

SPEECH & DRAMA SECTION

Tolworth United Reformed Church, Elgar Avenue, Tolworth, KT5 9JR

Adjudicator: Ms. Jennifer Thornton
Saturday 15th and 22nd November 2025

Entries to be sent with entry fees by Saturday 4th OCTOBER 2025 to:

Peter Sallabank

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The **PREMIER AWARD**, presented by Mrs W Benford, will be awarded to the competitor aged 10 years or older who attains the highest mark in any Solo class in this Section.

The **HAYESMEAD AWARD**, presented by the late Mrs C Freeman, will be awarded to the competitor aged 9 years or under who attains the highest mark in any Solo class in this Section.

The **ANITA DOWNEY SHIELD** is awarded by the Adjudicator to the competitor who makes the most impression, regardless of marks. For all awards, in the case of a tie, the younger competitor will receive the award.

REGULATIONS

1. No costumes or hand props permitted in Verse or Reading classes.
2. In Classes 630 through to 641s essential hand props and practice skirts are allowed, chairs & tables are provided. In Group Classes (not less than 3 performers) costumes background music and a prompter are allowed
3. Work presented in Acted Scene and Group Mime Classes must not have been presented at this Festival during the last two years by the same School.
4. If time limits are exceeded in any class, the Adjudicator will deduct marks. The time limits stated include setting-up time.
5. This Festival has entered into an agreement with the Authors' Licensing & Collecting Society. Competitors therefore do not have to seek copyright permission for any poetry, prose or solo dramatic items performed to a time limit of 10 minutes. Performers and teachers will be delighted to know that their participation means that authors will be directly reimbursed as a consequence of their works being performed at this Festival. Duologues and group dramatic activity are not covered by the above agreement, and copyright for these items should be sought by performers at the time of entry.
* Dramatic items must be announced with the title and author at the time of performance to qualify for copyright indemnity, and the performer must not change the words or gender of the character.
6. Competitors must present a copy of their piece to the Adjudicator in all spoken classes, otherwise they will only receive a report and no mark. NB. See general Regulation 9.
7. With the exception of the Reading and own Composition Classes, all classes must be performed from memory.

VERSE PRESENTATION.

A poem or excerpt based on 'Space', covering any subject or character with a connection to space

A	600	7 years and under	Time limit	1½ minutes
A	601	8 – 9 years	Time limit	2 minutes
A	602	10 – 11 years	Time limit	2 minutes
B	603	12 – 14 years	Time limit	2½ minutes
B	604	15 years and older	Time limit	3 minutes

Award: *Leslie Hodgkinson Cup* for best performance in Classes 600-604

VERSE (Set poet).

A poem, or excerpt from a poem, by **Christina Rossetti** OR the authors shown below

A	605	7 years and under	A A Milne	1½ minutes
A	606	8 – 9 years	D Sardelli	2 minutes
A	607	10 – 11 years	J Nicholls	2 minutes
B	608	12 – 14 years	M Angelou	2½ minutes
B	609	15 - 17 years	V Scannell	3 minutes
B	609A	18 years and older	R Pitter	3 minutes

(*609A performers are invited to **read** their choice of poem.)

Award: *Thorn Cup* for best performance in Classes 605-609A

WRITE & READ your own poem.

A poem written by the competitor, and authenticated by the teacher.

NB a copy of the poem MUST be submitted with the entry form.

B	610	7 years and under	1½ minutes
B	611	8 – 9 years	1½ minutes
B	612	10 – 11 years	1½ minutes
C	613	12 – 14 years	2 minutes
C	614	15 - 16 years	2 minutes

Award: *Simmonds Trophy* for best poem in Classes 610-614

SIGHT READING (To be chosen by the Adjudicator).

A	615	8 years and under
A	616	9 – 11 years
A	617	12 – 13 years
B	618	14 – 16 years
B	619	17 years and older

Award: *The Rogers Cup* for best performance in Classes 615-619

PREPARED PROSE READING

A brief introduction should be given, including the title and author, within the time limit.

A reading from a book by **Roald Dahl** OR the authors shown below

A	620	8 years and under	B Potter	1½ minutes
A	621	9 – 11 years	L Carroll	2 minutes
B	622	12 – 13 years	E Colfer	2½ minutes
B	623	14 – 16 years	C Dickens	3 minutes
B	624	17 years and older	G Orwell	3 minutes

Award: *R.J.E. Lunn Cup* for best performance in Classes 620-624

RELIGIOUS READING

Set piece for all classes as shown OR a reading of your own choice in English, from any Holy Book. Own choice **NOT to exceed 2 minutes.**

A	625	8 years and under	Daniel Ch. 6 vv 16-22
A	626	9 – 11 years	John Ch 2 vv 1-11
B	627	12 – 13 years	Mark Ch 12 vv 28-34
B	628	14 – 16 years	Exodus Ch 14 vv 21-31
B	629	17 years and older	Matthew Ch 26 vv 20-35

Award: Casson Cup, presented by Miss Hill, for best performance in Classes 625-629

SHAKESPEARE (Own choice)

B	630	11 years and under	3 minutes
B	631	12 – 13 years	3 minutes
C	632	14 – 16 years	4 minutes
C	633	17 years and older	4 minutes

Award: Miss ME Swaisland Cup for best performance in Classes 630-633

SOLO CHARACTER STUDY (Own choice excluding Shakespeare)

Monologue material is permitted.

