



# The Watford Festival

## OF MUSIC, SPEECH AND DRAMA

[www.watfordfestival.co.uk](http://www.watfordfestival.co.uk)

## SPEECH & DRAMA SYLLABUS 2018

Saturday February 24<sup>th</sup> & Sunday February 25<sup>th</sup> (Groups)  
Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February - Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March (Solos & Duologues)  
Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March (Finale Concerts)

### ADJUDICATORS

Vanessa Buckley LSDE STDS

Michelle Ruse BA PGCE QTLS

Entry enquiries:	Katherine Barker	020 8959 7819	<a href="mailto:katherine@watfordfestival.co.uk">katherine@watfordfestival.co.uk</a>
Other enquiries:	Katherine Barker	020 8959 7819	<a href="mailto:katherine@watfordfestival.co.uk">katherine@watfordfestival.co.uk</a>

Closing date for entries: **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017**

*N.B. In the event of being oversubscribed we reserve the right to reject entries. It is therefore advisable to submit all entries as early as possible to avoid disappointment.*

### MUSIC SECTION

Closing date for entries Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017  
For syllabus and entry forms please visit the website

# REGULATIONS & GENERAL INFORMATION 2018

## IMPORTANT

These Regulations should be read carefully. It is the responsibility of teachers to ensure that all entrants will be presumed to have read and accepted them before arriving at the theatre to perform.

### 1. DATES and VENUES

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|-----|---|--|
| 1.1 | Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2017   | Closing dates for entries. <b>N.B.</b> <i>In the event of being oversubscribed, we reserve the right to reject entries. It is therefore advisable to submit all entries as early as possible to avoid disappointment.</i><br>See Regulation 2 for details. |
| 1.2 | Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January 2018  | A Timetable and Competitors' Schedule will be sent to teachers and private entrants.   |
| 1.3 | Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> January 2018  | All "Own Choice" titles and authors must be submitted.<br>All trophies to be returned.   |
| 1.4 | Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> February -<br>Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> February 2018 | Group classes and some solo and duologue classes will be held at Watersmeet Theatre, High Street, Rickmansworth, WD3 1EH.  |
|     | Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February -<br>Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> March 2018      | Solo and duologue classes will be held at the Pump House Theatre and Arts Centre, Local Board Road, Watford, WD17 2JP.   |
|     | Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2018  | Speech and Drama Finale will be held at the Watersmeet Theatre.  |

### 2. ENTRIES

- 2.1 Entries must be submitted by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017. **N.B.** *In the event of being oversubscribed, we reserve the right to reject entries. It is therefore advisable to submit all entries as early as possible to avoid disappointment.*  
All entries for 2018 must be made online.
- 2.2 Teachers who have previously entered should use their existing log-in credentials.
- 2.3 Any new teachers or parents should register their details on the website before submitting entries.
- 2.4 Payment should be made by credit card, debit card or BACS transfer at the end of the entry process. *We are unable to accept cash or cheques due to the administrative overhead involved.* The BACS information will be available on screen during the entry process.
- 2.5 Entry fees cannot be refunded if for any reason a competitor is unable to attend. A refund will be made only if the Festival Committee finds it necessary to cancel any class.
- 2.6 A solo competitor may only enter a class once. Duologue competitors may perform in a class more than once provided their partner and the script are different. An entire group may not enter a class more than once; however, individuals may perform more than once with different groups.

### 3. AGE LIMITS

- 3.1 Competitors must enter the class which corresponds to the School Year they are attending on the date of performance, or would be attending if they were at school.

