



**THE 45TH
GULGONG PRINCE OF WALES
EISTEDDFOD 2026
SYLLABUS**

SPEECH & DRAMA

PROPOSED DATES SUBJECT TO NUMBER OF ENTRANTS

Wed 20th & Thurs 21st May 2026 - Schools Days

Fri 22nd– Sun 24th May 2026 – Solos & Duets

Fri 29th May 2026 – Music and Speech & Drama Gala Concert

MUSIC and SPEECH & DRAMA GALA CONCERT

Friday 29th May 2026 ~ 6:30pm

Gulgong Prince of Wales Opera House

Tickets available at the Door

\$10 Adults ~ \$5 Seniors ~ Children Free

Each May, Gulgong hosts the Gulgong Prince of Wales Eisteddfod. Gulgong is a New South Wales gold rush town which is located approximately 300km Northwest of Sydney and 30km from Mudgee.

The Gulgong Prince of Wales Eisteddfod was started by the Gulgong Musical and Dramatic Society (MADS) in 1980. Gulgong MADS are an active performing group who work together to maintain the historical Prince of Wales Opera House located in Mayne Street Gulgong. This building is the oldest working Opera House in the southern hemisphere!

Gulgong MADS developed the Eisteddfod as a suitable event to be held in their beautiful, historic Gulgong Prince of Wales Opera House, to provide an opportunity, for young people especially, to delight in the creative and performing arts.

Over the decades, The Gulgong Prince of Wales Eisteddfod has expanded and become an important cultural event for Gulgong and the Central West. The Eisteddfod has grown so much it is now held at two locations: The Gulgong Prince of Wales Opera House and the Gulgong Memorial Hall.

The Eisteddfod is a subsidiary of Gulgong MADS. Our main aim is to provide opportunities for students of Music, Dance and Speech & Drama to set themselves goals and perform in front of an audience and adjudicator. While most of the classes are aimed at school-age children, there are opportunities for adults to participate in Music choirs, bands, duets, open solos and as accompanists. Profits from the Eisteddfod go towards maintaining the Gulgong Prince of Wales Opera House.

The Gulgong Prince of Wales Eisteddfod is run by a small sub-committee with Gulgong MADS continued support. The Eisteddfod committee would like to thank MADS for supporting this annual showcase of young talent.

THE GULGONG PRINCE OF WALES
EISTEDDFOD COMMITTEE PRESENTS:

THE 45TH EISTEDDFOD
2026 SPEECH & DRAMA SECTION

at
THE PRINCE OF WALES OPERA HOUSE
Mayne Street, Gulgong - opposite IGA, and
and
THE GULGONG MEMORIAL HALL
Herbert Street, Gulgong

www.gulgongeisteddfod.com
www.comps-online.com.au
<https://www.facebook.com/gulgongeisteddfod>

PATRON

Mrs Edyth Lewis

PRESIDENT

Peta Stanford

CONVENOR

Katie Gilbert

**GULGONG PRINCE OF WALES EISTEDDFOD SPEECH &
DRAMA COMMITTEE**

Katie Gilbert, Jonathan Andrews, Rhonda Watt, Rebecca Nielsen,
Julie-ann Kleu, Natasha Davis, Dillon Robinson

2026 ADJUDICATOR

Ms Bill Deverson



Eisteddfod
Website



Facebook
Page



Comps
Online

ENTRIES CLOSE

SPEECH & DRAMA – FRI 10th April 2026, 11:59 pm

All entries are to be made via

COMPS ONLINE

www.comps-online.com.au



NOTE: Late entries will not be accepted unless approved by the convenor. Late fees will apply.

