
	Entry fee £4	
Class 36	Verse Speaking	5 years
	I'm in a mood today - John Foster	B52
Class 37	Verse Speaking	4 years
	Farewell Pete - Roger Stevens	A247
	Entry fee £4	

FAVOURITE POEMS

In these classes costumes, props, make-up, movement and gestures are permitted but not required.

PLEASE READ THE IMPORTANT NOTICE ON PAGE 2 OF THIS SYLLABUS. THE REQUIREMENTS SET OUT APPLY TO THESE CLASSES 38-45.

In order to comply with copyright regulations it is ESSENTIAL that a copy of the poem marked with the entrant's name and the class number is furnished to the Festival not later than 1st March 2005. The Festival regrets that unless such copy is furnished the entrant CANNOT be permitted to perform.

Class 38		4 years
	Own Choice	
	Entry fee £4	
Class 39		5 & 6 years
	Own Choice	
	Entry fee £4	
Class 40		7 & 8 years
	Own Choice	
	Entry fee £4	
Class 41		9 & 10 years
	Own Choice	
	Entry fee £4	
Class 42		11 & 12 years
	Own Choice	
	Entry fee £4	

PAYMENT AND ENTRIES FOR OPEN CLASSES SHOULD BE SENT TO:

Shirley Duffy, 6 Orlock Lane, Groomsport BT19 6LS

shirley.k.duffy@gmail.com

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Class 48 Choral Speaking P4 and under

PLEASE READ THE IMPORTANT NOTICE ON PAGE 2 OF THIS SYLLABUS. THE REQUIREMENTS SET OUT APPLY TO THIS CLASS.

Watch Out There's a Ghost About - Kevin McCann A194

Plus own choice

(no conducting to be used)

Entry fee £10

Class 49 Choral Speaking P5 – 7

PLEASE READ THE IMPORTANT NOTICE ON PAGE 2 OF THIS SYLLABUS. THE REQUIREMENTS SET OUT APPLY TO THIS CLASS.

Creative Writing - Gervase Phinn A45

Plus own choice

(no conducting to be used)

Entry fee £10

Class 50 Acting or Miming of one poem or ballad P4 and under

PLEASE READ THE IMPORTANT NOTICE ON PAGE 2 OF THIS SYLLABUS. THE REQUIREMENTS SET OUT APPLY TO THIS CLASS.

Own Choice of selection (not to exceed 5 minutes)

Entry fee £8

Class 51 Acting or Miming of one poem or ballad P5 - 7

PLEASE READ THE IMPORTANT NOTICE ON PAGE 2 OF THIS SYLLABUS. THE REQUIREMENTS SET OUT APPLY TO THIS CLASS.

Own Choice of selection (not to exceed 5 minutes)

Entry fee £8

VERSE SPEAKING

CHILDREN ENTERING PRIMARY SCHOOL CLASSES P2 to P7 MUST BE TAUGHT ONLY BY THEIR CLASS TEACHER.

Children who attend Speech & Drama lessons privately are of course eligible to enter any of the Open classes within their age group.

P2

Nativity Play - Alison Chisholm A470

P3

The Guard Dog - John Foster B161

P4

Kidding Around - Dave Ward A122

P5

Four O'clock Friday – John Foster B98

P6

Don't feed the Yeti - A F Harrold C465

P7

Colouring - Jan Dean C74

Entry fee £4.

**PAYMENT AND ENTRIES FOR CHORAL SPEAKING AND SCHOOLS
VERSE SPEAKING CLASSES SHOULD BE SENT TO:**

Judy English, 53 Rosedale Road, Bangor BT196BE
judyenglish@googlemail.com