



ROYAL SOUTH STREET SOCIETY
BALLARAT EISTEDDFOD



ACU Speech, Drama & Comedy 2026

Schedule of Sections

Monday 24 August to Friday 28 August

(Subject to entries)

VENUE:

Australian Catholic University (ACU)
Connors Hall
1200 Mair Street, Ballarat

SECTION CHAIR

Kris Carroll

SUB COMMITTEE

Zoe James, Alexandra Meerbach, Rachael Shelton, Tammy Vandenberg, Mika Wallace,

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SECTIONS

UNDER 8 YEARS

- 600 NURSERY RHYME OR RHYME ~ Entry Fee \$15**
- Memorised recitation of a poem or Nursery Rhyme.
 - Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
 - Printed copy of the piece must be submitted on registration. To be used by adjudicator to check accuracy and prompt if needed. · Time limit: 2 minutes
 - Prizes: Medals First, Second & Third. HM & HC Ribbons

UNDER 10 YEARS

- 610 POETRY RECITAL~ Entry Fee \$18**
- Memorised recitation of a Poem.
 - Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
 - Printed copy of the piece must be submitted on registration. To be used by adjudicator to check accuracy and prompt if needed.
 - Time Limit: 2 minutes
 - Prizes: Medals First, Second & Third. HM & HC Ribbons

611 PREPARED READING OF OWN CHOICE ~ Entry Fee \$18

- Reading of an excerpt from a Novel.
- **Prepared reading**- performers must read from the text (Book or printed excerpt) during the performance.
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- **Prepared Reading**- No script needs to be handed in.
- Time Limit: 2 minutes
- Prizes: Medals First, Second & Third. HM & HC Ribbons

612 ROALD DAHL CHARACTER IN COSTUME ~ Entry Fee \$18

- Memorised performance of any character selected from Roald Dahl's stories.
- Attire: Costume appropriate to chosen character. Closed toed shoes.
- No penalty for no costume however points **WILL** be awarded for costume.
- Small props that can be carried onto and off the stage by performers can be used.
- Printed copy of the piece must be submitted on registration. To be used by adjudicator to check accuracy and prompt if needed.
- Time Limit: 2 Minutes
- Prizes: Medals First, Second & Third. HM & HC Ribbons

613 IMPROMPTU MIME ~ Entry Fee \$18

- **Improvisation**- performers **silently** tell a story using their face and body.
- Performers will be given a choice of three subjects.
- All performers must be present at the commencement of this section
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Preparation time: 30 seconds
- Time Limit: 1 minute. A warning bell will sound at 30 seconds and a double bell will sound at 1 minute.
- Prizes: Medals First, Second & Third. HM & HC Ribbons

614 POEM FOR TWO ~ Entry Fee \$18

- Two performers share the reading of a poem – must also include some unison work
- **Prepared reading**- performers must read from the text during the performance.
- The text may be held by each performer.
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Printed copy of the piece must be submitted on registration. To be used by adjudicator to check accuracy and prompt if needed.
- Time Limit: 3 minutes
- Prizes: Medals First, Second & Third. HM & HC Ribbons

Special Awards for Under 10 Years

THE KAVAL FAMILY AGGREGATE PRIZE: \$30 and a trophy will be awarded to the performer with the highest combined points scored in sections 610, 611, 612 & 613 using the aggregate scoring method. (General Rule 7.3)

UNDER 12 YEARS

Medals kindly donated by the Margery James Trust Fund for the Under 12 section.

620 POETRY RECITAL~ Entry Fee \$20

- Memorised recitation of a Poem
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Printed copy of the piece must be submitted on registration. To be used by adjudicator to check accuracy and prompt if needed.
- Time Limit: 2 Minutes
- Prizes: Medals First, Second & Third. HM & HC Ribbons

621 PREPARED READING OF OWN CHOICE ~ Entry Fee \$20

- Reading of an excerpt from a Novel.
- **Prepared reading-** performers must read from the text (Book or printed excerpt) during the performance.
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- **Prepared reading-** No script needs to be handed in.
- Time Limit: 2 minutes
- Prizes: Medals First, Second & Third. HM & HC Ribbons

622 CHARACTER PERFORMANCE ~ Entry Fee \$20

- Memorised performance of a character.
- Characters should be located within an imagined scene
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Small props that can be carried onto and off the stage by performers can be used.
- Printed copy of the piece must be submitted on registration. To be used by adjudicator to check accuracy and prompt if needed.
- Time Limit: 2 minutes
- Prizes: Medals First, Second & Third. HM & HC Ribbons

