

Speech

2024 Contest Season

Activity Update

Important Dates

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Participation Fee Deadline

June 5

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Speech Workshop

September 13

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Contest Entries Deadline

September 30

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Final Entry Deadline

October 10

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Performer information must be submitted by

October 14

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Contest Dates

November 1, 2, 8, 9, 15,
or 16 (Date selected by
host)



New for the 2024 Season

A participation fee must be submitted by June 5 for those schools who will be participating in the Fall contest. The \$25.00 fee will be used to secure a place for your school in a contest area. This does not replace your contest entry fee which will still be submitted in September. Please make sure that your Athletic Director is aware of this requirement.

- A new adjudication form will be piloted this upcoming contest season. The new form will be more of a point-based rubric and will only be used for Small Group Acting. The Committee hopes that this will be easier for judges and coaches to interpret.
- Speech areas for the 2024 season are based on the participation from the previous year.
- The host rotation schedule is available online. Please check to see when your school is slotted to host. If you are not able to host during your assigned year, please work with your contest area to secure a host in your place.
- As a reminder, individual contestants may not perform the same selection in multiple events or in more than one IESA state contest. Schools are encouraged to limit the number of groups using the same selection.



Team Improv Information

Reminders for Team Improv.

- Groups for Team Improv are comprised of 4 to 6 performers.
- Groups may use a maximum of five chairs for the event.
- Game topics supplied by the IESA to the judges. The judges will select three games to be played from the list. Games and descriptions are available online.
- For each game performed by a team, the judge will select the students who will participate.
- The time limit for the event is a maximum of 12 minutes. Time will be controlled by the judge.
- If you are hosting contest, please make sure you are assigning Team Improv events to judges who are comfortable evaluating the event.
- Games for 2024: Hitchhiker, Freeze/Switch, The Brain, Line Talk, and Movie Critics
- **To be eligible for Team Improv, students must also perform a scripted event. This only applies to Team Improv.**

Individual Limitations

Please make sure that you review the individual limitations prior to preparing students for contest.

Qualified students are eligible to participate in the IESA State Speech Contest in any combination of up to three (3) events. Students may participate in multiple performances in the same scripted event within the maximum. Improvisational events will only be allowed one entry in the same event per performer. To be eligible to participate in Team Improv, students must also perform a scripted event.

Students are now allowed to perform in two or three of the same scripted events- i.e. two regular duets, two solo acting, etc.- as long as the scripts are different.

Please keep in mind that this only applies to scripted events and does not apply to non-scripted events. For example, a student could not perform in two Improv Duets.



Introductions

The judge will begin timing with the first spoken word- including the title, author, and introduction- or stage movement. An introduction is not required; but if it is included by the performers, it will be added to the total performance time. If an introduction is not given and the judge asks for the performer's names, this will not be included in the total time.

Please keep this in mind when preparing your students for contest.



Legal Participant Changes

It is the week of contest and you find out that one of your students who was a part of a small group is going to be out of town. What do you do?

First, divide whether you want the group to be able to perform legally, be rated, and receive awards OR if you just want the group to have the opportunity to perform for a judge and audience WITH NO RATING OR AWARDS.

If they are going to perform legally, you must find a legal replacement for the group. This means someone who is not performing the same selection and who will not exceed the three-event maximum. If your group is already meeting the group participant requirements, you could reconfigure the speaking parts and still be eligible for a rating.

Keep in mind that to be eligible for awards: You cannot have someone read the missing part; nor, can you insert a student who is not eligible to perform.

If you find yourself in this position, please call the IESA Office to discuss possible options.

Props

Contestants are allowed to interact with audience members without this being considered the introduction of a prop. This would include dialogue and/or physical contact.

Please make sure that you review the allowable props for all events. The IESA Board of Directors has imposed a restriction on the use of chairs and tables. Students may not stand on tables or chairs during performances. Adjust your scripts to comply with this rule.

Parts of the body are not considered props. A student could touch their hair during their performance and not be in violation of the rules.

It is possible that clothes or jewelry could be considered a prop. If the clothes or jewelry are referred to in the presentation or representative of the piece, they would be a considered costume/prop and the performance would be penalized accordingly.

Performing Arts Recognition Program

Congratulations to the 2024 award winners! Deanna Clark, Roanoke-Benson (Distinguished Service), Heather Muzzarelli, Gardner (Class Act), and Shayla Grantham (Ken Bradbury Award).

Nominations materials will be available in the Fall. Those eligible for the Distinguished Service award must have been coaching for over 8 years and actively involved in IESA Speech. Those eligible for the Class Act Award must have been coaching for 3-8 years. Please take some time this Fall to nominate a coach for these awards!

