

# CentreStage

## ROLLESTON

### Illuminate Performing Arts Competitions

May 23rd - 25th, 2025

Rolleston College, 631 Springston Rolleston Road, Rolleston

Singing Adjudicator: Juliet Reynolds-Midgley

Speech & Drama Adjudicator: Georgia Lassen

Competition Convenor: Caelan Thomas ([caelan.thomas@centrestagerolleston.org.nz](mailto:caelan.thomas@centrestagerolleston.org.nz))

**ENTRY FEES:** \$30 administration fee, \$6 per class entered (duets \$6 per person), \$12 for Class 25 (Open recital)

**ENTRIES DUE:** 2 May 2025

**TIME LIMIT:** Maximum 4 minutes for all classes unless otherwise stated.

**AGE LIMIT:** Age is at 23 May 2025.

**REPEATS:** No item performed in one class may be performed in another by the same competitor.

**INTRODUCTIONS:** All competitors will be required to briefly introduce their pieces, including the name of the piece and the author.

**SHEET MUSIC:** For ALL singing classes, sheet music for the adjudicator must be handed in before the session commences to the admin table in the foyer.

1. Each piece for individual classes must be separated.
2. Each piece must be stapled in the left hand top corner.
3. Each piece must be unmarked and without loose pages.

**BACKING TRACKS:** If you are using a backing track this MUST be provided on a USB drive. Backing Tracks must NOT have any vocals.

**CLASS ORDER:** The order of classes in this Syllabus will not be the order in the final programme. That will be determined by the number of entries in each class and the times available.

**ACCOMPANIST:** There will be no accompanist provided. If you wish to use an accompanist you must organize this yourself. There will be a piano provided for use.

**PROGRAMME:** All competitors will receive a programme by email. Programmes will also be available in hard-copy from the front desk.

**AMPLIFICATION:** All performances will be unamplified.

## WHAT TO EXPECT

When entering the competition, you will sign up for one or more **classes** (categories). These are listed later in this syllabus.

After all entries have been received, CentreStage Rolleston will put together a programme for the weekend, which will list the order in which the classes will take place (these may not be in the same order as listed in the syllabus).

The competition weekend will be broken down into **sessions** of a couple of hours. Several classes will happen within each session.

Before the start of each session, each competitor will report to the front desk outside the auditorium to sign in. Sheet music or transcripts for each class within the session must be handed in to the front desk for the **adjudicator** (judge) to use as reference.

For each class, the competitors will be invited to sit at the front of the auditorium. The adjudicator will score each performance and make brief notes. At the end of the class, the adjudicator will decide on the placings of all the participants.

At the end of each session, results will be announced and medals will be awarded. Full results, as well as the sheet music, will be available for collection from the front desk after the session.

Trophies and major prizes will be awarded at the end of the weekend.

## SINGING ADJUDICATOR



**Juliet Reynolds-Midgley (Christchurch)**

Juliet holds a B.A(Hons) in Performance Arts and Education Studies (UK) and a Diploma in Jazz Performance (NZ). She has been a part time lecturer and singing tutor at The National Academy of Singing and Dramatic Art (NASDA, at ARA, Christchurch) for over twenty years running her teaching alongside a varied performance career.

Performance credits include featured solo work in the UK, Caribbean and New Zealand. Concert and recording work with the *Ambrosian Opera Chorus* (UK and Italy), the *BBC Concert Orchestra* for Radio 2 (UK), *Christchurch Symphony Orchestra* (soloist), *Christchurch International Cabaret Festival* (solo Streisand show), *Starry Nights*, *Coca Cola Christmas In The Park*, Residency at *The Crowne Plaza Christchurch* (Jazz Combo), *Festival Cruise Lines* (Covers band and featured show singer.)

Stage work has included *Side by Side*, *Calendar Girls*, *Pacific Post*, *August Osage County*, *Blood Brothers*, *The Mikado*, *One Man Two Guvnors*, *Once*, *Next to Normal* and *Fun Home* (The Court Theatre) *Sweeny Todd*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Mamma Mia* (Showbiz Christchurch).

## **SPEECH & DRAMA ADJUDICATOR**



**Georgia Lassen (Christchurch)**

Georgia Lassen - LSB Tching (Speech & Drama), AASB Tching (Public Speaking), AASB Tching (Speech & Drama), ASB (Performance)

Georgia Lassen is a dedicated Speech & Drama educator with vast experience in teaching, performance, and adjudication. Currently, she works as an itinerant Speech & Drama teacher and Co-curricular Drama teacher at St Margaret's College in Christchurch.