623 IMPROVISATION WITH OBJECT ~ Entry Fee \$20

- While this is first and foremost a section encouraging a movement based improvisation with an object, the object may be used to prompt an improvisation in a story telling genre. Performers will have a choice of three physical objects; they choose one with which to develop their improvisation on stage. The object may be believably transformed eg: a wooden spoon may become a wand.
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Preparation time: 30 seconds
- Time Limit: 2 minutes. A warning bell will be rung at 1 minute 30 seconds.
- Prizes: Medals First, Second & Third. HM & HC Ribbons

624 DEvised FAIRYTALE CHARACTER IN COSTUME ~ Entry Fee \$20

- Any character from a fairy tale, fable, legend, or myth, or similar, in a scene that differs from their original story. The character may be presented in any context (not necessarily in the context of the original story) but must be recognisable as coming from a fairy-tale (e.g., the witch from Snow White is not the same as the witch in Hansel & Gretel.)
 - This piece **must** be the original and devised by the performer.
 - Attire: Costume appropriate to chosen character.
 - No penalty for no costume however points **WILL** be awarded for costume.
 - Small props that can be carried onto and off the stage by performers can be used.
 - **Prepared Improvisation**- No script needs to be handed in.
 - Time Limit: 2 minutes
 - Prizes: Medals First, Second & Third. HM & HC Ribbons

625 POEM FOR TWO ~ Entry Fee \$20

- Two performers share the reading of a poem – must also include some unison work
- **Prepared reading**- performers must read from the text during the performance.
- The text can be held by each performer, or a music stand will be available.
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Printed copy of the piece must be submitted on registration. To be used by adjudicator to check accuracy and prompt if needed.
- Time Limit: 3 minutes
- Prizes: Medals First, Second & Third. HM & HC Ribbons

Special Awards Under 12 Years

SALLY VAWDREY MEMORIAL PRIZE

- The six performers with the highest combined scores across sections 620, 621, and 622, provided they have competed in at least two of these sections, are invited to compete for the Sally Vawdrey Memorial Prize.
- This is awarded to the performer who, according to the adjudicator, performs best in a short impromptu poetry reading. The poem will be selected by the committee/adjudicator.
- Performers will be given one minute to look over the poem prior to beginning.
- Appropriate allowances will be made for children with reading disabilities.
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Prize Money for this award kindly donated by families of Ballarat & Queens Anglican Grammar School.
- Prizes: First \$100, Second \$50 & Third \$25

ACU AGGREGATE PRIZE

- \$40 prize money will be awarded to the performer who is the winner of sections 620-624 using the aggregate scoring method. (General Rule 6.3)

ACU ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD

- \$30 prize money will be awarded at the discretion of the adjudicator, to the performer who has not placed first, second or third in any solo section and is worthy of encouragement.

UNDER 14 YEARS

630 POETRY RECITAL~ Entry Fee \$22

- Memorised recitation of a Poem
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Printed copy of the piece must be submitted on registration. To be used by adjudicator to check accuracy and prompt if needed.
- Time Limit: 3 minutes
- Prizes: First \$25 + Medal, Second & Third Medals. HM & HC Ribbons
- Prize money donated by the Adam Lindsay Gordon Memorial Fund.

631 PREPARED READING OF OWN CHOICE ~ Entry Fee \$22

- Reading of an excerpt from a Novel.
- **Prepared reading-** performers must read from the text (Book or printed excerpt) during the performance.
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- **Prepared reading-** No script needs to be handed in.
- Time Limit: 3 minutes
- Prizes: First \$25 + Medal, Second & Third Medals. HM & HC Ribbons
- Prize money donated by the Adam Lindsay Gordon Memorial Fund.

632 CHARACTER PERFORMANCE~ Entry Fee \$22

- Memorised performance of a character.
- Characters should be located within an imagined scene.
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Small props that can be carried onto and off the stage by performers can be used.
- Printed copy of the piece must be submitted on registration. To be used by adjudicator to check accuracy and prompt if needed.
- Time Limit: 3 minutes
- Prizes: First \$25 + Medal, Second & Third Medals. HM & HC Ribbons
- Prize money donated by the Adam Lindsay Gordon Memorial Fund.

