



WORCESTERSHIRE CREATIVE ARTS FESTIVAL

REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 1034614

2027 SYLLABUS

**'EARLY BIRD' DISCOUNT
UNTIL 1ST DECEMBER 2026**

**CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES:
8TH JANUARY 2027**

CATEGORIES:

**CHOIRS
CLASSICAL MUSIC
COMPOSITION
MUSICAL THEATRE
CREATIVE WRITING
DJ DAY**

**POETRY
DRAMA
SPEECH**

MARR'S BAR SESSIONS:

**(ROCK, POP, JAZZ, BLUES, SOUL, REGGAE, R&B, HIP-HOP,
RAP, COUNTRY, EDM...ALL STYLES WELCOME!)**



WCAF 2027 TROPHIES, PRIZES & AWARDS

All trophies and prizes will be awarded at the Festival Concert. All winners should be available to perform during the evening of Saturday 20th March 2027.

HONORARY TROPHIES & AWARDS

Most honorary trophies are now decided and awarded at the discretion of the adjudicators and/or the WCAF committee. These include 'Promising Performer' awards for categories across the festival.

WORCESTER ARTS COUNCIL TROPHY FOR HIGH ACHIEVEMENT IN MUSIC

Awarded to a performer of any age for exceptional or outstanding musical performance and/or commitment to the art.

WORCESTER SEVERN INNER WHEEL YOUNG PERFORMER OF THE YEAR

Awarded to a performer aged 12 years or under for musical performance and/or commitment to the art.

WORCESTERSHIRE CHOIR OF THE YEAR

The WCAF Junior and Senior Choir of the Year trophies and prizes are kindly donated by Jan Venables, a long-standing, much valued committee member, with connections to the festival stretching back to her own childhood.

The titles of Worcestershire Junior, Senior and Adult choir of the year will be awarded at the adjudicator's discretion to any choir taking part in the choirs day (providing the choir achieves an Honours, Outstanding or Exceptional performance), along with a trophy and award of £50.

MARY MANNION COMPOSITION TROPHY

This trophy and a voucher to the value of £15 may be awarded for song or instrumental composition.

MICHAEL LUNNEY PRIZE FOR DRAMA

Awarded for an exceptional acting performance. The winner receives a week's work experience with Middle Ground Theatre Company Ltd.

WORCESTER ARTS COUNCIL TROPHY FOR HIGH ACHIEVEMENT IN DRAMA

Awarded to a performer of any age for exceptional or outstanding dramatic performance and/or commitment to the art.

WORCESTER SEVERN ROTARY YOUNG PERFORMER OF THE YEAR

Awarded to a performer aged 12 years or under for exceptional or outstanding acting performance and/or commitment to the art.

SPECIAL CLASSES & AWARDS

To qualify for some trophies & awards, performers need to enter a specific class (see below). See individual class information for more details. All trophies awarded at the Festival Concert.

AWARD

CLASS NUMBER & NAME INFO

MARIAN BAKER MEMORIAL PRIZE & CUP

Donated by the friends and family of the late Marian Baker, a teacher from Kidderminster.

000 MARIAN BAKER MEMORIAL PRIZE & CUP

The Marian Baker Cup and prize of £45 will be awarded to the winner of this recital class, providing Exceptional, Outstanding or Honours is achieved. Performers must be 12 years or under on 01/09/2026.

SPROULE PRIZE & TROPHY FOR SPEECH, DRAMA & MUSIC

001 SPROULE PRIZE & TROPHY FOR SPEECH, DRAMA AND MUSIC

The Sproule Trophy and £50 will be awarded to the winner of this mixed recital class, providing Exceptional, Outstanding or Honours is achieved. Performers must be 15 years or under on 01/09/2026.

WILLIAM LEWIS RECITAL PRIZE & SALVER

Donated by the parents and friends of the late William Lewis of Stourport.

002 WILLIAM LEWIS RECITAL PRIZE & SALVER

The William Lewis Salver & £100 will be awarded to the winner of this recital class, providing Exceptional or Outstanding is achieved. Performers may be any age.

VALE TROPHY FOR PIANO SOLO

Donated by Vale Pianos

304 OPEN CLASS FOR PIANO SOLO

The Vale Trophy will be awarded to the winner of this class, providing Exceptional or Outstanding is achieved.

SUSAN ELLIS LIEDER PRIZE

613 OPEN CLASS FOR LIEDER

The prize of £50 will be awarded to the winner of this class providing Exceptional or Outstanding is achieved.

FESTIVAL PRIZE FOR SOLO ACTING

930 FESTIVAL PRIZE FOR SOLO ACTING

The prize of £50 will be awarded to the winner of this class providing Exceptional or Outstanding is achieved. Performers must be 20 years or under on 01/09/2026.

BERTULIS SOLO VERSE SPEAKING CHALLENGE TROPHY

1006 BERTULIS SOLO VERSE SPEAKING CHALLENGE TROPHY

The winners of all Set Verse Speaking classes for performers aged 12 years and under on 01/09/2026 will be invited to perform again ahead of the Festival Concert to compete for the Bertulis Solo Verse Speaking Challenge Trophy.