ENTRY FEES & PRIZES FOR SPEECH & DRAMA

Except where otherwise stated, fees & prizes for the Eisteddfod are:

ENTRY FEES & PRIZES

Solo Classes

Age Group	Entry Fee	1st Prize	2nd/3rd Prize & HC
12 Years & under	\$8.00	Medal, Certificate	Certificates
13 Years & over	\$10.00	\$15, Certificate	\$10/\$5, Certificates
Open	\$10.00	\$20, Certificate	\$15/\$10, Certificates

Duet, Duo & Trio Classes

Age Group	Entry Fee	1st Prize	2nd/3rd Prize & HC
12 Years & under	\$8.00	Medals, Certificates	Certificates
13 Years & over	\$10.00	\$24.00, Certificates	\$18/\$12, Certificates
Open	\$10.00	\$30.00, Certificates	\$24/\$18, Certificates

All Other Group Classes

Entry Fee	1st Prize	2nd/3rd Prize & HC
\$12.00	Certificates	Certificates

Championships

Category	Entry Fee	1st Prize	2nd/3rd Prize & HC
Junior	\$10.00	See Major Prizes	See Major Prizes
Senior	\$12.00	See Major Prizes	See Major Prizes

Note: First prize winners in 13 years & over sections may purchase a medal for \$6.

AUDIENCE ADMISSION

Ticket Type	Adult	Senior
Single Session	\$5.00	\$3.00
Day Pass	\$10.00	\$5.00
Concert	\$10.00	\$5.00

School Shields and Perpetual Trophies are retained by the Committee and are held at the Opera House. Winners will be given a take home shield/trophy to keep.

APPROXIMATE TIMETABLE FOR 2026 EISTEDDFOD

This timetable will be followed as closely as possible but is offered as a guide only - it may be subject to change as the Committee deems appropriate & according to number of entries received. Please note: the dates for each section may vary slightly each year to accommodate various factors and other eisteddfods.

SPEECH & DRAMA SECTION

Commencing at the Gulgong Memorial Hall
Wednesday 20th May – Thurs 21st May 2026: Schools

Gulgong Prince of Wales Opera House
Fri 22nd - Sunday 24th May 2026: Solos & Duologues

MUSIC and & SPEECH & DRAMA GALA CONCERT:

Friday Evening 29th May 2026 from 6:30pm.

PLEASE NOTE: Confirmation of entries will not be sent out prior to the start of competition. All necessary information is contained in the program, available on our official website www.gulgongeastddfod.com, in mid to late May for you to save onto your smart device or print at home. All competitors will receive an emailed program once it has been finalised. Printed programs will also be available in person at a cost of \$5 at the door during competition sessions.

Please Note: Copies of the rules are in the 2026 Syllabus and will not be reprinted in the programs.

ENTRY

Entry is via

www.comps-online.com.au



No entries will be taken by phone, email or any other means. Keep an eye on our Facebook page to find out when entries open.

Tickets: Cash or EFT at the door only. Bookings cannot be taken.

ACCOMMODATION IN GULGONG

Here's the link to accommodation in Gulgong for those from out of the area.

www.visitmudgeeregion.com.au/the-region/gulgong



RULES GOVERNING COMPETITION

1. **Venues** — Speech & Drama at Prince of Wales Opera House; School groups at Memorial Hall
2. **Amateurs** — All competitions for amateurs only (except where stated). An amateur does not obtain living by performing or teaching that branch
3. **Entries** — Must be entered online at comps-online.com.au. No alterations possible after program is printed
4. **Cancellations** — Committee reserves right to cancel classes with fewer than 3 entries or combine with next age group
5. **Prizes** — Awarded based on number of entries (1-3 entries = 1st prize; 4-5 entries = 1st & 2nd; 6+ entries = 1st, 2nd & 3rd)
6. **Entrants** — Must be available for full session and ready 15 minutes before class commences
7. **Memory** — All pieces must be performed from memory except readings
8. **Order of Competition** — Competitors perform in program order; out-of-class performance by discretion only
9. **Arrival** — ALL competitors MUST report to session clerk on arrival with adjudicator copies
10. **Age Limit** — Competitor's age recognized as at 1st May each year; for duets/groups, based on oldest competitor
11. **Open** — No age restriction
12. **Restricted** — Has not won first place in that discipline at any eisteddfod in previous two years
13. **Item Choice** — Must provide adjudicator copy clearly marked with class number, competitor number and title on top right corner (A4 paper, no name)
14. **Submissions** — All items own choice except set readings
15. **Time Limits** — Under 8: Max 2 min | 9-12 years: Max 3 min | 13+ years: 4 min
16. **Adjudicators** — Reserves right to terminate performance; decision final unless protest lodged. May vary prize allocation
17. **Reports** — Available free after adjudication at clerks' desk (not forwarded afterwards)