633 IMPROVISATION BASED ON A HAT ~ Entry Fee \$22

- Performers will select a hat from behind stage and are required to develop an improvisation around the hat.
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Preparation time: 30 seconds
- Time Limit: 2 minutes. A warning bell will sound at 1 minute 30 seconds
- Prizes: Margery James Trust Fund First \$25 + Medal, Second & Third Medals. HM & HC Ribbons

634 DEVISED FAIRYTALE CHARACTER IN COSTUME ~ Entry Fee \$22

- Any character from a fairy tale, fable, legend, or myth, or similar, in a scene that differs from the original story. The character may be presented in any context (not necessarily in the context of the original story) but must be recognisable as coming from a fairy-tale (e.g., the witch from Snow White is not the same as the witch in Hansel & Gretel.)
- This piece **must** be an original and devised by the performer.
- Attire: Costume appropriate to chosen character.
- No penalty for no costume however points **WILL** be awarded for costume.
- Small props that can be carried onto and off the stage by performers can be used.
- **Prepared Improvisation-** No script needs to be handed in.
- Time Limit: 2 minutes
- Prizes: First \$25 + Medal, Second & Third Medals. HM & HC Ribbons
- Prize money donated by the Adam Lindsay Gordon Memorial Fund.

635 POEM FOR TWO ~ Entry Fee \$22

- Two performers share the reading of a poem – must also include some unison work.
- **Prepared reading-** performers must read from the text during the performance.
- The text can be held by each performer, or a music stand will be available.
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Printed copy of the piece must be submitted on registration. To be used by adjudicator to check accuracy and prompt if needed.
- Time Limit: 3 minutes
- Prizes: Margery James Trust Fund First \$30 + Medal, Second & Third Medals. HM & HC Ribbons

637 PREPARED SPEECH ~ Entry Fee \$22

- Own selection of topic.
- **Performers must write their own speeches;** Information taken from the internet and other sources must be appropriately acknowledged.
- Each speech will be followed by a 2 minute Q&A with the adjudicator on the presented topic. This does not count toward the total time limit.
- Attire: School Uniform **OR** Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Time Limit: 4 minutes.
- Prizes: Margery James Trust Fund First \$25 + Medal; Second & Third Medals. HM & HC Ribbons

638 IMPROMPTU SPEECH ~ Entry Fee \$22

- Performers will have a choice of three topics chosen by the adjudicator.
- Attire: School Uniform **OR** Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- All performers must be present at the commencement of this section
- Provide own cards and pen, and performers are welcome to use notes created during their preparation time.
- Phones or smart device to be placed on stage managers desk whilst preparing and performing.
- Preparation time to be supervised by timer.
- Preparation time: 1 minute
- Time Limit: Minimum 1 Minute – Maximum 2 minutes
- A bell will be rung at 1 minute and a double bell will be rung at 2 minutes
- Prizes: Margery James Trust Fund First \$25 + Medal, Second & Third Medals. HM & HC Ribbons

Special Awards for Under 14 Years

LEANNE McINNIS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ~ Entry Fee \$22

- Two items to be performed in the order of the performers choosing.
- Item 1: a memorised performance of a lyric poem
- Item 2: **Either** a memorised performance of an excerpt from a novel containing either, or both, narrative text and dialogue from one or more characters **or** a character performance.
- Contrast between the selected pieces is advised. (Eg. Differing mood, themes, language, time period etc.)
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Small props that can be carried onto and off the stage by performers can be used.
- Printed copy of both pieces must be submitted on registration. To be used by adjudicator to check accuracy and prompt if needed.
- Time Limit: 5 minutes overall
- Cash Prizes donated by the Leanne McInnis Memorial Fund
- Prizes: First \$100 + Trophy. 2nd and 3rd Medals, HM & HC Ribbons
- Trophy donated on behalf of Mr Brian McInnis in memory of his daughter Leanne.

THE MR & MRS RON & MONICA MORGAN AGGREGATE PRIZE

- \$50 will be awarded to the performer who is the winner of Sections 630 - 634, 637 & 638 using the aggregate scoring method (General rule 6.3)

ACU ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD

- \$40 will be awarded to a performer in sections 630 - 634, 637 & 638, who has not placed first, second or third in a solo item and who is determined by the adjudicator as worthy of encouragement.

THE JODI TOERING CREATIVE AWARD

- \$50 will be awarded to a performer in sections 630 & 631 with the highest combined score, using the aggregate scoring method (General Rule 6.3).

