

## JUDGING CRITERIA (CONT.)

for each kind of speech. If the time limit has been properly observed, no points will be deducted. An official time keeper will announce the time after each speech.

### COMMENTS

Judges will make their scorecards available to the competitors at the end of the Speech Contest. In actual Speech meets this is the accepted procedure because of the learning opportunities for the speaker. Judges are free to make any comments which may be of help to the speaker in the future so long as they are constructive in nature.

## JUDGING AT THE FAIR

Judging at the Tanana Valley State Fair is accomplished through a network of volunteers. Judges are recruited & chosen for their expertise in a particular area, and it is through their generous donation of time & knowledge that we are able to showcase your achievements. Judges are trained by the superintendent & through the Exhibit Office to follow the guidelines set down by the Fair Association. They are expected to:

- be fair & consistent in their judging;
- provide positive comments & constructive criticism to the exhibitor;
- follow the Fair Association's mission to educate participants through their evaluation.

Each entry must have a completed score sheet. These score sheets are for the education of the exhibitor only & are not for public view. An exhibitor may request to see a score sheet for any of their entries by asking the exhibit attendant on duty, asking the superintendent, or requesting assistance through the Fair Office.

## SAMPLE JUDGING SHEET

### Division 20B Speech & Drama Festival

ID # \_\_\_\_\_ Exhibit Tag # \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Lot \_\_\_\_\_  
Judge's Initials \_\_\_\_\_

(Circle appropriate score)						SCORE
Approach to Podium	2	4	6	8	10	_____
Preparation	2	4	6	8	10	_____
Construction	2	4	6	8	10	_____
Suitability	2	4	6	8	10	_____
Volume	2	4	6	8	10	_____
Eye Contact	2	4	6	8	10	_____
Pronunciation/articulation	2	4	6	8	10	_____
Vocal energy & expression	2	4	6	8	10	_____
Body stance	2	4	6	8	10	_____
Exit from the podium	2	4	6	8	10	_____

TOTAL (100 = perfect score) \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# SPEECH & DRAMA FESTIVAL

## DIVISION 20B EXHIBITOR'S HANDBOOK

*Welcome to the world of Competitive Exhibits! As an exhibitor at the fair, you are entering into a long standing tradition of education & competition that began in the Tanana Valley in 1924.*

*Your primary source of information about entering an exhibit is through the Exhibitors Guide, available online or at the Fair Exhibit Office. This handbook will provide you with some additional information as well as judging criteria and sample judging sheets.*

## ENTRY RULES

- Get your Fair I.D. number & exhibit tags from the Exhibit Office. Fill out Exhibit Tags before you arrive on entry day.
- Fill out and submit a special Speech and Drama Festival entry blank to the superintendent. The entry blanks are used by the superintendent to establish the order of appearance in the festival. **You may not change your entry class once the program is printed.**
- Inappropriate language & swearing will result in disqualification.
- Entries may not have been previously entered in the Tanana Valley State Fair.
- You may enter only one exhibit per lot. Note any other entry restrictions listed in the Exhibitors Guide.
- Know your entry day and competition time & place.

*The Tanana Valley State Fair seeks to highlight and enhance appreciation for Interior Alaska by showcasing competitive & commercial exhibits. The Fair educates and entertains all participants by providing opportunities to share a rich variety of individual and community endeavors. The Fair encourages and welcomes involvement by all.*

**Tanana Valley State Fair Association**  
1800 College Rd, Fairbanks, AK 99709-4173  
452-3750 [www.tvfsa.org](http://www.tvfsa.org)

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## GENERAL GUIDELINES

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- Prepare your entry. Plan gestures, voice tones, etc. which will help put your piece across to the judge without adding distraction.
- Practice! Try reciting your piece in front of a mirror. If you don't see yourself while you are speaking it means that you aren't looking up enough.
- If notecards are used, print in **LARGE LETTERS**, maybe even with bright colors of ink so when you glance down at them it will be easy to see.
- Speak at a good volume and pronounce your words carefully and clearly. Be sure not to talk too fast.
- Have good eye contact.
- Keep your body stance steady and avoid distracting mannerisms such as hands in and out of pockets, playing with jewelry or hair, etc.
- Keep within the specific time allowed as listed below for each Class.
- Have fun! We're all here to have a good time.

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## TIPS FOR SPECIFIC CLASSES

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### ORIGINAL ORATION (A, AA)

**RECOMMENDED TIME: 3 - 4 MINUTES.**

Original Oration is a speech that you prepare yourself. Most often the speech is persuasive in some way - trying to get the audience to agree with your ideas, or to get them to agree that something needs to be changed. You may use facts and information from books, magazines, newspapers, etc. to support your ideas, but it is personal - not just a report.

You may use notecards containing facts, key words, quotations from sources, and important phrases with you. Preparation is the key. Be sure your speech is well planned out and supported through logic or through information you have gathered.

