



## 2022 Syllabus for Speech and Drama Competitions

North London Festival of Music, Speech and

Drama:

Monday 14 March – Friday 1 April

and

Saturday 23 April – Saturday 14 May

Speech and Drama Competitions on

Sunday 8 May and possibly Thursday 5 May



## 2022 Syllabus for Speech and Drama

### Competitions

Enter online via the website -[www.northlondonfestival.org.uk](http://www.northlondonfestival.org.uk)  
or contact the Entry Secretary Mrs Sooriya Jeyabavan tel: 07527  
287567, email: [nlfentry@hotmail.com](mailto:nlfentry@hotmail.com)

Venue – The King Alfred School and The King Alfred Phoenix Theatre  
North End Road, London, NW11 7HY.

[www.kingalfred.org.uk/How-to-Find-Us](http://www.kingalfred.org.uk/How-to-Find-Us)

#### **Adjudicator: Cally Foster**

Candidates must provide a clean copy, handwritten or typed **not** photocopied, of their prose or script for the adjudicator. Copies of set verse are available from the website.

#### **The Speech and Drama Adjudicator's Awards**

Prizes will be awarded to the most promising performer 12 years and under and 13 years and over.

Speech and Drama Special Bursary. This special award may be given at the discretion of the Festival committee. A prize of up to the value of £150 will be awarded for an outstanding performance or performances. We hope the money will be used for extra lessons or auditions or maybe towards a performance summer school or for simply going to the theatre.

**Enter 3 or more competitions to be eligible for the following prizes.**

The Drama Versatility Cup and a prize will be awarded to the most outstanding all-round performer between 13 and 18 years of age.

The Junior Versatility Cup and a prize will be awarded to the most outstanding all-round performer 12 years or under.

Entry age strictly by **1 September 2021**.



## **A note from our Head of Speech and Drama – Dan Collins**

Hello everyone – after an absence of 2 years it is fantastic to be organising a live festival again! We have run 2 great online festivals and will continue in a smaller way to have an online element.

As somebody who participated in drama festivals as a shy teenager and who found my voice through standing on a stage, I understand the life skills that it can give, whether that is to become a young actor or to give you the skills to stand up and speak in later life no matter what your job is. As I have said before I look at this role as a parent, as a past participant and as someone who wants to nurture talent and help your children succeed no matter what they wish to do in later life. The festival is such a friendly and motivating occasion, and my aim is to help it grow and be relevant as we enter a new decade. This year we hope to actually perform at our new venue and will be working with the King Alfred School which has a beautiful theatre set in the grounds of Golders Hill Park – I can't wait for you all to see it!

The festival is your festival though – I have some great ideas for the coming years and would love to encourage authors, poets, and actors to attend to speak to the kids, but I would love to hear the ideas of the teachers, the parents and importantly those entering. Please always feel free to email me at [speechanddramanlf@outlook.com](mailto:speechanddramanlf@outlook.com)

The North London Festival is open to all and we would like to welcome more schools and teachers to enter and make North London a highlight of their dramatic year, whether they are budding poets, verse speakers, musical theatre performers, actors, prose readers or public speakers. Please sign up today.

The Speech and Drama classes will be on Saturday 8 May and, if there are enough entries, also on Thursday 6 May 2022 at The King Alfred School and Phoenix Theatre, 149 North End Road, London NW11 7HY.

Our entry secretary for main weekend is Mrs. Sooriya Jeyabavan. Email [nlfentry@hotmail.com](mailto:nlfentry@hotmail.com) The closing date for entries is Friday 8 April 2022. For all enquiries regarding syllabus and timing please do not hesitate in contacting me on [speechanddramanlf@outlook.com](mailto:speechanddramanlf@outlook.com) We can't wait to see you all perform in May 2022!!

All verse speaking to be performed from memory. All verse selection copy available from the website.