18. **Prompting** — No assistance permitted except from adjudicator. Disregarding results in disqualification
19. **Rehearsals** — None permitted in venue once section commences
20. **Duplication** — No competitor may compete twice in same solo class; no item in multiple classes except where combined
21. **Props** — Minimum props only, must enhance performance, carried on stage quickly
22. **Protests** — Verbal to Session Convenor within 10 minutes, written explanation with \$30 deposit before session end (refunded if upheld)
23. **Royalties** — Entrants responsible for royalty payments
24. **Admission** — Competitors admitted free only for sessions where competing
25. **Rules** — Read carefully; check entries as no alterations after program printed
26. **Photography** — No private still photography except parents in solo classes
27. **Small School** — School population up to 160 students
28. **Own Risk** — All perform at own risk; committee unable to accept responsibility
29. **Performance Standard** — High standard of material and presentation expected
30. **Responsibility** — Committee not responsible for omissions, alterations or errors
31. **Acceptance** — All entries received subject to rules and conditions stated
32. **Original Poetry** — Original poetry must be used; out-of-print licensed copies acceptable
33. **Maximum Numbers** — School verse speaking groups limited to 35 children
34. **Performance Etiquette** — No applause/whistling/stamping before/during performance; reserve for end
35. **Gala Concert Selection** — Committee selects performers at own discretion, preference for multiple class placings
36. **Applause and encouragement** are to be reserved for the end of a performance.
37. **Gala Concert Selection** – The committee selects competitors to perform at the Gala Concert at their own discretion with preference given to those who have placed in a number of classes.

We thank all our previous Sponsors & Volunteers

Please Support our Eisteddfod in 2026

Sponsor

Sponsors will feature throughout our program, and their logos will be displayed prominently on our website, the entry point for hundreds of participants -All sponsors will be listed on the back cover of our 2026 Program.

Our sponsors are the foundation for the success of the Gulgong Eisteddfod's, now in it's 45th year. Along with the ongoing support and growth of our local youth and the maintenance of our beautiful theatre.

Find a sponsorship form on our website or email us at

sponsor@gulgongeisteddfod.com or

hello@gulgongeisteddfod.com

Volunteer

Do you have a spare couple of hours, a day or even more that you would like to be part of our amazing team of volunteers. We're always seeking new volunteers. It's the Volunteers that make the magic happen?

Enquire about our many roles available to suit all skills, ages and availability

Please send us a message by email to
Volunteers

volunteers@gulgongeisteddfod.com

We would love to hear from you!

Please register your interest by **Friday 10th April 2026**

SPEECH & DRAMA MAJOR PRIZES

Some awards are dependent on number of entries

MAJOR PRIZES

Scholarship

- **Award:** \$200 + Certificate (awarded by adjudicator)

Championships

Category	1st Prize	2nd Prize	3rd Prize
Junior (12 years & under)	Trophy + Certificate + \$40	Certificate + \$30	Certificate + \$20
Senior (13 years & over)	Trophy + Certificate + \$70	Certificate + \$50	Certificate + \$30

Phil Crossley Memorial Hall Lawson Poetry Competition

Category	1st Prize
Junior (12 years & under)	Trophy + Certificate + \$40
Senior (13 years & over)	Trophy + Certificate + \$50

Specialised Awards

- **Kay Tuckerman Memorial Best Verse Speaking Overall Award:** Certificate + \$30
- **Most Promising Art of Speech Performer:** Selected by adjudicator over 2+ classes
- **Best Australian Verse:** Trophy + Certificate
- **Best Junior Monologue:** Trophy + Certificate + \$10