Don't try to memorize this entire speech. Instead know your speech; don't worry about small variations or the way you say things - it will make your speech sound fresh and unmemorized to the judges.

### COMEDIC (B, BB) OR DRAMATIC (E, EE)

**RECOMMENDED TIME: 3 - 5 MINUTES.**

Interpretation is presenting the work of a well known author. Sign up for Dramatic Interpretation if your selection is of a serious nature. Sign up for Comedic if your selections are light and/or funny.

You may select from poetry, short stories, or plays and essays. You may use only a part of a work if the entire piece is too long

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## TIPS (CONT.)

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except for poetry selections. You may take a copy of your selection to the podium with you but it is better to write or type it out than to carry a book up with you. Be expressive!

### PERSONAL CHOICE SPEECH (C, CC)

**RECOMMENDED TIME: 3-5 MINUTES**

You may have one notecard if you wish. The notecard can contain key words or phrases, but may not have your statement written on it.

Use words and ideas which are familiar to you already - they will be easier to use. Don't try to use a lot of unfamiliar, large vocabulary words - you might have trouble with them when you speak.

Have a good idea of what you want to say, but don't memorize your speech word for word. Too often, people who do this forget just one little word or phrase and then they cannot get back to the exact words they memorized.

### RECITATION (D, DD)

**RECOMMENDED TIME: 3-5 MINUTES.**

Select one poem only.

You may make a brief introduction to your selection with the title and author. A notecard containing only key words and phrases is permitted. Try to memorize your poem and know it very well, but try not to deliver it in a singsong way.

Select a poem with age appropriate vocabulary and content.

### DRAMA—PLAYS/PUPPETRY (F, FF), PANTOMIME (G, GG), AND ORIGINAL WORKS (H, HH)

**RECOMMENDED TIME: 5 MINUTES OR LESS**

These dramatic pieces may require more preparation than a notecard or a sheet of words, please contact your Superintendent if you wish to be part of these classes to properly schedule time for your work!

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## JUDGING CRITERIA

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There are five grades ranging from 2 to 10 points. Points are recorded on the line labeled "Totals." The totals are then added together to get the "Final Score." Judges will sign the scorecards and record praise and constructive notes under "comments".

### 1. PODIUM APPROACH (10 possible points)

In all speech categories, the judge is looking for poise and a sense of purpose. Giggling, overt nervousness or talking to members of the audience while approaching the speaking area are not recommended.

### 2. PREPARATION (10 possible points)

Be prepared for your category! Please be familiar with your material for a polished delivery.

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## JUDGING CRITERIA (CONT.)

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### 3. CONSTRUCTION (10 possible points)

Does the speech have an introduction, main body, and conclusion? Oration should have a distinct thesis statement. Interpretations should have a smooth transition into your selections if pulled from a larger piece.

### 4. SUITABILITY (10 possible points)

Is the material presented in good taste? Is it appropriate for the age and/or abilities of the speaker? For Interpretations, are there reasonable links between selections where two or more are used?

### 5. VOLUME (10 possible points)

Please speak loud enough for everyone to hear you, even the people in the back of the audience. Shouting or screaming will be marked down, unless it is specifically scripted in your Interpretation.

### 6. EYE CONTACT (10 possible points)

Eye contact helps capture and hold your audience's attention. Everyone in the audience wants to see you succeed, don't worry!

### 7. PRONUNCIATION/ARTICULATION (10 possible points)

In general, is it easy to understand the words produced by the speaker? If there are difficult or unusual words used, are they pronounced correctly? Is overall pronunciation correct?

### 8. VOCAL ENERGY AND EXPRESSION (10 possible points)

A good speaker will convey vitality and energy through vocal quality. Variation of pitch, tone, rate, and volume are positive things to look for. Significant expression is expected in the Interpretation category. Persuasive appeals using effective vocal quality should be present in personal opinion and Original Oration speeches.

### 9. BODY STANCE (10 possible points)

With the exception of the Interpretation category the body should remain fairly stationary in a relaxed, not still, position. All movements should have some purpose to them rather than being nervous gestures such as playing with hair or jewelry, taking hands in and out of pockets, etc. Try not to lock your knees. If gestures are made, are they effective? Does the body stance enhance or detract from what the speaker is saying? In Interpretation there is more leeway for movement in the speaking area. Interpretation walks the fine line between oral reading and acting - some competitors may remain motionless at the podium, while others may not wish to use a podium at all. Neither way is necessarily better, which competitor is the most effective overall?

### 10. EXIT FROM THE PODIUM (10 possible points)

An orator is not done until they are out of the line of sight of the audience. Keep your head held high!

### TIME LIMIT (10 points may be deducted)

A standard penalty may be deducted if the speaker takes less time or more time to complete the speech as is recommended. The penalty varies for each kind of speech. Established penalties are explained further in the guidelines