UNDER 16 YEARS

640 POETRY RECITAL~ Entry Fee \$24

- Memorised recitation of any Poem
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Printed copy of the piece must be submitted on registration. To be used by adjudicator to check accuracy and prompt if needed.
- Time Limit: 3 minutes
- Prizes: Margery James Trust Fund First \$30 + Medal, Second & Third Medals. HM & HC Ribbons

640 POETRY RECITAL~ Entry Fee \$24

- Memorised recitation from the works of Adam Lindsay Gordon, Banjo Petterson, Henry Lawson.
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Printed copy of the piece must be submitted on registration. To be used by adjudicator to check accuracy and prompt if needed.
- Time Limit: 3 minutes
- Prizes: Margery James Trust Fund First \$30 + Medal, Second & Third Medals. HM & HC Ribbons

641 PREPARED READING OF OWN CHOICE ~ Entry Fee \$24

- Reading of an excerpt from a Novel.
- **Prepared reading-** performers must read from the text (Book or printed excerpt) during the performance.
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- **Prepared reading-** No script needs to be handed in.
- Time Limit: 3 minutes
- Prizes: Margery James Trust Fund First \$30 + Medal, Second & Third Medals. HM & HC Ribbons

642 CHARACTER PERFORMANCE Entry Fee \$24

- Memorised performance of a character.
- Characters should be located within an imagined scene
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Small props that can be carried onto and off the stage by performers can be used.
- Printed copy of the piece must be submitted on registration. To be used by adjudicator to check accuracy and prompt if needed.
- Time Limit: 3 minutes
- Prizes: Margery James Trust Fund First \$30 + Medal, Second & Third Medals. HM & HC Ribbons

**643 IMPROVISATION BASED ON A LINE OF PREVIOUSLY UNSEEN DIALOGUE -
“PULLED OUT OF A HAT” ~ Entry Fee \$24**

- A range of different lines of dialogue, provided by the adjudicator, will be in a hat; each performer will choose one, 30 seconds before performing.
- Performers must use the line of dialogue, exactly, at some point during the improvised scene.
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Preparation time: 30 seconds, followed by commencement bell.
- Time Limit: 2 minutes
- A warning bell will sound at 1 minute 30 seconds
- Prizes: Margery James Trust Fund First \$30 + Medal, Second & Third Medals. HM & HC Ribbons

644 IMPROMPTU WEATHER FORECASTER IN COSTUME ~ ENTRY FEE \$24

- Performers present the weather in character- (this is a character of their own choice and does not need to be a ‘traditional’ weather forecaster)
- Preparing a news-like intro, outro and ideas to react to the weather script provided is advised- though performers are free to fully improvise around the script if they prefer.
- A script, map and pointer will be provided.(scripts/prompts provided by adjudicator).
- *The task requires performers to read, refer to the map, and engage with the audience while maintaining character.
- Attire: Costume appropriate to chosen character.
- No penalty for no costume however points **WILL** be awarded for costume.
- Time Limit: 3 minutes, with 30 seconds preparation time. A commencement bell will sound at the start, and a warning bell at 2 minutes 30 seconds.
- Prizes: Margery James Trust Fund First \$30 + Medal, Second & Third Medals. HM & HC Ribbons

645 POEM FOR TWO ~ Entry Fee \$24

- Two performers share the reading of a poem – must also include some unison work.
- **Prepared reading-** performers must read from the text during the performance.
- The text can be held by each performer, or a music stand will be available to those wishing to use it.
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Printed copy of the piece must be submitted on registration. To be used by adjudicator to check accuracy and prompt if needed.
- Time Limit: 4 minutes
- Prizes: Margery James Trust Fund First \$40 + Medal, Second & Third Medals. HM & HC Ribbons

646 IMPROMPTU READING ~ Entry Fee \$24

- Selection of Prose, selected by the adjudicator.
- Reading of an excerpt from a Novel.
- The provided text will be typed out or copied from the original source and blown up to a larger size of text.
- All performers must be present at the commencement of the section
- Preparation time; 30 seconds then commence bell will ring.
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Time Limit: 4 minutes

- Prizes: Margery James Trust Fund First \$30 + Medal, Second & Third Medals. HM & HC Ribbons
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647 BALLARAT NATIONAL THEATRE PRIZE ~ Entry Fee \$24

- Taking Direction as an Actor
- Performers prepare a monologue of not more than one minute in length.
- Immediately after performing this monologue the performer will be given a prompt from the adjudicator and must perform the monologue again, applying the direction of the prompt.
- Performers can use the prompt to change their actions and to alter the meaning of the original text however are not to change the dialogue to fit the situation.
- Examples of prompts might be: Busting to go to the bathroom; in love with the chair; you can only shout or whisper (to be provided by adjudicator).
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Printed copy of the monologue must be submitted on registration. To be used by adjudicator to check accuracy and prompt if needed.
- Prizes: First \$100, Second \$50, Third \$25. HM & HC Ribbons