### 4. CHOICE of MATERIAL

- 4.1 Set poems can be obtained from Katherine Barker (tel. 020 8959 7819). They are not available online. We recommend that teachers ask for a copy, as even well-known poems can be written slightly differently in different books.
- 4.2 In all "Own Choice" classes the verse and prose selected must be by a published writer other than the competitor and not set elsewhere in the syllabus. **ONE CLEAN, LEGIBLE COPY (BOOKS and PHOTOCOPIES are not permitted)** of the piece to be performed must be provided for the Adjudicator. Marks will be deducted for poor scripts. Please hand in your script at the Reception Desk on arrival. Failure to do so may result in the entry being graded without a mark.
- 4.3 The Festival audience is a captive one, and usually includes children. The performance of material that may cause offence is not acceptable in classes other than those which include Year 12 or Year 13 students, which are not group performances; the inclusion of such material may result in marks being withheld, or in disqualification. Please substitute or remove bad language in a script, and mark up the adjudicator's copy to indicate any changes.
- 4.4 If a piece includes adult language or material that parents and younger children may find inappropriate, please mark this up on your script, so that the Section Leader can warn the audience.
- 4.5 Copyright - The Watford Festival has entered into an agreement with the Authors' Licensing and Collecting Society and pays a fee that enables authors to receive payment for the live performance of their work. It also means competitors do not have to seek copyright permission for any poetry, prose or solo dramatic items performed up to a time limit of 10 minutes provided they submit details of the title and author to the Festival by the due date (January 25<sup>th</sup> 2018). Duologues and Group Dramatic activity are not covered by this agreement and copyright for these items should be sought by the performers.

### 5. PERFORMANCE

- 5.1 Time limits set **MUST NOT** be exceeded. In all "own choice" classes performances will be timed. If a performance overruns it will be drawn to the attention of the adjudicator and marks will be deducted. If the overrun is excessive the performer will be stopped and ineligible for a mark or place. Announcing the title or giving a brief introduction is not included in the timing.
- 5.2 Once the timetable has been published, requests for transfers to more convenient times will NOT be granted.
- 5.3 A competitor must perform in the class in which his/her name appears in the programme. A competitor who has entered the wrong class will receive an adjudication, a certificate and a grade, but not a mark, medal or place.
- 5.4 Setting the stage. Tables, chairs and stage blocks are provided; no table sturdy enough to stand or sit on may be available. Setting up and striking a set must be completed quickly and help can be given by members of the audience. Stage Stewards should not be expected to help with this.
- 5.5 Visual aids (VAs) used in Public Speaking S33, S34, S35 - These must be visible from the auditorium. A stand suitable for laptops and poster-type VAs is provided, as well as a flipchart-type easel. Be aware that laminating or putting VAs in plastic pockets will reflect the stage lighting and may make them hard to see, as will using small images on either laptop screens or paper/cardboard VAs.

## **6. DRESS and PERSONAL APPEARANCE**

- 6.1 All candidates are expected to maintain a high standard of dress appropriate to a Festival.  
In the Speech Section (classes S0 - S39) school uniform may be worn but is not compulsory. Entrants must be smartly dressed. Tracksuits, trainers and flip-flops should not be worn. In the Drama Section (classes S40 - S65) detailed requirements are stipulated in the syllabus.
- 6.2 Entrants who disregard these regulations may be penalized.

## **7. RECORDING**

- 7.1 No filming or photography is permitted during a performance or adjudication. This is to avoid disturbance to performers and to comply with copyright, child safety and child protection regulations.

## **8. AWARDS**

- 8.1 Marking System: all competitors receive a remark sheet and certificate. For marks of 75-79 a certificate of Merit is awarded, 80-84 Special Merit, 85-89 Distinction and 90+ Honours. First, Second and Third Places, and Gold, Silver and Bronze medals respectively, are awarded in all classes with a sufficient number of competitors, provided the class is of a suitably high standard. Remark Sheets and Certificates are usually ready for collection in the theatre foyer within 15 minutes of the conclusion of a class.
- 8.2 In any class where entry numbers are small the Adjudicator may choose to award only First place, or First and Second places. Equally, where classes are of a suitably high standard, more than one Second or Third place may be awarded.
- 8.3 Medals are awarded in solo and duologue classes at the discretion of the Adjudicator when a mark of at least 80 has been achieved. The receiving of, or competing for, all class trophies (other than those awarded at the end of Group classes) is contingent upon all gold medallists **performing again** in the Finale concert.
- 8.4 All trophies are the property of the Watford Festival. Winners must sign a receipt. Trophies must be returned by the requested date before the next Festival. Holders are responsible for any loss or damage.