	<b>Verse Speaking</b>	<b>Time (mins)</b>	<b>Fee £</b>
900	<p>Verse Speaking — 11–12 years. <i>The Drama Lesson</i> by Gareth Owen or <i>Kisses</i> by Ian Souter or <i>The Nose</i> - Anon. The Siddiqui Family Shield will be awarded to the highest marked competitor from 900 and 901.</p>	N/A	9.50
901	<p>Verse Speaking — 9–10 years. <i>Grandad's snoring is getting boring</i> by Lindsey Macrea or <i>The Car Trip</i> by Michael Rosen or <i>Twin Trouble</i> by Anne Harvey.</p>	N/A	9.50
902	<p>Verse Speaking — 7–8 years. <i>Nil by Nil</i> by Lindsey Macrae or <i>The plight of the bumblebee</i> by Valerie Bloom or <i>Picnic</i> by Judith Nichols. A prize will be awarded to overall winner of 902.</p>	N/A	9.50
903	<p>Verse Speaking — 5–6 years. <i>Magic Cat</i> by Peter Dixon or <i>Meryl Rose</i> by Peter Dixon or <i>Why is it?</i> by Max Fatchen. A prize donated by Pat Payne will be presented to the overall winner of this 903.</p>	N/A	9.50
904	<p>Verse Speaking — 4 years (non-competitive) Please note that children must be 4 by 1 September 2021. <i>My Brother</i> by Theresa Heine or <i>Football</i> by Jacqueline Emery or <i>Ear Popping</i> by Jez Alborough.</p>	N/A	7.50

All verse speaking may be acted but must be performed from memory. Please note that for the following section no poems from the current LAMDA verse and prose anthology will be allowed or adjudicated if entered. (Please name the poem to be performed on the entry form.)

<b>Verse Speaking Own Choice</b>		<b>Time (mins)</b>	<b>Fee £</b>
The Alice Richardson Cup will be awarded to the highest marked competitor from 905 and 906.			
905	Verse Speaking — Own Choice — 15–17 years.	3	9.50
906	Verse Speaking — Own Choice — 13–14 years.	3	9.50
The Mirza Family Shield will be awarded to the highest marked competitor from 907 and 908.			
907	Verse Speaking — Own Choice — 11–12 years.	3	9.50
908	Verse Speaking — Own Choice — 9–10 years.	3	9.50
A prize will be awarded to the highest marked competitor from 909 and 910.			
909	Verse Speaking — Own Choice — 7–8 years.	2	9.50
910	Verse Speaking — Own Choice — 5–6 years.	2	9.50

<b>Prose Reading</b>		<b>Time (mins)</b>	<b>Fee £</b>
A prize will be awarded to the highest marked competitor from 911 and 912.			
911	Prose Reading — 15–17 years. An extract chosen from a book of candidate's own choice to be read aloud.	3	9.50
912	Prose Reading — 13–14 years. An extract chosen from a book of candidate's own choice to be read aloud.	3	9.50
A prize will be awarded to the highest marked competitor from 913 and 914.			
913	Prose Reading — 11–12 years. Conditions as for 911.	3	9.50
914	Prose Reading — 9–10 years. Conditions as for 911.	2½	9.50
915	Prose Reading — 7–8 years. Conditions as for 911.	2½	9.50
A prize will be awarded to the highest marked competitor in 915.			

### Public Speaking

The candidate will prepare a talk on a subject of their choice. Note cards, visual aids and relevant examples may be used. If PowerPoint or any sort of screening is used, the candidate will have only 5 minutes to set up and we will need to know in advance.

		<b>Time (mins)</b>	<b>Fee £</b>
A prize will be awarded to the highest marked competitor from 929 and 930.			
929	Public Speaking — 15–17 years.	5	9.50
930	Public Speaking — 13–14 years.	5	9.50
A prize will be awarded to the highest marked competitor from 931 and 932.			
931	Public Speaking — 11–12 years.	5	9.50
932	Public Speaking — 9–10 years.	5	9.50

## Performance

Please note in competitions 936 and 937 there may be language and content unsuitable for those aged 12 years and under and we ask that children are taken out before the competitions begin.

The Pat Payne Annual Acting Award, a £50 Theatre Token, will be awarded to the most outstanding performer from 933, 934, 935, 936 and 937.

The Jaswal Classical Acting Trophy will be awarded to the overall winner from 933, 934 and 935.

