



The Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition

22 YEARS
of Multicultural Speaking!

For 22 years now the Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition has been encouraging primary school students to explore ideas of multiculturalism in Australia, as well as giving them a place to practice their public speaking skills and improve their confidence. Last year we once again had more than 2,000 students from all across NSW participate in the competition, culminating in two amazing state finals which you can take a look at on our website. Hope to see you in 2017 for even more brilliant speeches and incredible ideas!

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&4 students and one for Years 5&6 students. Schools can enter a maximum of 2 contestants in each of the 2 age divisions, totalling 4 contestants overall.

How do schools enter the competition?

The online entry form for the competition is available at www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au. Entries should be submitted before close of business on Friday 24 March 2017. Please ensure that you include contact details for the teacher who will be looking after the entry. All teachers must provide a direct email address (preferably your “@det.nsw.edu.au” departmental address) so we can contact them with the date and time of their final.

How much does entry cost?

The entry fee for the competition is \$20.00 (including GST) 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. Please note that fees are due on entry and cannot 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 of multicultural topics at bottom of the next page. The prepared speech must have multicultural content. The impromptu speech is chosen by the adjudicator on the day, and will be on a general, non-multicultural theme. Contestants will have 5 minutes to write their impromptu speeches. The speaking times for each speech and division 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 (2 bells)	Continuous Bell
Years 3&4 Prepared Speech	2 minutes	3 minutes	4 minutes
Years 3&4 Impromptu Speech	30 seconds	1 minute	1 ½ minutes
Years 5&6 Prepared Speech	3 minutes	4 minutes	5 minutes
Years 5&6 Impromptu Speech	1 ½ minutes	2 minutes	2 ½ minutes

What are the adjudicators looking for?

The adjudicators will make their decision based on the manner, matter and method the contestants employ in presenting their speeches. They will expect contestants to be confident and engaging speakers. The prepared speeches need to show an understanding of multiculturalism, and be well developed and interesting. Contestants are also expected to demonstrate a balance of personal opinion and information in their speeches, as well as a balance of humour and sincerity. Finally, adjudicators are required to give equal consideration to the prepared and impromptu speeches in making their decision. Detailed guidelines on how the competition is judged will be available on our website at www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au

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 present from a stage without the use of a lectern or microphone. Finally, just a reminder that the prepared speech must have multicultural content to be successful.

How does the competition run?

Schools might need to conduct their own internal competition to select 2 representatives for each division of the Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition. We'll then advise all contestants of the date and venue of their local final which will be held in the last four weeks of term 2. The winners of local finals will proceed to one of 8 regional finals which will be held in August. Regional winners will proceed to the state final. The Years 3&4 state final will be held at the NSW Teachers Federation Conference Centre on Friday 3 November, and the Years 5&6 state final will be held at the Eugene Goossens Hall, ABC Centre on Friday 17 November. All schools are welcome to attend the state finals.

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 Equity Unit of the NSW Department of Education. We're also grateful to Multicultural NSW who provide extra funding for the competition.

Contact Details

If you have any questions about the competition, please contact Tony Davey, Multicultural Perspectives Coordinator on (02) 8512 1171 or email: anthony.r.davey@det.nsw.edu.au. You can also check our website at www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au

2017 Years 3&4 Topics

The same but different
Every family has a story
Kids can make a difference
"Boo" to racism in sport
Refugees
Racism – it stops with me
The Australian Flag
Multiculturalism in the media
What makes a community?
Harmony Day

2017 Years 5&6 Topics

Sport and multiculturalism
One Nation?
Advance Australia Fair
What's in a name?
Racism online
Welcome to Australia
When does a migrant become an Australian?
Breaking down barriers
Words can hurt
Multiculturalism at school