## **9. ORGANISATION**

- 9.1 Entry to or exit from the auditorium will not be permitted during performances or adjudications.
- 9.2 Competitors, teachers or members of the public may not communicate directly or indirectly with the Adjudicator for the duration of the Festival, unless specifically asked to do so, or to give a simple message of thanks. The Adjudicator's decision in all cases is final. He/she may stop or disqualify a performance, or withhold an adjudication or award.
- 9.3 The Speech & Drama Committee reserves the right to change or add venues, class dates/times and adjudicators if necessary and refuse an entry or stop a performance. Classes can be withdrawn, re-arranged or joined together should the number of entries warrant this. Classes can be excluded from or added to the Finale as time permits.
- 9.4 All complaints should be made in writing to the Section Leader - Katherine Barker, 22 Lyndhurst Avenue, London NW7 2AB.

## **10. SAFETY and SECURITY**

- 10.1 A copy of our Child Protection Policy is printed on the back cover of this syllabus. It is important that all teachers circulate this to parents and guardians of children entering the Festival. A copy will be on display in the foyer of the theatres.
- 10.2 Parents and Teachers are reminded that it is their responsibility to maintain supervision of their children and pupils at all times whilst they are on Festival premises.

# SPEECH SECTION

- All verse speaking to be **performed from memory**
- All entrants are expected to dress appropriately (See Regulation 6)
- Entrants who disregard these regulations are liable to be penalised

## VERSE SPEAKING (SET POEMS)

S0	Reception Year & Under	£10.00	S6	School Year 6	£10.50
<i>New Shoes</i> by Anon OR			<i>Tracey's Tree</i> by Wes McGee OR		
<i>Now Who Is This Knocking at Cottontail's Door?</i> by Beatrix Potter OR			<i>Leisure</i> by William Henry Davies OR		
<i>The Vulture</i> by Hilaire Belloc			<i>The Serpent</i> by Theodore Roethke		
S1	School Year 1	£10.00	S7	School Year 7	£11.50
<i>Storm</i> by Roger McGough OR			<i>It's Not The Same Any More</i> by Paul Cookson OR		
<i>Inside</i> by Irene Yates OR			<i>Housing Scheme</i> by Richard Church OR		
<i>Old Hare Lucy</i> by Jean Kenward			<i>At The Theatre (to the Lady Behind me)</i> by A P Herbert		
S2	School Year 2	£10.00	S8	School Year 8	£11.50
<i>The Intruder</i> by James Reeves OR			<i>Blind Horse</i> by Norman MacCaig OR		
<i>Dragon Into Dressing Gown</i> by Russell Hoban OR			<i>You'd Better Believe Him - a Fable</i> by Brian Patten OR		
<i>Upside Down</i> by Aileen Fisher			<i>Mr Philosopher</i> by Robert Graves		
S3	School Year 3	£10.50	S9	School Years 9 & 10	£11.50
<i>Lone Dog</i> by Irene McLeod OR			<i>The Hand That Signed the Paper</i> by Dylan Thomas OR		
<i>Summing Up</i> by Nigel Gray OR			<i>The Race</i> by Carol Ann Duffy OR		
<i>The Wild White Horses</i> by Bertie Doherty			<i>Snow in the Suburbs</i> by Thomas Hardy		
S4	School Year 4	£10.50	S10	School Years 11 – 13	£12.50
<i>Boy With Kite</i> by Phoebe Hesketh OR			<i>To Evoke Posterity</i> by Robert Graves OR		
<i>Ella McStumping</i> by Michael Dugan OR			<i>The Send-off</i> by Wilfred Owen OR		
<i>The Dark</i> by James Carter			<i>Children at Play</i> by Elizabeth Jennings		
S5	School Year 5	£10.50			
<i>I'm Alone in the Evening</i> by Michael Rosen OR					
<i>Stage Fright</i> by Ann Lewis OR					
<i>All the Things You Can Say to Places in the UK</i> by Brian Moses					

