

Foreign Languages: General Contest Policies

1. In the interest of fairness, we ask for strict adherence to competition rules. Deviation from the guidelines is ground for disqualification.
2. Each school will be allowed two entries (one from grades 9-10 and one from grades 11-12) in each of the following categories:
 - *Chinese: Dramatic scene*
 - *Chinese: Poetry recitation*
 - *Chinese: Musical performance*
 - *French: Dramatic scene*
 - *French: Poetry recitation*
 - *French: Musical performance*
 - *German: Dramatic scene*
 - *German: Poetry recitation*
 - *German: Musical performance*
 - *Spanish: Dramatic scene*
 - *Spanish: Poetry recitation*
 - *Spanish: Musical performance*
3. Students with native or near native speaking ability acquired under the conditions described below are not eligible to enter recitation competitions in their native tongue. They are, however, encouraged to contribute their talents to group efforts in the areas of dramatic and musical presentations (leading roles excluded).
 - Students who were born and raised in a Chinese, French, German or Spanish speaking country (five years)
 - Students who were born in the U.S. but were raised by foreign parents speaking primarily Chinese, French, German or Spanish in the home
 - Students who have attended a Chinese, French, German, or Spanish language school for more than six months
 - Students who have spent extended periods of time in Chinese, French, German, or Spanish speaking countries (six months)
4. Chinese, French, German or Spanish speaking foreign exchange students are not eligible

to enter the competitions.

**Oral Communication:
Poetry Recitation**

1. Each school is limited to two entries (one from grades 9-10 and one from grades 11-12) in each language (Chinese, French, German and Spanish).
2. Students will recite a poem selected by the student and approved by the teacher (minimum 14 lines). The poem can be chosen from Chinese, French, German or Spanish literature.
3. Each entry will include only one participant.
4. Memorization is required.
5. Street dress is mandatory. Props and costumes are not acceptable in this competition.
6. Three typed copies of the selected poem must be presented to the judges on May 7, 2016, just prior to the recitation.
7. Entries will be evaluated on the basis of the following:
 - Pronunciation in the target language (correctness, accent, and intonation)
 - Interpretation (expressiveness, subtlety and correctness of scansion [poetry], rhythm, tone)
 - Stage presence (vocals steadiness, demeanor, attitude)
 - Level of difficulty

**Performing Arts:
Dramatic Scene**

1. Each school is limited to two entries (one from grades 9-10 and one from grades 11-12) in each language (Chinese, French, German and Spanish).
2. Each entry should be three to six minutes long.
3. Each entry must take the form of a play, part of a play, or an original adaptation to be performed by students in Chinese, French, German, or Spanish.
4. The dramatic scene must have a minimum of four speaking parts. Schools may add non-speaking roles provided that such non-speaking roles advance the action and presentation of the drama.

5. Memorization is required for all actors.
6. Dramatic performances will be evaluated on the basis of the following:
 - Pronunciation in the target language (correctness, accent and intonation)
 - Originality (uniqueness of the interpretation, tone, and style)
 - Expression (acting skills and dramatic impact of such skills)
 - Mise-en-scene (costuming, props, setting)

**Performing Arts:
Musical Presentation**

1. Each school is limited to two entries (one from grades 9-10 and one from grades 11-12) in each language (Chinese, French, German and Spanish)
2. Each entry should be three to six minutes long.
3. A laptop (with DVD-ROM slot, USB port, external speaker, Wi Fi connection) will be available upon request.
4. Only group performances are acceptable (a group is defined as three or more students performing vocally or instrumentally at the same time).
5. The group performance:
 - May include vocal or instrumental solos, and dancing
 - Must include singing in the target language
 - Must not include pantomimes accompanied by instrumental music or lip syncing
6. Performances will be evaluated on the basis of the following:
 - Pronunciation (correctness, accent, intonation)
 - Originality (material selection, uniqueness of interpretation, cost-owning)
 - Musicality (style, vocal or instrumental skills)
 - Mise-en-scene (props, staging)