		<b>Time (mins)</b>	<b>Fee £</b>
933	Solo Classical Acting — 15–17 years. An extract from a play written before 1910.	4	9.50
934	Solo Classical Acting — 13–14 years. An extract from a play written before 1910.	4	9.50
935	Solo Classical Acting — 11–12 years. An extract from a play written before 1910.	4	9.50
936	Solo Modern Acting — 15–17 years. An extract from any play, novel, film, radio, or TV script written after 1910 to be performed from memory.	4	9.50
937	Solo Modern Acting — 13–14 years. Conditions as for 936. A prize will be awarded to the highest marked competitor from 938, 939 and 940.	4	9.50
938	Solo Modern Acting — 11–12 years. Conditions as for 936.	4	9.50
939	Solo Modern Acting — 9–10 years. Conditions as for 936.	3	9.50
940	Solo Modern Acting — 7–8 years. Conditions as for 936	3	9.50



## Online Competitions

		Time (mins)	Fee £
950	<b>3-minute Monologue</b> — 15–17 years. To be filmed. Can be filmed multi-angle and/or multi-location and then edited to produce the final version.	3	9.50
951	<b>3-minute Monologue</b> — 13–14 years. To be filmed. Can be filmed multi-angle and/or multi-location and then edited to produce the final version.	3	9.50
952	<b>3-minute Monologue</b> — 11–12 years. To be filmed. Can be filmed multi-angle and/or multi-location and then edited to produce the final version.	3	9.50
953	<b>3-minute Monologue</b> — 9–10 years. To be filmed. Can be filmed multi-angle and/or multi-location and then edited to produce the final version.	3	9.50
954	<b>3-minute Monologue</b> — 7–8 years. To be filmed. Can be filmed multi-angle and/or multi-location and then edited to produce the final version.	3	9.50
955	<b>3-minute Group Movie</b> — 15–17 years. Subject: <i>Happiness</i> or <i>The Birthday Party</i> . Can be filmed multi-angle and/or multi-location and then edited to produce the final version.	3	7.50 per person
956	<b>3-minute Group Movie</b> — 13–14 years. Subject: <i>Happiness</i> or <i>The Birthday Party</i> . Can be filmed multi-angle and/or multi-location and then edited to produce the final version.	3	7.50 per person
957	<b>3-minute Group Movie</b> — 11–12 years. Subject: <i>Happiness</i> or <i>The Birthday Party</i> . Can be filmed multi-angle and/or multi-location and then edited to produce the final version.	3	7.50 per person
958	<b>3-minute Group Movie</b> — 9–10 years. Subject: <i>Happiness</i> or <i>The Birthday Party</i> . Can be filmed multi-angle and/or multi-location and then edited to produce the final version.	3	7.50 per person
959	<b>3-minute Group Movie</b> — 7–8 years. Subject: <i>Happiness</i> or <i>The Birthday Party</i> . Can be filmed multi-angle and/or multi-location and then edited to produce the final version.	3	7.50 per person



## Speech and Drama

### Notes for Teachers, Performers and Parents

1. Time limits given are the maximum allowed and will be strictly adhered to. The Adjudicator will stop adjudicating 10 seconds over the allotted time and the performance may be stopped. Unless otherwise specified, we will allow 2 minutes setting up time per group. If you go over this time it will be deducted from your allotted performance time.
2. Copies of pieces to be performed should be submitted to the adjudicator before the start of the class. These should be handwritten or typed, not photocopied.
3. All candidates are reminded that they are creating a performance. They should announce their pieces to the audience clearly and present themselves appropriately.
4. Simple costumes, make-up and props can be used, but no extra marks will be awarded for these. Chairs and tables will be available at the venue, and there are changing facilities within the building.
5. In all Group competitions the age of the oldest competitor determines which class to enter. Age limits refer to the child's age on 1st May 2020.
6. Group competitions are for four to ten players. If you wish to enter a smaller or larger group than this then please contact the Speech and Drama Section Head.
7. Volunteers are always needed to help on the day. If you are interested and can spare some time please contact the Speech and Drama Section Head – [speechanddramanlf@outlook.com](mailto:speechanddramanlf@outlook.com).