648 PREPARED SPEECH~ Entry Fee \$24

- Own selection of topic.
- Speech may be memorised or presented using cue cards.
- **Performers must write their own speeches;** Information taken from the internet and other sources must be appropriately acknowledged.
- Each speech will be followed by a 2 minute Q&A with the adjudicator on the presented topic. This does not count toward the time limit.
- Phones or smart device to be placed on stage managers desk whilst preparing and performing.
- Preparation time to be supervised by timer.
- Attire: School Uniform **OR** Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Time Limit: Minimum 4 minutes Maximum 6 minutes
- Prizes: Margery James Trust Fund First \$30 + Medal, Second & Third Medals. HM & HC Ribbons

649 IMPROMPTU SPEECH ~ Entry Fee \$24

- Performers will have a choice of three topics chosen by the adjudicator.
- Attire: School Uniform **OR** Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- All performers must be present at the commencement of this section
- Performer to provide own cards and pen, and performers are welcome to use notes created during their preparation time.
- Preparation Time: 1 Minute.
- Time Limit: Minimum 2 minutes Maximum 3 minutes
- A bell will be rung at 2 minutes and a double bell will be rung at 3 minutes
- Prizes: Margery James Trust Fund First \$30 + Medal, Second & Third Medals. HM & HC Ribbons

Special Awards for Under 16 Years

W S HOOPER AGGREGATE PRIZE

- \$60 will be awarded to the performer who secures the highest number of points in sections 640-644, 646 - 649, using the aggregate scoring method (General Rule 7.3)

ACU SPEECH PRIZE

- \$40 awarded to a performer in sections 648 & 649 combined highest point scores.

ACU ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD

- \$40 will be awarded to performer in sections 640-644, 646 - 649, who has not placed first, second or third in a solo item and who is determined by the adjudicator is worthy of encouragement.

SENIOR DIVISION

Performers must be 14 years of age or over

650 MEMORISED FREE VERSE ~ Entry Fee \$25

- Including rap and spoken word poetry.
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Printed copy of the piece must be submitted on registration. To be used by adjudicator to check accuracy and prompt if needed.
- This section and sections 655 & 657 form the eligibility for the WS Hooper poetry prize (minimum 2 eligible sections must be performed).
- Time Limit: 5 minutes
- Prizes: \$40 + Medal, Second & Third Medals. HM & HC Ribbons

651 READING ON THE THEME OF HOPE Entry Fee \$25

- Reading of an excerpt from a Novel, where 'Hope' is a dominant image, environment, or symbol.
- **Prepared reading-** performers must read from the text (Book or printed excerpt) during the performance.
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- **Prepared reading-** No script needs to be handed in.
- Time Limit: 4 minutes
- Prizes: \$40 + Medal, Second & Third Medals. HM & HC Ribbons

652 CHARACTER PERFORMANCE (not Shakespeare)~ Entry Fee \$25

- Memorised performance of a character (not Shakespeare).
- Characters should be located within an imagined scene
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Small props that can be carried onto and off the stage by performers can be used.
- Printed copy of the piece must be submitted on registration. To be used by adjudicator to check accuracy and prompt if needed.
- This section and 653 & 6567 form the eligibility for the Margery James Trust Fund Louie Dunn Prize. (minimum 2 eligible sections must be performed).
- Time Limit: 5 minutes
- Prizes: \$40 + Medal, Second & Third Medals. HM & HC Ribbons

653 IMPROVISATION SET IN AN UNUSUAL LOCATION Entry Fee \$25

- A location will be provided by the adjudicator and be drawn from a hat
- The performer bases their improvisation on the location drawn
- Examples of locations are in a dog's ear; in a lead pipe; under a shoe
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- This section and 652 & 656 form the eligibility for the Margery James Trust Fund Louie Dunn Prize. (minimum 2 eligible sections must be performed).
- Time Limit: 3 minutes with a warning bell will sound at 2 minutes
- Prizes: \$40 + Medal, Second & Third Medals. HM & HC Ribbons

654 A FAIRYTALE CHARACTER, DEVISED, IN COSTUME ~ Entry Fee \$25

- Any character from a fairy tale, fable, legend, or myth, or similar, in a scene that differs from the original story. The character may be presented in any context (not necessarily in the context of the original story) but must be recognisable as coming from a fairy-tale (e.g., the witch from Snow White is not the same as the witch in Hansel & Gretel.)
- This piece **must** be the original and devised by the performer.
- Attire: Costume appropriate to chosen character.
- No penalty for no costume however points **WILL** be awarded for costume.
- Small props that can be carried onto and off the stage by performers can be used.
- **Prepared Improvisation-** No script needs to be handed in.
- Time Limit: 3 minutes
- Prizes: \$40 + Medal, Second & Third Medals. HM & HC Ribbon