- **Best Senior Monologue:** Trophy + Certificate + \$20
- **Best Junior Duologue:** Trophy + Certificate + \$10
- **Best Senior Duologue:** Trophy + Certificate + \$20
- **Best Choral Verse Speaking (all levels):** Trophy + Certificate
- **Small Schools Award:** Trophy + Certificate
- **Most Promising Art of Speech Performer (by age)**

Age Group	1st Prize	Encouragement Award
8 Years & under	Trophy + Certificate + \$20	Trophy + Certificate + \$10
9 & 10 Years	Trophy + Certificate + \$20	Trophy + Certificate + \$10
11 & 12 Years	Trophy + Certificate + \$20	Trophy + Certificate + \$10
13 & 14 Years	Trophy + Certificate + \$40	Trophy + Certificate + \$20
15 Years & over	Trophy + Certificate + \$40	Trophy + Certificate + \$20

SOLO & DUO CLASSES

Nursery Rhyme: Your own choice, in costume. 2 minutes maximum

200. 6 Yrs & under

Verse Speaking One piece of your own choice

201. 6 Yrs & under

202. 7 & 8 Yrs

203. 9 & 10 Yrs

204. 11 & 12 Yrs

205. 13 - 14 Yrs

206. 15 Yrs & over

Restricted Verse Speaking See Rule 12 One piece of your own choice.

207. 8 Yrs & under

208. 9 & 10 Yrs

209. 11 & 12 Yrs

210. 13 - 14 Yrs

211. 15 Yrs & over

Humorous Verse One piece of your own choice

212. 8 Yrs & under

213. 9 & 10 Yrs

214. 11 & 12 Yrs

215. 13 - 14 Yrs

216. 15 Yrs & over

Australian Verse Own choice.

217. 8 Yrs & under

218. 9 & 10 Yrs

219. 11 & 12 Yrs

220. 13 - 14 Yrs

221. 15 Yrs & over

Look at a Picture & Tell a Story: Candidates have one minute to study a picture chosen by the Adjudicator & then one minute to tell a story based on the picture. Bell will ring after 1 minute, giving 30 seconds to round off story.

222. 8 Yrs & under

223. 9 & 10 Yrs

224. 11 & 12 Yrs

Sight Prose Reading: To be provided by the Adjudicator, 1 minute is given to prepare.

225. 10 Yrs & under

226. 11 - 12 Yrs

227. 13 & 14 Yrs

228. 15 Yrs & over

Prepared Prose Reading: Selection from any novel. Own Choice

Under 8 years Max 2min 9 – 12 years Max 3min 13 years & over Max 4min

229. 8 Yrs & under

230. 9-12 Yrs

231. 13 & 14 Yrs

232. 15 Yrs & over

Bible Reading: MUST use set piece from the NIV Version. Eisteddfod will provide a copy to read from

233. 8 Yrs & under

John 6: 16-20

234. 9 & 10 Yrs

Luke 9: 1-6

235. 11 & 12 Yrs

Matthew 28: 16-20

236. 13 Yrs & over

Mark: 11 1-10

Public Speaking Prepared: Topic of your own choice. Palm cards are permitted.
Time limits as specified in each class

237. 12Yrs & under

2 Min

238. 13 - 14 Yrs

4 Min

239. 15 Yrs & over

4 Min

Public Speaking Impromptu: Topics provided by the Adjudicator and palm cards are permitted. Preparation time one minute. Performance time limits as specified in each class.

240. 12 Yrs & under

1 Min and 30 seconds to finish off

241. 13Yrs & over

2 Min and 30 seconds to finish off

Radio Announcements: Competitors will read material supplied by the Adjudicator which will consist of news, sport stories etc. similar to radio broadcasts. To be performed behind a closed curtain using a microphone. One minute is given to prepare.

242. 10 Yrs & under

245. 15 Yrs & over

243. 11-12 Yrs

244. 13 -14 Yrs

Mime: Individuals will perform a mime, with a maximum time limit of 2 min

246. 10 Yrs & under

249. 15 Yrs & over

247. 11-12 Yrs

248. 13 -14 Yrs

Poem for Two: Own choice

250. 8 Yrs & under

253. 15 Yrs & over

251. 12 Yrs & under

252. 14 Yrs & under

Duologue: Literary excerpt consisting of two characters from a play. Own choice.