**Set Poems for North London Festival 2022****4 Years: *My Brother* by Theresa Heine**

He giggles and squeaks,  
 And curls and rolls,  
 And wriggles and cries,  
 And screws up his eyes,  
 And squirms and squeals,  
 And shouts and yells,  
 And screeches and begs,  
 And kicks his legs,  
 Till Mum puts her head  
 Round the door and says  
 'stop tickling your brother!'

**4 Years: *Football* by Jacqueline Emery**

Whistle and shout  
 Bang and shove  
 Kick and tackle  
 Run,  
 Showers of turf  
 Flying mud  
 Aim and shoot  
 Off.  
 High-scaling ball  
 Scurrying men  
 Faster and faster  
 Leap.  
 Mad, shrieking crowd,  
 Tackle and win,  
 Dribble and shoot  
 GOAL!

**4 Years: *Ear Popping* by Jez Alborough**

To blow your ears clear  
 Hold your nose,  
 And with a POP  
 The blockage goes.  
 But please remember,  
 Pay regard,  
 Never blow too long  
 Or hard.

I knew a boy  
 Who didn't stop  
 When at first  
 He heard no POP.  
 He blew until  
 His face turned red  
 And POPPED the ears  
 Clear off, his head.

**5/6 Years: *Magic Cat* by Peter Dixon**

My mum whilst walking through the door spilt some  
magic on the floor.

Blobs of this

And splotches of that

But most of it upon the cat.

Our cat turned magic, straight away

And in the garden went to play

Where it grew two massive wings

And flew around in fancy rings.

'oh look!' cried Mother, pointing high, 'I didn't

know our cat could fly.'

Then with a dash of Tibby's tail

She turned my mum into a snail.

So now she lives beneath a stone

And dusts around a different home.

And I'm an ant

And Dad's a mouse

And Tibby's living in our house.

**5/6 Years: *Meryl Rose* by Peter Dixon**

Here's a tale of Meryl Rose

Who liked to push things up her nose.....

Lego biscuits

Beads and bread –

Rattled round inside her head.

A foolish girl – who wasted days

Playing with her silly craze –

Until upon school photo day

She got the hamster out to play,

And with a grin and Meryl pout

She pushed poor Hammy up her snout!

'Look this way,' called photo man

'Smile or giggle if you can....'

Sweet Meryl posed

With smile

And pout –

And half a hamster hanging out!

**5/6 Years: *Why is it?* by Max Fatchen**

Why is it,  
That,  
In our bathroom,  
It's not the dirtiest  
Or the strongest  
Who stay longest?  
BUT  
It always seems to be  
The one who gets there  
Just ahead  
Of me.

Why is it  
That people fret  
When they are wet,  
With loud cries  
And soap in their eyes  
And agonized howls,  
Because they forget  
Their towels?

Why is it that –  
When I'M in the bath,  
Steaming and dreaming,  
My toes just showing  
And the hot water flowing,  
That other people  
Yell and say,  
'are you there to stay  
Or just on a visit'.

**7/8 Years: Nil by Nil by Lindsey Macrae**

I've been sent to my room.  
It's really boring.  
I've un-made my bed,  
Kicked the door in,  
And counted the squares  
On the child-proof flooring.  
I can just hear the match  
But not who's scoring  
And outside the miserable rain  
Is pouring  
'You can come out now,' shouts Dad  
I ignore him  
Cos inside the miserable sulk  
Is gnawing  
But I'm too cross to read  
Or do a drawing  
So I creep downstairs  
And catch Man U scoring.  
My heavy heart  
Is suddenly souring.  
Like the fans in the stands  
We hold hands  
And start roaring  
We leap in the air  
Call a truce to our warring.  
So there we are roaring  
Hearts soaring  
About scoring ...  
When the ref decides  
It's offside.

**7/8 Years: *The plight of the bumblebee* by Valerie Bloom**

I can't make honey any more,  
I've given up tasting nectar,  
Yesterday I lost my job  
As chief pollen collector.

I've done with flying from flower to flower,  
Given up smelling the rose,  
The perfume from the hyacinth  
Now just gets up my nose.