## VERSE SPEAKING (OWN CHOICE - But NOT a set poem listed above)

S11	Reception Year & Under	1 min	£10.00	S16	School Year 5	2 mins	£10.50
S12	School Year 1	1 min	£10.00	S17	School Year 6	2 mins	£10.50
S13	School Year 2	2 mins	£10.00	S18	School Years 7 & 8	3 mins	£11.50
S14	School Year 3	2 mins	£10.50	S19	School Years 9 & 10	3 mins	£11.50
S15	School Year 4	2 mins	£10.50	S20	School Years 11 – 13	3 mins	£12.50

## SONNET (OWN CHOICE)

S21	School Years 9 & 10	£11.50	S22	School Years 11 – 13	£12.50
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## PROSE READING (OWN CHOICE)

- The chosen piece of prose must be **read from the book**

S23	School Years 2 & Under	2 mins	£10.00	S28	School Year 7	3 mins	£11.50
S24	School Year 3	2 mins	£10.50	S29	School Year 8	3 mins	£11.50
S25	School Year 4	2 mins	£10.50	S30	School Year 9 & 10	3 mins	£11.50
S26	School Year 5	2 mins	£10.50	S31	School Years 11 – 13	3 mins	£12.50
S27	School Year 6	2 mins	£10.50				

## STORYTELLING

- Competitors to tell a story (known or invented) in their own words
- No costumes
- Props & visual aids permitted

S32	School Years 6 & Under	3 mins	£10.50
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## PUBLIC SPEAKING

- Prepared speech / talk on any topic
- Notes and visual aids permitted

S33	School Years 6 & Under	3 mins	£10.50	S35	School Years 10 – 13	4 mins	£12.50
S34	School Years 7 – 9	4 mins	£11.50				

## SIGHT READING

- Competitors are given a short prose passage to read aloud
- 2 minutes are allowed for preparation

S36	School Years 3 & 4	£10.50	S38	School Years 7 – 9	£11.50
S37	School Years 5 & 6	£10.50	S39	School Years 10 – 13	£12.50

# DRAMA SECTION

## MIME

- Own choice of subject
- Practice clothes only to be worn (white or black shirt, blouse or T-shirt; black trousers or tights)
- No music, costumes or hand props to be used
- Solo - One stage block OR one chair is permitted
- Duologue - Two stage blocks OR two chairs
- A title should be announced but no introduction or verbal explanation given
- Bare feet or soft footwear to be worn

### Solo

S40	School Years 6 & Under	3 mins	£10.50
S41	School Years 7 – 9	4 mins	£11.50
S42	School Years 10 – 13	4 mins	£12.50

### Duologue

S43	School Years 6 & Under	4 mins	£17.50
S44	School Years 7 – 9	5 mins	£18.50
S45	School Years 10 – 13	5 mins	£19.50

## ACTING

- All Own choice
- All classes must be performed from memory - no script reading
- Costume or Practice clothes (white or black shirt, blouse or T-shirt; black trousers or black skirt) should be worn. NB: No extra marks will be awarded for costume
- Appropriate footwear should be worn to suit the character
- Hand props and music may be used
- Chairs and tables (also stage blocks at the Pump House) are provided

## ELIZABETHAN, JACOBEAN OR RESTORATION

### Solo

S46	School Years 7 – 9	4 mins	£11.50
S47	School Years 10 – 13	4 mins	£12.50

### Duologue

S48	School Years 7 – 9	5 mins	£18.50
S49	School Years 10 – 13	5 mins	£19.50

## SCENE FROM A PLAY, SCREENPLAY, ADAPTED PROSE OR MONOLOGUE

(excluding Elizabethan, Jacobean or Restoration)

### Solo

S50	School Years 4 & Under	3 mins	£10.50
S51	School Years 5 & 6	3 mins	£10.50
S52	School Years 7 – 9	4 mins	£11.50
S53*	School Years 10 – 13	4 mins	£12.50

### Duologue

S54	School Years 4 & Under	4 mins	£17.50
S55	School Years 5 & 6	4 mins	£17.50
S56	School Years 7 – 9	5 mins	£18.50
S57*	School Years 10 – 13	5 mins	£19.50