**655 THE ALMA PURCELL EFFECTIVE READING FROM THE WORK OF AN AUSTRALIAN POET
Entry Fee ~ \$25**

- Reading of a poem by an Australian author.
- **Prepared reading-** performers must read from the text (Book or printed excerpt) during the performance.
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Printed copy of the piece must be submitted on registration. To be used by adjudicator to check accuracy and prompt if needed.
- This section and sections 650 & 657 form the eligibility for the WS Hooper poetry prize (minimum 2 eligible sections must be performed).
- Time Limit: 4 minutes
- Prizes: \$40 + Medal, Second & Third Medals. HM & HC Ribbons

656 SHAKESPEARIAN PERFORMANCE Entry Fee \$25

- Solo or Duo
- Memorised performance of a Shakespearian text or from an adaptation.
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Small props that can be carried onto and off the stage by performers can be used.
- Printed copy of the piece must be submitted on registration. To be used by adjudicator to check accuracy and prompt if needed.
- This section and 652 & 653 form the eligibility for the Margery James Trust Fund Louie Dunn Prize. (minimum 2 eligible sections must be performed).
-
- Time Limit: 4 minutes
- Prizes: \$40 + Medal, Second & Third Medals. HM & HC Ribbons

657 THE James Howard Memorial Poetry Recitation

- Memorised recitation from the works of Adam Lindsay Gordon, Banjo Paterson, Henry Lawson etc. (Australian bush poets only).
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Printed copy of the piece must be submitted on registration. To be used by adjudicator to check accuracy and prompt if needed.
- This section and sections 650 & 655 form the eligibility for the WS Hooper poetry prize (minimum 2 eligible sections must be performed).
- Time Limit: 4 minutes
- Prizes: Margery James Trust Fund First \$30 + Medal, Second & Third Medals. HM & HC Ribbons

658 PREPARED SPEECH ~ Entry Fee \$25

- Own selection of topic.
- Speech may be memorised or presented using cue cards.
- **Performers must write their own speeches**; Information taken from the internet and other sources must be appropriately acknowledged.
- Each speech will be followed by a 3 minute Q&A with the adjudicator on the presented topic. This does not count toward the time limit.
- Attire: School Uniform **OR** Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Time Limit: Minimum 4 minutes Maximum 6 minutes
- Prizes: \$40 + Medal, Second & Third Medals. HM & HC Ribbons

659 IMPROMPTU SPEECH ~ Entry Fee \$25

- Performers will have a choice of three topics chosen by the adjudicator.
- Attire: School Uniform **OR** Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- All performers must be present at the commencement of this section
- Performers to supply their own cards and pens, and performers are welcome to use notes created during their preparation time.
- Preparation Time: 1 minute
- Phones or smart device to be placed on stage managers desk whilst preparing and performing.
- Preparation time to be supervised by timer.
- Time Limit: Minimum 2 minutes maximum 3 minutes
- A bell will be rung at 2 minutes, and a double bell will be rung at 3 minutes
- Prizes: \$40 + Medal, Second & Third Medals. HM & HC Ribbons

THE LOUIE DUNN PRIZE

- The six performers who gain the highest total of points in sections 652, 653 & 656 provided they have competed in at least two of these sections will be invited to compete for the Louie Dunn Prize.
- Performers will perform **either** a memorised excerpt from a novel containing either, or both, narrative text and dialogue from one or more characters **or** a character performance (can involve one or more characters) which they have not presented by such finalist RSSS in the current year.
- Costume **NOT** permitted
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Small props that can be carried onto and off the stage by performers can be used.
- Printed copy of the piece must be submitted on registration. To be used by adjudicator to check accuracy and prompt if needed.
- Performers must have a prepared piece ready to be presented in order to qualify
- Performers must compete in both qualifying sections to be eligible to compete in this section.
- Time Limit: 6 minutes
- Prize money of \$500 plus trophy is generously supported by The Margery James Trust Fund. They will also receive a professional headshot photography session, generously sponsored by Rachael Coley Photography. This prize has been created to give our entrants the opportunity to take the next step in their careers by strengthening and elevating their professional portfolio.

Special Awards for Senior Division

THE IVY KEATES O.A.M AGGREGATE AWARD:

- \$150 will be awarded to the winner of sections 650-659 using the aggregate scoring method. (Rule 6.3). Prize gift of the former students, colleagues, friends and family of the late Ivy Keates, O.A.M.

