



Education
& Training

The Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition

The Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition was introduced in 1996. It aims to heighten the awareness of multicultural issues among NSW primary school students while developing their interest in public speaking and improving their confidence and speech-writing skills.

Who can enter the competition?

The Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition is open to all NSW government primary schools. The competition has two different age divisions – one for Years 3&4 students and one for Years 5&6 students. Schools can enter a maximum of 2 contestants in each of the 2 age divisions, totalling 4 contestants overall.

How do schools enter the competition?

Online entry forms for the competition are available at www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au. Entries should be submitted before close of business on Monday 28 March 2011. Please ensure that you include contact details for the teacher who will be looking after the entry. All teachers must provide a direct email address (preferably your departmental address for government school teachers) to assist with our organisation.

How much does entry cost?

The entry fee for the competition award is \$20.00 (including GST) per contestant, which means a maximum of \$80.00 per school. Schools will automatically be debited for this amount once they submit their entry form. Please advise your school's finance department that this will occur

What are the speaking requirements?

At each stage of the competition contestants present both a prepared speech and an impromptu speech. For their prepared speech, contestants must choose a topic from the list of multicultural topics included at the end of this guide. The prepared speech must have multicultural content. The impromptu speech is chosen by the adjudicator on the day, and will be on a general, non-multicultural theme. Contestants will have 5 minutes to write their impromptu speeches. The speaking times for each speech and division are outlined below.

Division / Speech	Warning Bell	Speaking time (2 bells)
Years 3&4 Prepared Speech	2 minutes	3 minutes
Years 3&4 Impromptu Speech	30 seconds	1 minute
Years 5&6 Prepared Speech	3 minutes	4 minutes
Years 5&6 Impromptu Speech	1 ½ minutes	2 minutes

What are the adjudicators looking for?

The adjudicators will make their decision based on the manner, matter and method the contestants employ in presenting their speeches. They will expect contestants to be confident and engaging speakers. The prepared speeches need to show an understanding of multiculturalism, and be well developed and interesting. Contestants are also expected to demonstrate a balance of personal opinion and information in their speeches, as well as a balance of humour and sincerity. Finally, adjudicators are required to give equal consideration to the prepared and impromptu speeches in making their decision. Detailed guidelines on how the competition is judged will be available on our website at www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au

What are the rules of the competition?

Other than the entry rules and speaking times detailed above, it should also be noted that contestants are not allowed to use any props or external aids such as Powerpoint presentations during their speeches. They are encouraged to speak from palm cards and present from a stage without the use of a lectern or microphone. Finally, just a reminder that the prepared speech must have multicultural content to be successful in the competition.

How does the competition run?

Schools may conduct their own internal competition to select 2 representatives for each division of the Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition. The State Coordinator will then advise all contestants of the date and venue of their local final which will be held in June. The winners of local finals will proceed to one of 8 regional finals which will be held in August. Regional winners will proceed to the state final. The Years 3&4 state final will be held at the NSW Teachers Federation Conference Centre on Friday 4 November, and the Years 5&6 state final will be held at The ABC Centre on Friday 18 November. All schools are welcome to attend the state finals.

What are the prizes?

All contestants involved in the competition will receive a certificate acknowledging their participation. Certificates of congratulations will then be awarded to all local and regional winners. State finalists will receive a silver medallion, and the state winners in each division will receive a gold medallion and a perpetual trophy for their school.

Who are the organisers of the competition?

The Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition is organised by The Arts Unit and the Multicultural Programs Unit of the NSW Department of Education & Training.

Contact Details

If you have any questions about the competition, please contact Tony Davey, Multicultural Perspectives Coordinator on (02) 8512 1171 or email: anthony.r.davey@det.nsw.edu.au. You can also check our website at www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au

2011 Years 3&4 Topics

Australia – the lucky country
Every day is Harmony Day
Sport brings people together
Welcoming refugees
The Australian Flag
Racism hurts everyone
Never judge a book by its cover
Sharing Australia
Multiculturalism at school
Every family has a story

2011 Years 5&6 Topics

Racial harmony – are we there yet?
When does a migrant become an Australian?
Asylum seekers
Un-Australian
Young people – showing the way
My beliefs
Many languages, one voice
Belonging
Racism – it's just not funny
Multiculturalism in the media