I've just been expelled from the hive,  
And I'm going now to pack,  
The queen said that they don't need me,  
There's something that I lack.

It's not my sting, my stripe, my wing,  
Which makes me an underachiever,  
The thing that's really hampering me,  
Is that I've got hay fever.

**7/8 Years: *Picnic* by Judith Nicholls**

George, lend a hand  
And spread that cloth,  
The sand is everywhere!  
Just look at that,  
You'd never think  
It took hours to prepare!

WAKE UP, GRAMPO!  
Your food's all out,  
Get it while you can!  
Have a lemonade before  
It warms in the sun.

WHAT IS IT, MUM?

There's.....

Ham with sand  
And Spam with sand,  
There's chicken paste  
And lamb with sand;  
Oranges, bananas,  
Lemonade or tea;  
Bread with sand  
All spread with sand –  
At least the sand comes free!  
We've crisps with sand  
It's grand with lunch or tea –  
Crunch it up,  
Enjoy it, love,  
At least we're by the sea!



**9/10 Years: *Grandad's Snoring is Getting Boring* by Lindsay Macrae**

Grandad is snoring  
 I can hear my  
 Granny screaming  
 SHUT UP WILL YOU!  
 And he will  
 Shut up  
 Turn over .....

And start again  
 Grandad is snoring  
 It fills the dark house  
 Like the lonely  
 Mating call  
 Of a lovesick  
 Llama  
 Grandad is snoring  
 My brother  
 Wraps his head  
 In a pillow  
 Like a beefburger  
 In a bun  
 Grandad is snoring  
 My mother  
 Stomps into  
 The bathroom  
 Snaps on  
 The light  
 And brushes her teeth  
 Again.  
 Grandad is snoring  
 It is enough  
 To wake  
 The dead  
 But not enough  
 To wake  
 Grandad  
 And in  
 The morning  
 Exhausted and  
 Yawning  
 Feeling more  
 Like a lilo  
 With a puncture  
 Than a  
 Human being  
 I say:  
 Grandad

D'you know  
 That last night  
 You were snoring  
 And he says  
 Perkily  
 Nonsense  
 I NEVER  
 S N O R E  
 You must  
 Have been  
 Dreaming.

**9/10 Years: *The Car Trip* by Michael  
Rosen**

**(THIS IS AN EXCERPT PLEASE USE THIS  
VERSION ONLY)**

Mum says:

'right, you two,  
This is a very long car journey.  
I want you two to be good.  
I'm driving and I can't drive properly  
If you two are going mad in the back.  
Do you understand?

So we say,  
'OK Mum, OK. Don't worry,'  
And off we go.

And we start The Moaning:

Can I have a drink?  
I want some crisps,  
Can I open my window?  
He's got my book.  
Get off me.  
Ow, that's my ear!

And we go on with The Moaning:

Can I have a sweet?  
He's sitting on me  
Are we nearly there?  
Don't scratch.  
You never tell him off.  
Now he's biting his nails,  
I want a drink I want a drink.  
And Mum says:  
'Right I'm stopping the car  
I AM STOPPING THE CAR.'

She stops the car.

'Now, if you two don't stop it I'm going to  
put you out the car  
And leave you by the side of the road.'

He started it.

I didn't. He started it.

'I don't care who started it  
I can't drive properly  
If you two go mad in the back.  
Do you understand?'

And we say:  
OK, Mum, OK, don't worry.  
Can I have a drink?

**9/10 Years: *Twin Trouble* by Anne Harvey**

Una and Ursula,  
Identical Twins,  
Can't tell them apart,  
They're alike as two pins.  
They'll tell you that Una  
Parts her hair on the right.  
And then you'll discover  
It's changed overnight.  
'This one's me', says Ursula,  
'My ribbon's red;'  
But next day she'll trick you  
With a green one instead  
They tease all the teachers  
By changing their places,  
And even their parents  
Look hard at both faces.  
'I'm me....ME! says Ursula.  
'You're not! You are YOU.  
And I'm ME!' declares Una,  
I'm Me through and through!  
Then they say 'We're two U's  
With UNUSUAL names,  
And we love to confuse YOU  
With our tricks, jokes and games!