W S HOOPER SENIOR POETRY PRIZE

- \$100 and trophy will be awarded to a performer in sections 650, 655 & 657 with the combined highest point scores from a minimum of two eligible sections.

ACU ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD

- \$60 will be awarded to performer in sections 650-659, who has not placed first, second or third in a solo item and who is determined by the adjudicator is worthy of encouragement.

GROUP SECTIONS

Speech & Drama Special Conditions apply.

660 ACTING IN PAIRS (Under 12) ~Entry Fee \$30

- Scene for two performers, original or published material may be used
- Attire: **Costume optional**. Costume appropriate to character or comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- No penalty for no costume however points **CAN** be awarded for costume.
- Small props that can be carried onto and off the stage by performers can be used
- Printed copy of the piece must be submitted on registration. To be used by adjudicator to check accuracy and prompt if needed.
- Time Limit: 3 minutes
- Prizes: Medals First, Second & Third. HM & HC Ribbons

661 ACTING IN PAIRS (Under 16) ~ Entry Fee \$30

- Scene for two performers, original or published material may be used
- Attire: **Costume optional**. Costume appropriate to character or comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- No penalty for no costume however points **CAN** be awarded for costume.
- Small props that can be carried onto and off the stage by performers can be used
- Printed copy of the piece must be submitted on registration. To be used by adjudicator to check accuracy and prompt if needed.
- Time Limit: 5 minutes
- Prizes: Medals First, Second & Third. HM & HC Ribbons

662 Scenes for 2 or more) ~ Entry Fee \$30

(Not Shakespeare – Shakespeare pairs should enter section 663 Shakespeare Recital)

- Scene for two performers, original or published material may be used
- Attire: Costume appropriate to character or comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- No penalty for no costume however points **CAN** be awarded for costume.
- Small props that can be carried onto and off the stage by performers can be used
- Printed copy of the piece must be submitted on registration. To be used by adjudicator to check accuracy and prompt if needed.
- Time Limit: 7 minutes for Duos or 10 minutes for 3 or more.
- Prizes: Medals First, Second & Third. HM & HC Ribbons

663 IMPROVISATION IN PAIRS (Open) ~ Entry Fee \$30

- Two performers create a scene of between one and two minutes in length, with 30 second planning time.
- Topics may include locations (e.g. at the beach), a line of dialogue (e.g. I told you not to), a situation (e.g. a bank robbery), or similar.
- Topics will be provided by the adjudicator, and will be randomly selected by each team, pulling their topic out of a hat.
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Time Limit: Two minutes; there will a warning bell at one minute.
- Prizes: Medals First, Second & Third. HM & HC Ribbons

664 A SCENE FOR 3 OR MORE performers (Open) ~ Entry Fee \$30

- Scene for three or more performers, original or published material may be used
- Attire: **Costume optional**. Costume appropriate to character or comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- No penalty for no costume however points **CAN** be awarded for costume.
- Small props that can be carried onto and off the stage by performers can be used.
- Printed copy of the piece must be submitted on registration. To be used by adjudicator to check accuracy and prompt if needed.
- Time Limit: 10 minutes
- Prizes: Medals First, Second & Third. HM & HC Ribbons

665 MONICA MORGAN PRIZE FOR CHORAL SPEAKING (Any Age) ~ Entry Fee \$30

- Group speaking of a text. This must include some unison work.
- Memorised, or read.
- Groups of two or more may enter- any groups with only 2 members **must** have at least one performer who is 16 years of age on January 1st. (Younger groups of 2 are encouraged to participate in their appropriate age group Poem for Two section.)
- Attire: Outfits appropriate to themes of selected pieces or comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Printed copy of the piece must be submitted on registration. To be used by adjudicator to check accuracy and prompt if needed.
- *This prize is in recognition of Monica Morgan's work as a Speech & Drama teacher in Ballarat over many years. Prize money kindly donated by her former pupil, Professor Jo O'Mara.*
- Time Limit: 5 minutes
- Prizes: First \$60, Second \$30, Third \$20. HM & HC Ribbons

666 IMPROVISATIONS: Death in a Minute (Year 8 at school and below) ~ Entry Fee \$30

- Explanation: The adjudicator provides the location and one occupation
- The group must begin their improvisation immediately, with one performer adopting the occupation, and the group using the location appropriately. The improvisation can last no longer than one minute and must conclude with the “death “of one member only of the group.
- Groups will be adjudicated on their timing, interactions, creativity and ensemble work.
- Up to four people per group.
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Time Limit: 1 minute
- Prizes: Medals First, Second & Third. HM & HC Ribbons