B	634	10 years and under	3 minutes
B	635	11 – 13 years	3 minutes
C	636	14 – 16 years	4 minutes
C	637	17 years and older	4 minutes

Award: Kay Stevens Memorial Trophy, presented by Mrs Jones, for best performance in Classes 634-637

DUOLOGUE (Own choice - except Shakespeare)

D	638	10 years and under	4 minutes
D	639	11 – 13 years	4 minutes
E	640	14 – 16 years	5 minutes
F	641	17 years and older	6 minutes

Award: Freeman-Jones Shield for best performance in Classes 638-641

DUOLOGUE (Shakespeare - Own choice)

D	638S	10 years and under	4 minutes
D	639S	11 – 13 years	4 minutes
E	640S	14 – 16 years	5 minutes
F	641S	17 years and older	6 minutes

Award: A & A Trophy presented by Mrs Hawking & Mrs MacLeish

CHORAL SPEAKING (Own choice)

No more than 20 in a group. A conductor is allowed. One poem or two short contrasting pieces presented continuously.

K	642	7 years and under	4 minutes
K	643	8 – 11 years	5 minutes
F	644	12 – 14 years	6 minutes
F	645	15 years and older	6 minutes

Junior Society Trophy for best performance in Classes 642-643 Senior Society Trophy for best performance in Classes 644-645

ACTED SCENE / PREPARED IMPROVISATION (Own choice)

F	646	11 years and under	10 minutes
F	647	12 -14 years	10 minutes
F	648	15 years and older	10 minutes

Award: The Alloway Shield for best performance in Class 646

Chamber of Commerce Shield for best performance in Classes 647-648

SOLO MIME (Own choice) Background music is allowed.

Suitability of choice will be taken into consideration.

B	649	10 years and under	2½ minutes
C	650	11 – 13 years	3 minutes
C	651	14 – 16 years	3 minutes
D	652	17 years and older	4 minutes

Award: Bernard Ismay Memorial Cup, presented by Mrs Ismay, for best performance in Classes 649-652

GROUP MIME (Own choice) Background music is allowed.

Suitability of choice will be taken into consideration.

K	653	11 years and under	5 minutes
K	654	12 -14 years	5 minutes
K	655	15 years and older	5 minutes

Award: Gina Dyke Cup for best performance in Classes 653-656

NEWSCASTER: Present a self-compiled summary of some current news items, to inform the audience without bias. A script can be used for reference.

B	656	10 years and under	1½ minutes
B	657	11 – 16 years	2 minutes
C	658	16 years and older	3 minutes

GENERAL REGULATIONS

1. **ELIGIBILITY** - Except for Open classes, the competitions are for amateurs. For the purposes of this Festival, an amateur is considered to be one who does not receive more than out-of-pocket expenses for services rendered in that branch of the art in which he or she is competing. This rule does not apply to conductors or accompanists. The age of candidates for all sections is reckoned as on **1st September 2025**.
2. **ENTRIES** - Entries must be submitted with a SAE (C5 or larger) on the official Entry Form to the appropriate Section Secretary by the date indicated. Forms may be downloaded from the website and submitted electronically. On-line payment must include "Instrumental/Name" as a reference. Separate entry forms **must** be used for each Section. The Committee reserves the right to refuse entries. In some classes the number of entries may be limited by time available, in which case entries will be accepted on a first received basis. In all other cases **entry fees are not refundable**.
3. **ENTRY FEES** - A code letter is shown beside each class to correspond to the following scale of entry fees:

A ... £6.00	B ... £6.50	C ... £7.00	D ... £8.00	E ... £9.00	F ... £4.50 per person
G ... £10.00	H ... £12.00	J ... £15.00	K ... £3.50 per person	L ... £20.00	

