



WORCESTERSHIRE CREATIVE ARTS FESTIVAL

PROSE SYLLABUS



WCAAF
75TH ANNIVERSARY
2026

CATEGORIES:

PREPARED PROSE READING

SIGHT READING

NON-COMPETITIVE PROSE READING



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PROSE Syllabus

These classes are intended to take place on Saturday 14th March 2026 at the Royal Grammar School, Worcester.

All large groups are free of charge and 25% 'early bird' discount is available for solos and duologues until 1st December 2025. We do not believe any performer should miss out due to financial hardship. Please contact us to discuss any free places and bursaries that may be available: admin:wcaf.org.uk

Categories in the prose section this year:

Prepared Prose Reading

Sight Reading

Non-competitive prose reading

Unless otherwise stated, classes are competitive and places will be awarded. Times, dates and venues for all classes are subject to confirmation once all entries have been received. The committee reserve the right to combine and/or separate classes by age or size of group, dependent upon the number of entries received.

Solo performers may enter only one class appropriate for their age on 1st September 2025 and the open class in each section. A different piece must be performed for each entry.

Prose passages must be READ, not recited from memory. Full details of piece(s) to be performed do not have to be included at the time of entry (simply put TBC) but please ensure entries are updated with the title and author by 16th January 2026, at the latest. Performers must provide a written copy of their poem or extract for the adjudicator. Performers must provide a brief introduction at the beginning of their performance. This is included in the time limit. No props or costumes are allowed.

The Festival has an agreement with the Authors' Licensing and Collecting Society. This means that entrants do not have to seek copyright permission for any poetry, prose or SOLO dramatic item.

Unacceptable Language Thresholds: Some works performed explore adult themes and/or contain strong language. However, care should be taken when choosing or devising contemporary pieces. We ask that you present your work in a manner that respects the 'family' orientated nature of WCAF and avoids the unnecessary exposure of younger children to inappropriate themes and language. WCAF aims to celebrate the best and highest forms of literature and language, and therefore reserves the right to refuse entries that are made up of continuously bad language and/or gratuitous expletives. Therefore, all entrants to the speech, drama and musical theatre sections are now asked to confirm whether their performance contains adult language or content upon entry. If you indicate you have potentially contentious language or themes, we will be in contact to discuss. This does not necessarily mean you will not be able to perform the piece - we just want to make sure that we make appropriate arrangements for you to be able to perform to your best.

Prepared Prose Reading

Performers may choose to prepare and read any continuous extract within the time limit from either the suggested texts or from their favourite book. Each of the suggested texts is by a local author and is stocked by Script Haven.

Please consider whether the passage chosen is suitable for a mixed audience and highlight any potentially contentious themes or language.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
1100 PREPARED PROSE READING - School year 2 and under Any passage within the time limit from 'Harry the Donkey - Harry and the Rocket' by Charlie Summer or from your favourite book.	6 and under	Up to 1 min	£6.67
1101 PREPARED PROSE READING - School year 3 and 4 Any passage within the time limit from 'The Globbatrotter' by Patricia Sumner or from your favourite book.	Age 7 and 8	Up to 2 mins	£8.00
1102 PREPARED PROSE READING - School years 5 and 6 Any passage within the time limit from 'The Game Makers' by Kevin Brooke or from your favourite book.	Age 9 and 10	Up to 2 mins	£8.00
1103 PREPARED PROSE READING - School years 7 and 8 Any passage within the time limit from 'Spencer the Super Owl' by Michael Hinton or from your favourite book.	Age 11 and 12	Up to 3 mins	£10.67
1104 PREPARED PROSE READING - School years 9 and 10 Any passage within the time limit from 'Peterkin and the First Dog' by Simon King-Spooner or from your favourite book.	Age 13 and 14	Up to 3 mins	£10.67
1105 PREPARED PROSE READING - School years 11, 12 and 13 Award: 147 WCAF Cup Any passage within the time limit from 'The Objectors' by Kevin Brooke or from your favourite book.	Between 15 and 17	Up to 4 mins	£13.33
1106 OPEN CLASS FOR PREPARED PROSE READING Any passage from your favourite book.	Any	Up to 5 mins	£16.00

Sight Reading

Competitors are required to read out loud an age-appropriate passage chosen by the adjudicator. They will be given time to read the passage before the performance.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
1107 SIGHT READING - School year 4 and under	8 and under		£8.00
1108 SIGHT READING - School years 5 and 6	Age 9 and 10		£8.00
1109 SIGHT READING - School years 7 and 8	Age 11 and 12		£10.67
1110 SIGHT READING - School years 9 and 10	Age 13 and 14		£10.67
1111 SIGHT READING - School years 11, 12 and 13 Award: 172 J. O. Cook Cup	Between 15 and 17		£13.33
1112 SIGHT READING - Open	Any		£16.00

Non-Competitive Prose Reading

These are non-competitive classes for all abilities, where constructive comments on the performances will be given by the adjudicator, but no places awarded or comparison made between performances. Please prepare a passage from your favourite book to read within the time limit. It does not have to be as long as the time limit - a shorter passage is absolutely fine.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
1113 NON-COMPETITIVE PREPARED PROSE READING - School year 2 and under	6 and under	Up to 1 min	£6.67
1114 NON-COMPETITIVE PREPARED PROSE READING - School year 3 and 4 Any passage from your favourite book.	Age 7 and 8	Up to 2 mins	£8.00
1115 NON-COMPETITIVE PREPARED PROSE READING - School years 5 to 8 Any passage from your favourite book.	Between 9 and 12	Up to 2 mins	£10.67
1116 NON-COMPETITIVE PREPARED PROSE READING - School years 9 to 13 Any passage from your favourite book.	Between 13 and 17	Up to 4 mins	£13.33
1117 NON-COMPETITIVE PROSE READING - OPEN Any passage from your favourite book.	Any	Up to 5 mins	£16.00
1118 NON-COMPETITIVE SIGHTREADING - OPEN	Any		£8.00
1119 WCAF DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY PROSE Help us to celebrate our 75th Anniversary! You can perform alone or in a group of any size. Perform any piece with 'Diamond' in the title or about diamonds or anniversaries...or any piece published in 1951 or a piece by a writer born in 1951. Get imaginative, join in and have fun. Don't hesitate to ask if you have any queries or aren't sure what to perform! Solo or Group of any size	Any		Solo: £0.00 Group: £0.00 per group