667 IMPROVISATIONS: Death in a Minute (Open) ~ Entry Fee \$30

- Explanation: The adjudicator provides the location and one occupation
- The group must begin their improvisation immediately, with one performer adopting the occupation, and the group using the location appropriately. The improvisation can last no longer than one minute and must conclude with the “death “of one member only of the group.
- Groups will be adjudicated on their timing, interactions, creativity and ensemble work.
- Up to four people per group.
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Time Limit: 1 minute
- Prizes: Medals First, Second & Third. HM & HC Ribbons

668 IMPROVISATION (Year 8 at school and below) ~ Entry Fee \$30

- Explanation: Each team enters the stage and draws a topic provided by adjudicator from a hat.
- Topics may include locations (e.g. at the beach), a line of dialogue (e.g. I told you not to), a situation (e.g. a bank robbery), or similar
- Groups must begin immediately to establish and develop a scene
- Groups will be adjudicated on their interactions, particularly their ability to offer and accept offers, imagination and ensemble work.
- 4 people per group
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Time Limit: 3 minutes. A warning bell will be rung at 2 minutes.
- Prizes: Medals First, Second & Third. HM & HC Ribbons

669 IMPROVISATION (Open) ~ Entry Fee \$30

- Explanation: Each team enters the stage and draws a topic provided by adjudicator from a hat.
- Topics may include locations (e.g., At the beach), a line of dialogue (e.g. I told you not to), a situation (e.g. A bank robbery), or similar
- Groups must begin immediately to establish and develop a scene
- Groups will be adjudicated on their interactions, particularly their ability to offer and accept offers’ imagination and ensemble work.
- Four (4) people per group
- Attire: Comfortable black clothes with no logos. Closed toed shoes, any colour.
- Time Limit: 3 minutes A warning bell will be rung at 2 minutes.
- Prizes: Medals First, Second & Third. HM & HC Ribbons

COMEDY SECTIONS

Year 7-9

670 - Tight 5- Original comedic act in any style of comedy. Entry Fee \$22.

- A 'Tight 5' is a well-rehearsed and polished comedy performance with approximately five minutes of material that a comedian can perform reliably in front of an audience.
- Styles of comedy: Clowning, Comedy of Errors (**Not the play by Shakespeare**), Dramatic Comedy, Improvised Comedy, Musical Comedy, Physical Comedy, Prop Comedy, Sketch acts, Stand Up Comedy, or anything hilarious that comes to mind!
- Solo, Duo or Trio.
- Comedic act **must** be original and devised by the performer/s.
- While language will not be policed, performers are **strongly** encouraged to consider the audience, stick to the amusing and to avoid offensive subject matter.
- Small props that can be carried onto and off the stage by performers can be used.
- Speakers/ instruments/ backing tracks to be provided by performers, if needed.
- Attire: Clothing that the comedian is comfortable in/ suits the performance they have prepared. Closed toed shoes.
- **Self devised comedy**- No script needs to be handed in. (Note: if you want the back up of being prompted, you may hand in a script.)
- Time Limit: **Minimum** 1 minute - **Maximum** 5 minutes.
- Prizes: Medals First, Second & Third. HM & HC Ribbons

Year 10-12

671 Tight 5- Original comedic act in any style of comedy. Entry Fee \$24.

- A 'Tight 5' is a well-rehearsed and polished comedy performance with approximately five minutes of material that a comedian can perform reliably in front of an audience.
- Styles of comedy: Clowning, Comedy of Errors (**Not the play by Shakespeare**), Dramatic Comedy, Improvised Comedy, Musical Comedy, Physical Comedy, Prop Comedy, Sketch acts, Stand Up Comedy, or anything hilarious that comes to mind!
- Solo, Duo or Trio.
- Comedic act **must** be original and devised by the performer/s.
- While language will not be policed, performers are **strongly** encouraged to consider the audience, stick to the amusing and to avoid offensive subject matter.
- Small props that can be carried onto and off the stage by performers can be used.
- Speakers/ instruments/ backing tracks to be provided by performers, if needed.
- Attire: Clothing that the comedian is comfortable in/ suits the performance they have prepared. Closed toed shoes.
- **Self devised comedy**- No script needs to be handed in. (Note: if you want the back up of being prompted, you may hand in a script.)
- Time Limit: **Minimum** 1 minute - **Maximum** 5 minutes.
- Prizes: Medals First, Second & Third. HM & HC Ribbons