Recently, Georgia honed her passion for Shakespeare by attending a prestigious professional development course at Shakespeare's Globe in London. She holds a Licentiate diploma in Speech and Drama Teaching and an Advanced Associate diploma in Public Speaking Teaching, having built a strong educational foundation through Speech New Zealand.

In addition to her work in education, Georgia also actively contributes to the arts community as a member of the Next Generation Committee and the Next Gen Representative on the Board of Showbiz Christchurch. In these positions, she is dedicated to cultivating youth engagement in the arts, advocating for opportunities that uplift and empower the next generation of artists.

# SINGING CLASSES

## UNDER 10 YEARS

Class 1: Popular Song

Class 2: Musical Theatre Song

Class 3: Non-English Language Song

Class 4: Own Selection

Class 5: Novice

## 10 – 12 YEARS

Class 6: Popular Song

Class 7: Musical Theatre Song

Class 8: Non-English Language Song

Class 9: Own Selection

Class 10: Novice

## 13 – 15 YEARS

Class 11: Popular Song

Class 12: Musical Theatre Song

Class 13: Non-English Language Song

Class 14: Own Selection

Class 15: Novice

## 16 – 18 YEARS

Class 16: Popular Song

Class 17: Musical Theatre Song

Class 18: Non-English Language Song

Class 19: Own Selection

Class 20: Novice

## DUETS

Class 21: 10 Years & Under

Class 22: 12 Years & Under

Class 23: 15 Years & Under

Class 24: 18 Years & Under

## OPEN CLASSES

Class 25: Open Recital (18 years & under) – Trophy and \$100 (1st Place), \$70 (2nd Place), \$30 (3rd Place)

Two contrasting musical theatre songs. Max 10 minutes total.

## SPECIAL PRIZES

**ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD** – Trophy to be awarded to a competitor who the adjudicator wishes to recognise for their work throughout the competition.

**AGE GROUP OVERALLS** – Trophy and \$50 cash to be awarded to the competitor in each age group with the highest overall points. (Please note novice, duet and open classes are not included).

## GLOSSARY

**NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE SONG:** A song with lyrics in a language other than English. Please provide an English translation with your sheet music.

**NOVICE:** The Novice class is open to competitors who have not won a class in a singing competition.

# SPEECH & DRAMA CLASSES

## UNDER 10 YEARS

- Class 26: Dramatic Extract
- Class 27: Prepared Prose Reading
- Class 28: Prepared Speech
- Class 29: Poetry Test Piece
- Class 30: Poetry Own Selection

## 10 – 12 YEARS

- Class 31: Dramatic Extract
- Class 32: Prepared Prose Reading
- Class 33: Prepared Speech
- Class 34: Poetry Test Piece
- Class 35: Poetry Own Selection

## 13 – 15 YEARS

- Class 36: Dramatic Extract
- Class 37: Prepared Prose Reading
- Class 38: Prepared Speech
- Class 39: Poetry Test Piece
- Class 40: Poetry Own Selection

## 16 – 18 YEARS

- Class 41: Dramatic Extract
- Class 42: Prepared Prose Reading
- Class 43: Prepared Speech
- Class 44: Poetry Test Piece
- Class 45: Poetry Own Selection

## SPECIAL PRIZES

**ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD** – Trophy to be awarded to a competitor who the adjudicator wishes to recognise for their work throughout the competition.

**AGE GROUP OVERALLS** – Trophy and \$50 cash to be awarded to the competitor in each age group with the highest overall points.

## GLOSSARY

**DRAMATIC EXTRACT:** A monologue delivered in character from any script (play, musical, screen). Each competitor should deliver an introduction of up to 30 seconds to provide context for the story and character. A printed transcript of the monologue **must** be provided.

**PREPARED PROSE READING:** An excerpt or full reading of any text which is not poetry. This could be an excerpt from a book, a short story, or any other writing which is not poetry. Each competitor may deliver an introduction of up to 30 seconds to provide context for the story. A printed transcript of the excerpt or full text **must** be provided.

**PREPARED SPEECH:** Any informative or persuasive speech written by the competitor.

**POETRY TEST PIECE:** A poem set by the adjudicator and provided as part of this syllabus.

**POETRY OWN SELECTION:** Any poem chosen by the competitor. A printed transcript **must** be provided.

**TRANSCRIPT:** A mandatory printed copy of the text provided to the registration desk for the adjudicator.

## SET PIECES

The pieces for Poetry Test Piece in all age groups are set by the adjudicator and are as follows.

### UNDER 10 YEARS POETRY TEST PIECE

#### Why not?

By Christian Ward

In class, our teacher sits or stands  
and teaches – nothing more.  
Of course, she does it very well,  
but really – what a bore!

If only she would come to school  
upon a kangaroo,  
or elephant, or circus horse –  
perhaps a sheep would do.