The maximum fee (excluding accompanist fees) to be charged to any competitor entering any number of solo Classes in a section:
£35.00 (under 18 years) £40.00 (18 years and over)
4. **ACCOMPANISTS** - Instrumental performers are encouraged to provide their own accompanist, if at all possible. Performers who require an accompanist must indicate this on the entry form at the time of applying, and every effort will be made to supply details of an accompanist to help you so that rehearsals can be arranged. **Fees should be negotiated directly with the accompanist.**
5. **The use of recorded accompaniments is not permissible in the Music Sections**
6. **CLASSES** - May be combined when entries are small or divided when entries are large.
7. **TEST PIECES** - The prescribed editions of music and key, where specified, must be used. Where an "Own Choice" piece is performed, the Section Secretary must be informed of the title and composer/author on the entry form and a **copy must be provided for the Adjudicator**. **Competitors who fail to do so will not receive a grade or mark, but only a report.** Set pieces in this syllabus may not be offered in "Own Choice" classes, nor may any piece be performed in more than one class within a Section. Competitors should not offer a piece with which they have already won a class at this Festival in a previous year. "**Downloads**" of works purchased over the internet should be clearly marked as such.
8. **TIME LIMITS** - Must be strictly adhered to. **Competitors exceeding these limits will be stopped and may be disqualified.**
9. **PHOTOCOPYING** - The Festival (through its membership of BIFF) is a signatory to the **Music Publishers Association** Code of Fair Practice. As such specific permission has been granted regarding photocopying music as follows: a performer may make one copy for the adjudicator **provided that** the performer has already purchased his or her own copy. All such photocopies must be retained by the Festival and destroyed immediately after the event. **Important:** This permission only applies to the Adjudicator copy and all other copies used for the performance (eg. by the performer and/or accompanist) must be originals.
10. **ADJUDICATORS** - The Adjudicator's decision is final. The Committee reserves the right to appoint any other adjudicators than those advised, if considered necessary. Communication with the Adjudicator by competitors, teachers or any other interested parties prior to or during the competition is prohibited and the Committee reserves the right to disqualify a competitor for any breach of this rule.
11. **AWARDS** - Performers will be marked or graded on their performance and Report Sheets and Certificates will be issued at the end of each class. First, second and third places may be announced and "Gold", Silvered and Bronze medals presented, provided that the number of entries and standard of performance warrant it. Certificates will be awarded according to the following criteria:

65-69	DEVELOPING	An inconsistent performance with an overall need for accuracy &/or continuity and artistic development.
70-74	PROGRESSING	A generally secure performance in notes and rhythm at a reasonable tempo but as yet with limited attention to detail, tonal qualities and style.
75-79	MERIT	Mostly fluent and accurate, with some awareness of tone and style, but requiring a sense of communication and performance.
80-84	COMMENDED	Confident, with clear evidence of tonal and stylistic qualities and a developing awareness of communication and performance, although there may be moments of imprecision.
85-89	HONOURS	Assured and expressive, demonstrating a high level of technical security, imagination and stylistic insight and with a real sense of communication and performance, although small blemishes may be present.
90-94	OUTSTANDING	A stimulating, imaginative and persuasive performance, showing stylistic flair, interpretive insight, poise and unobtrusive technical command.
95 +	EXCEPTIONAL	An astonishingly impressive performance displaying effortless technical control and superlative individuality in its artistry, and profound musical insight.

Trophies will be awarded provided that a minimum standard of performance has been achieved. Trophies are held for one year only. No award will be presented if there is only one entry in any class or group of classes, except at the discretion of the Adjudicator.
12. **VIDEOS, CAMERAS and TAPE RECORDERS** - Are **not** permitted during any performance or adjudication.
13. **DATA PROTECTION & PRIVACY POLICY** - Please see website (www.kingstonperformingarts.co.uk)
14. **ADMISSION TO SESSIONS** - Admission to all sessions, other than for competitors, will be charged at the door. Patrons are admitted free.

PRIZE WINNERS' CONCERT

Selected Prize winners in the Music and Speech & Drama Sections will be asked to perform in the Prize winners' Concert on **Saturday 6th December 2025** at 7.00 pm at Emmanuel Church, Tolworth. After the concert cups, trophies and shields won in these Sections will be presented. Those won for Stage Dancing will be presented after the final session of that section.

KINGSTON YOUNG MUSICIAN

Sponsored in memory of George Steven

First prize £200 and Lilian Brain Plate Second prize £100
Saturday 24th January 2026 7.00 pm Emmanuel Church, Tolworth

The aim of the competition is to further the musical education of outstanding young performers. Up to ten performers between the ages of 11-18 (21 for singers) will be selected by the Adjudicators from the Music Sections on the basis of their performances in those Classes. Each will be invited to perform a programme of about twelve minutes duration. Full details available from the Section Secretaries.

CHILD PROTECTION & CREATING SAFER FESTIVALS FOR ALL

Full details are on the full syllabus or can be downloaded from Festival website (www.kingstonperformingarts.co.uk)