'We are US!' they agree,  
'As alike as two pins,  
Una and Ursula,  
Identical Twins.

**11/12 Years: *The Drama Lesson* by Gareth Owen  
(please note this is an excerpt and only use as below)**

'Let's see some super shapes you Blue Group.'  
Mr Lavender shouts down the hall.  
'And forests don't forget your trembly leaves  
And stand up straight and tall.'

But Phillip Chubb is in our group  
And he wants to be Robin Hood  
And Ann Boot is sulking because she's not with  
Her friend  
And I don't see why I should be wood.

The lights are switched on in the classrooms  
Outside the sky's nearly black,  
And the dining-hall smells of gravy and fat  
And Chubb has boils down his back!

Sir tells him straight that he's got to be tree  
But he won't wave his arms around.  
'How can I wave my branches, Sir,  
Friar Tuck has chopped them all down.'

Then I come cantering through Sherwood  
To set Maid Marion free  
And I really believe I'm Robin Hood  
And the Sheriff's my enemy.

At my back my trusty longbow  
My broadsword clanks at my side,  
My outlaws gallop behind me  
As into adventure we ride.

'Untie that maid you villain,' I shout  
With all the strength I have,  
But the tree has got bored and is picking his nose  
And Maid Marion has gone to the lav.

After rehearsals, Sir calls us together  
And each group performs their play,  
But just as it comes to our turn  
The bell goes for the end of the day.

**11/12 Years: *Kisses* by Ian Souter**  
**(please feel free to change gender of 'favourite boy')**

Last week

My face was smothered in kisses

Yes – KISSES!

First there was the dribbly-wibbly kiss

When Mum slurped all over me

Like an eight mouthed octopus ('There's my favourite  
Boy!')

Then there was the lipstick-redstick kiss

When my aunty's rosy lips

Painted themselves on my cheeks (isn't he so handsome!)

Next came the flutter-eye, butterfly kiss

When my girlfriend smoochy-cooched

And fluttered her eyelashes at the same time.

(OOOOOOOH!)

After that there was the soggy-doggy kiss

When our pet Labrador Sally

Tried to lick my face off. (Slop! Slop! Woof!)

Following that there was 'watch out here I come' miss-kiss

When my little sister aimed for me

But missed and kissed the cat instead.

('UUUUUUUUUUURGH!')

Then there was the spectacular-Dracular kiss

When my cousin Isabel leapt from behind the shower

Curtain

And attacked my neck. (AAAAAAAAAAAAAGH SUCK!')

Of course, there was the 'ssssssssh don't tell anyone'

Self-kiss

When I looked in the bathroom mirror

And kissed myself. (Once was enough!

But the unbeatable, second to none, zing-dinger of a kiss

Came from Gran.

It was a lipsucking, cheek plucking, Donald Ducking,

SMAKEROONY OF A KISS. (She'd forgotten to put

Her teeth in!)

**11/12 Years: *The Nose* By Iain Crichton Smith  
(after Gogal)**

The nose went away by itself  
In the early morning  
While its owner was asleep.  
It walked along the road  
Sniffing at everything.

It thought 'I have a personality of my own  
Why should I be attached to a body?'  
I haven't been allowed to flower.  
So much of me has been wasted.'

And it felt wholly free.  
It almost began to dance  
The world was so full of scents  
It had had no time to notice,

When it was attached to a face  
Weeping, being blown,  
Catching all sorts of germs  
And changing colour.

But now it was quite at ease  
Bowling merrily along  
Like a hoop or a wheel,  
A factory packed with scent.

And all would have been well  
But that, round about evening,  
Having no eyes for guides,  
It staggered into the path of a mouth,  
And it was gobbled

Rapidly like a sausage  
And chewed by great sour teeth –  
And that was how it died.



# NORTH LONDON FESTIVAL OF MUSIC, SPEECH & DRAMA

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For venues, a full list of competitions and an online entry form, visit

[www.northlondonfestival.org.uk](http://www.northlondonfestival.org.uk)

or email: [enquiriesnlf@outlook.com](mailto:enquiriesnlf@outlook.com)