Suppose she flew around the room  
and wrote things on the ceiling  
or swung on lights in silken tights –  
now THAT would be appealing.

What if she did some fancy tricks,  
like sawing kids in two,  
or if she simply waved a wand  
and vanished in the blue?

Or juggled eggs or swallowed eels  
or jumped out of a pie?  
We wouldn't care what mad idea.  
if only she'd just try!

## 10-12 YEARS POETRY TEST PIECE

### The Alchemist

By A.A. Milne

There lives an old man at the top of the street,  
And the end of his beard reaches down to his feet,  
And he's just the one person I'm longing to meet,  
    I think that he sounds so exciting;  
For he talks all the day to his tortoiseshell cat,  
And he asks about this, and explains about that,  
And at night he puts on a big wide-awake\* hat  
    And sits in his writing-room, writing.

He has worked all his life (and he's terribly old)  
At a wonderful spell which says, 'Lo and behold!  
Your nursery fender is gold!' – and it's gold!  
    (Or the tongs, or the rod for the curtain);  
But somehow he hasn't got hold of it quite,  
Or the liquid you pour on it first isn't right,  
So that's why he works on it night after night  
    Till he knows he can do it for certain.

\* *So as not to go to sleep.*



## 13-15 YEARS POETRY TEST PIECE

### Hide and Seek

By Vernon Scannel

Call out. Call loud: 'I'm ready! Come and find me!'  
The sacks in the toolshed smell like the seaside.  
They'll never find you in this salty dark,  
But be careful that your feet aren't sticking out.  
Wiser not to risk another shout.  
The floor is cold. They'll probably be searching  
The bushes near the swing. Whatever happens  
You mustn't sneeze when they come prowling in.  
And here they are, whispering at the door;  
You've never heard them sound so hushed before.  
Don't breathe. Don't move. Stay dumb. Hide in your blindness. They're moving closer, someone  
stumbles, mutters;  
Their words and laughter scuddle, and they're gone.  
But don't come out just yet; they'll try the lane  
And then the greenhouse and back here again.  
They must be thinking that you're very clever,  
Getting more puzzled as they search all over.  
It seems a long time since they went away.  
Your legs are still, the cold bites through your coat;  
The dark damp smell of sand moves in your throat.  
It's time to let them know that you're the winner.  
Push over the sacks. Uncurl and stretch. That's better!  
Out of the shed and call to them: 'I've won!  
Here I am! Come and own up I've caught you!'  
The darkening garden watches. Nothing stirs.  
The bushes hold their breath; the sun is gone.  
Yes, here you are. But where are they who sought you?

## 16-18 YEARS POETRY TEST PIECE

### Last Post

By Carol Ann Duffy

'In all my dreams, before my helpless sight,  
He plunges at me, guttering, choking, drowning.'  
If poetry could tell it backwards, true, begin  
that moment shrapnel scythed you to the stinking mud...  
but you get up, amazed, watch bleed bad blood  
run upwards from the slime into its wounds;  
see lines and lines of British boys rewind

back to their trenches, kiss the photographs from home-  
mothers, sweethearts, sisters, younger brothers

not entering the story now  
to die and die and die.  
Dulce- No- Decorum- No- Pro patria mori.  
You walk away.  
You walk away; drop your gun (fixed bayonet)

like all your mates do too-  
Harry, Tommy, Wilfred, Edward, Bert-  
and light a cigarette.

There's coffee in the square,  
warm French bread  
and all those thousands dead  
are shaking dried mud from their hair  
and queuing up for home. Freshly alive,  
a lad plays Tipperary to the crowd, released  
from History; the glistening, healthy horses fit for heroes, kings.  
You lean against a wall,  
your several million lives still possible  
and crammed with love, work, children, talent, English beer, good food.  
You see the poet tuck away his pocket-book and smile.  
If poetry could truly tell it backwards,  
then it would.

# GENERAL RULES & CONDITIONS FOR COMPETITORS

## 1. COMPETITORS:

- a) **AMATEUR STATUS:** These competitions are open only to amateurs whose income is NOT derived mainly from the exercise of his or her talents in the particular section in which he or she is competing. The convener reserves the right to determine the status of any competitor.
- b) **ENTRIES:** All entries, unless otherwise stated, are open to anyone. Competitors may perform their own selection where permitted.
- c) **ELIGIBILITY OF ENTRIES:** Any entrant of class, who (with the exclusion of Seminars, Summer Schools and Masterclasses), has been taught or coached by the Adjudicator at any time during the two years immediately before the Competitions shall NOT be eligible to compete in that class. The Convenor shall decide the eligibility of any entry and may decline to accept it. The receipt of any entry in good faith at the CentreStage Rolleston office does not imply acceptance.
- d) **AGE LIMIT:** A competitor's age is as on the first day of the Competitions.
- e) **SONG LIMITS:** Competitors are limited to one song per class, except for Duet sections where a competitor may enter up to two times, with different partners.