254. 8 Yrs & under

257. 15 Yrs & over

255. 12 Yrs & under

256. 14 Yrs & under

Monologue/Character Sketch: Own choice. Costume optional. Keep props to a minimum. Depict a character from a play, book, film or original concept.

258. 8 Yrs & under

261. 15 Yrs & over

259. 9-12 Yrs

260. 13– 14 Yrs

Poem: Written and performed by the poet: Poem must be memorised.

262. 8 Yrs & under

265. 15 Yrs & over

263. 9-12 Yrs

264. 13 – 14 Yrs

Shakespearian Monologue: Own Choice – Costume Preferred (All black acceptable)

266. 14 Yrs & under

267. 15 Yrs & over

Shakespearian Duologue: Own Choice – Costume Preferred (All black acceptable).

268. 14 Yrs & under

269. 15 Yrs & over

Impromptu telephone Conversation for two Subject to be given by the adjudicator.

270. Junior (12 Yrs & under)

271. Senior (13 Yrs & over)

Standup Comedy Solo: Piece to be written and performed by entrant. Time limit 3 minutes

272. Junior (12 Yrs & under)

273. Senior (13 Yrs & over)

CHAMPIONSHIPS:

Entry Fee Junior \$10 Senior \$15

Competitors must have performed in at least 3 other individual classes in the speech section of this Eisteddfod.

Competitors must present 3 items: 1. a Monologue, 2. Poem 3. Sight Prose Reading (one-minute preparation time) chosen by the Adjudicator. Monologue and poem must be different to what has already been performed. See Rule 20

Total Time Limits apply for Monologue & Poem:

Junior 12 Yrs & under - 6 minutes Senior 13 Yrs & over - 9 minutes

278. Junior (12 Yrs & under)

279. Senior (13 Yrs & over)

PHIL CROSSLEY MEMORIAL

HENRY LAWSON POETRY COMPETITION

Entry Fee Junior \$10 Senior \$15

Competitors must recite a Henry Lawson poem or part thereof, of their own choice. Time frame for the junior section (12Yrs & under) is a **minimum** of 1 minute and for senior section (13 Yrs & over) a **minimum** of 1.5 minutes, unless the whole poem takes less time than this.

280. Junior (12 Yrs & under)

281. Senior 13 Yrs & over)

GROUPS & SCHOOLS SECTION

Please refer to general rules at the front of the syllabus. NB: Gulgong Memorial Hall & Gulgong Opera House do not have mobility access to the stage areas. Students are welcome to perform in front of the stage at each venue.

Sketch or Short One Act Play or Scene: 3 - 35 Performers, own choice. Can be from play/book /Film /Television or original. Time limit is 12 minutes, including setting up.

274. Primary

275. Secondary

Improvisation Group 3-5 Performers. Topic to be provided by the adjudicator. 1 minute prep time. One group member will announce the topic before commencing the improvisation. One table and two chairs will be available if required. No other props will be

276. Junior (12 Yrs & under) **277.** Senior (13 Yrs & over)
permitted. Time Limit is 2 minutes. Warning bell at 1 minute 50 seconds

Choral Verse Speaking: Entry \$10. Two contrasting pieces of your own choice. Total time must not exceed 6 minutes.

A maximum of 35 performers are permitted in these classes.

284. Kindergarten

285. Infants

286. Junior Primary

Yrs 1 & 2

Yrs 3 & 4

287. Senior Primary

288. Small Schools

Yrs 5 & 6

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**GULGONG PRINCE OF WALES EISTEDDFOD
MUSIC AND SPEECH & DRAMA GALA
CONCERT**

Come along to the Gulgong Prince of Wales Opera House to enjoy the showcase of talent on display at our 2026 Concert.

Friday 29th May 2026 ~ 6:30pm

Tickets available at the Door

\$10 Adults * \$5 Seniors * Children Free