\* Please see note 4.4 in Regulations & General Information

## GROUPS

- All Own choice with the exception of Prepared Group Improvisation (Classes S62 - S65)
- All acting rules apply

## GROUP ACTING (Scene from a play, screenplay or novel)

- Minimum of three competitors
- Script required for the adjudicator

S58	School Years 6 & Under	10 mins	£55.00	S59	School Years 13 & Under	10 mins	£60.00
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## GROUP ANTHOLOGY

- Minimum of three competitors
- Must use a combination of at least three of the following: music, dance, drama, mime, movement and verse
- A script of running order/notes must be provided for the adjudicator
- Must use material from more than one source, though the sources may all be by the same author

S60	School Years 6 & Under	10 mins	£55.00	S61	School Years 13 & Under	10 mins	£60.00
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## DEvised SCENE

- To prepare a scene inspired by one of the set titles
- Groups of 3 - 8 persons
- If an original script evolves through the rehearsal process this is permissible

S62	School Years 6 & Under	<i>New Arrival</i> OR <i>The Fight</i>	4 mins	£44.00
S63	School Years 9 & Under	<i>Virtual Reality</i> OR <i>Stolen</i>	5 mins	£44.00
S64	School Years 11 & Under	<i>Group Therapy</i> OR <i>The Gamble</i>	5 mins	£48.00
S65	School Years 13 & Under	<i>Blind date</i> OR <i>Election!</i>	5 mins	£48.00

# CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

## 1 Purpose and function of organisation

The object of the Watford Festival (the Festival) is to advance, promote and encourage the education of the public in the Arts. In particular, it offers an equal opportunity to all members of the community, mainly young people, to take part and benefit from entering classes on a competitive basis with professional adjudication, together with the chance to perform at concerts and finales before a public audience.

## 2 The Festival environment

The Festival aims to provide a caring environment with the highest possible protection for children and vulnerable adults. It is the policy to ensure, as far as is reasonable and practicable, a safe environment for all attendees to the Festival.

## 3 To whom does this Policy Apply?

This policy applies to everyone connected with the Festival. It applies especially to children aged 18 or under and also recognizes the differing needs of individual children and those from ethnic and minority groups. It further applies to entrants with special needs or disabilities and other vulnerable adults, where those needs are notified to the festival prior to attendance.

## 4 Festival personnel

The administration of the Festival is carried out by the members of the Management Committee, comprising trustees, section leaders and other officers. During performances, section leaders are assisted by known helpers whose names and addresses are recorded. Some but not all Festival personnel are police checked. All Festival personnel wear a visual identification and at each venue, one person will act as 'day captain' to deal with any problem that may arise.

## 5 Preparation for attendance at the Festival

A copy of the Watford Festival Child Protection Policy will be printed on each entry form to be brought to the attention of every parent, guardian or carer. Where parents are not attending with their children, we expect them to satisfy themselves that their children will be supervised, at the Festival, by other responsible adults acting on their behalf.

## 6 Performance, rehearsal and changing areas

Whilst Festival personnel will always be present in performance areas whilst performances are in progress, warm-up and rehearsal areas will be monitored or stewarded on an occasional basis. At most venues, changing facilities, whilst restricted, are available for either gender. At larger theatre venues where changing rooms are made available, mixed gender groups could share the same facilities. At all venues there are separate toilet facilities for each gender. In all cases, there is no formal supervision of these changing room and toilet facilities.

## 7 Photographs, videotapes and press photography

Apart from press photography as described below, no photography, filming or video recording is permitted in the performance areas. No press photography is allowed without the permission and direction of Festival personnel. It is common practice at the Festival to invite press attendance to photograph individual or groups of competitors. When parents do not wish press photos to be taken, then the adults attending with children are responsible for ensuring that they are not included in press photos.

## 8 The legislation and guidance that supports this Policy

The Children Act 1989  
The Human Rights Act 1998  
The Police Act 1997  
The Protection of Children Act 1999  
The Data Protection Act 1998  
The Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000

## 9 Policy review

The Management Committee of the Watford Festival will constantly review this Policy, improving and enhancing it as necessary.