## 2. TIME LIMIT

Time Limits apply for all own choice items. Maximum 4 minutes for all classes unless otherwise stated. Time Limits MUST be adhered to. Adjudicators may penalise or disqualify performers who exceed these limits. Check the Syllabus to ensure correct times.

## 3. REPEATS

No item performed in one class may be performed in another by the same competitor.

## 4. MUSIC

- a) **PRE-RECORDED ACCOMPANIMENTS/ BACKING TRACKS** are permitted
- b) **QUALITY** Each competitor should ensure that their music is a good quality recording, with NO backing vocals, on a USB and must be handed to the SoundOperator before the start of that class.
- c) **SOUND SYSTEM:** A Sound System for playing recorded music is provided and run by a Sound Operator.
- d) **AMPLIFICATION/MICROPHONE** is not permitted in any section.
- e) **MUSIC COPIES:** Competitors must supply a copy of the music for the adjudicator and a copy for the accompanist (if an accompanist is being used). Both copies must be in the same key. The music for the adjudicator must be available for the adjudicator at least 15 minutes before the commencement of the class. It must be handed in at the Music Table, and be marked with the class number, competitor's name and number.

## 5. PROTESTS

Any competitor wanting to protest may do so in writing, setting out the grounds, and lodging it with the Convener together with a \$20 deposit. Should the protest upon investigation by the Committee, be deemed unfounded, the deposit, whole or part, may be forfeited. No protests will be entertained unless made within thirty minutes of the Adjudicator's awards being announced. If such a protest is made before the Adjudicator has announced the award, such award will be withheld until the protest is investigated. The decision of the Committee is final.

## 6. CONDUCT AND OBLIGATIONS:

- a) **CONTACT WITH ADJUDICATOR:** No competitor, singing teacher, parent or interested party, other than the committee, shall have contact with the adjudicator during classes.
- b) **BACKSTAGE** administration is under the direction of the Stage Manager and shall be adhered to at all times.

c) PROMPTING: No prompting shall be given during the performance, except by the Adjudicator at their discretion.

d) DRESS: It is expected that all performers will be dressed in a manner suitable for their performance.

#### 7. AWARDS, SPECIAL PRIZES & AGGREGATE PRIZES:

a) STANDARD Awards and special prizes will only be paid out if the adjudicator considers the performance to be of a sufficiently high standard.

b) SPECIAL PRIZES: Will not be awarded if fewer than three competitors perform, except at the discretion of the Adjudicator. The Adjudicator has the right to withhold prizes if a suitable standard is not attained.

c) AGGREGATE PRIZES - POINTS: Will be decided on points or marks as applicable. Points will be allocated as follows: 5 points for the 1st eligible competitor; 3 points for 2nd and 2 points for 3rd. In the event of a tie, points will be allocated and shared as for cash (see below). If points are equal the prize will be awarded to the competitor with the most first placings, then 2nds, then 3rds. If points are still equal, actual marks apply. In some cases, VHC placing will apply.

d) AGGREGATE PRIZES – ELIGIBILITY: Competitors must compete in all applicable classes to be eligible for any aggregate prize.

#### 8. REFUNDS

Refunds will only be given at the discretion of CentreStage Rolleston and under exceptional circumstances.

#### 9. ADMISSION FEE

There is no admission fee (it is free to enter the auditorium).

#### 10. RECORDING PERFORMANCES/VIDEOGRAPHY

Anyone wishing to video or record a competitor's performance must first obtain the permission of the Convenor and may only be of your own child/student.

#### 11. PROMOTIONAL PHOTOS/VIDEOS

Photos and/or videos of competitors may be used by the CentreStage Rolleston to promote the organisation and this event.

#### 12. REPORTS

Report sheets will be available from the administration table at the end of each session.

#### 13. REGULATION REGARDING PHOTOCOPYING

The original printed music must be available at all times either for the adjudicator or for the performer. Failure to comply with this regulation may result in disqualification.

#### 14. INTERPRETATION OF RULES:

CentreStage Rolleston reserves the sole right to interpret and apply these rules. Their decision in all matters will be final.

#### 15. ACCEPTANCE:

Entry to these competitions is deemed to signify acceptance of these conditions. Compliance with the conditions relative to any entry is the responsibility of the entrant. Enquiries regarding eligibility should be addressed to the Conveners on [centrestagerolleston@gmail.com](mailto:centrestagerolleston@gmail.com)