PLEASE ENSURE ALL TROPHIES FROM LAST YEAR ARE RETURNED BY 31ST JANUARY 2027

Table of Contents

WELCOME TO WCAF!	1
General Rules and Regulations	2
CHOIRS (Music Day: Saturday 6th March 2027, RGS Worcester)	5
ENSEMBLES AND DUETS (Music Day: Sat 6th March 2027, RGS Worcester)	7
SPECIAL CLASSES	9
MOCK EXAM PREPARATION PERFORMANCES (Music Day: Sat 6th March 2027, RGS Worcester)	10
VOCAL (Music Day: Sat 6th March 2027, RGS Worcester)	11
PIANO (Music Day: Sat 6th March 2027, RGS Worcester)	14
STRINGS (Music Day: Sat 6th March 2027, RGS Worcester)	17
WOODWIND (Music Day: Sat 6th March 2027, RGS Worcester)	20
BRASS (Music Day: Sat 6th March 2027, RGS Worcester)	22
MUSICAL THEATRE (27th & 28th February)	24
MARR'S BAR SESSIONS (Rock, Pop, Jazz... any style welcome!)	28
POETRY, PROSE AND DRAMA	31
ORIGINAL WORK	44
Policies	50

WELCOME TO WCAF!

Worcestershire Creative Arts Festival (affectionately known as WCAF!) aims to give amateur performers and writers from Worcestershire and beyond an opportunity to demonstrate their skills in a friendly and supportive environment. WCAF is for anyone, from anywhere, no matter your age, ability or experience! This year, there are more opportunities to perform than ever and we are pleased to offer both non-competitive and competitive opportunities across all sections.

All dates and further information can be found here: <https://www.wcaf.org.uk/diarydates>

Once again, we have made the decision to offer FREE ENTRY to choirs and large ensembles, as long as the entries are completed by 1st December 2026. We are also able to offer a 20% 'Early Bird' discount to all other entries across the festival completed by 1st December 2026 and free entries in the original work (creative writing, presentations and music composition) competitions and Poetry Slam.

Please see the different sections of the syllabus for further details. All entries should be made online via www.playandperform.uk If this poses any problems, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will do all we can to help.

We would like to thank all of our venues for the hire of their premises, our volunteers for everything they do and our sponsors for their generous support.

WCAF is affiliated to the British and International Federation of Festivals for Music, Speech and Drama. The WCAF Annual General Meeting will be held on 2nd October 2026. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please see our website for further details.

WCAF is a registered charity and is run entirely by volunteers. We always need help on festival days and throughout the year. If you could be part of the team we would be most grateful. Please visit our website for further details and to apply: <https://www.wcaf.org.uk/volunteering>

COMMITTEE

Kate Branchett (Chair), Sarah Stone (Vice Chair), Harriet Struthers (Treasurer), Becky Houghton (Secretary), Phillip Ray (Festival Safeguarding Officer), Nick Austin, Lucas Ball, Lucy Capel, Catherine Cantin, Lottie Gilson, Jennifer Greenald, Bryan Husband, Pam Lilley, Simon Lilley, Natalie Ray, Sharon Vas

Honorary Life Members - Mrs Marian Walters MBE and Mrs Rosemary Hopkins

Life members - Mrs V. Cairns, Mrs L. Cole, Mrs S. Joynes, Mrs B. Spybey, Mrs A. Uren, Mrs J. Venables

General Rules and Regulations

Reviewed and applicable from 1st September 2026.

1. Key Dates & Submissions

All entries must be made online via PlayandPerform by 23:45 on 8th January 2027. No other methods of entry are accepted.

'Early Bird' discounts end at 23:45 on 1st December 2026.

Full details of the piece(s) to be performed are requested but do not have to be included at the time of entry (simply put TBC or similar) but entries must be updated and all entry information must be fully complete, with (where required) all backing tracks, videos and/or adjudicator manuscripts uploaded by 23:45 on 16th January 2027. Late submissions risk disqualification without refund.

2. Entry Fees & Discounts

All large ensembles are free of charge and 20% 'early bird' discount is available until 1st December 2026. Prices shown on Play&Perform are inclusive of any discount and prices will rise following the 'early bird' deadline.

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

Fees are payable online at the point of entry. Credit/debit card or PayPal payments preferred. BACS transfers are acceptable and cheque payment may be accepted in exceptional circumstances. If you need an invoice or to pay by cheque, please contact: admin@wcaf.org.uk

Entries may be withdrawn by the entrant at any point, but fees are non-refundable.

3. Age Groups & Category Limits

Age Determination: The performer's age on 1st September 2026 determines class eligibility (aligned with the academic year):

8 & Under: School Year 4 and below

10 & Under: School Year 6 and below

12 & Under: School Year 8 and below

14 & Under: School Year 10 and below

16 & Under: School Year 12 and below

Open Categories: Open to all ages; adult solo categories are for ages 18+.

Groups, ensembles and choirs: It is assumed that the age of the majority of performers in any group, ensemble or choir aligns with the section entered. However, we recognise that this is not always possible. As long as the majority of performers are within the age limits, exceptions may be made (for example, where children are not in their expected school year.) The person making the entry must notify WCAF of any individuals whose ages do not align with the class entered ahead of making the entry, so that the correct class can be agreed. Please ensure the ages of the oldest and youngest performers in your group are included as part of your entry.

Entry Limits: Solo performers may enter only ONE age or standard class plus the OPEN class per section on the same instrument (including voice). Performing on different instruments or as part of multiple ensembles is permitted.

Repertoire: Performers must use a different piece for each entry in the same section.

4. Types of Classes

Across the festival, there are non-competitive classes for all ages and abilities. These classes may be found in the appropriate section.

Entrants in all classes will receive written comments, a certificate and a classification in line with the BIFF mark scheme (Developing, Progressing, Merit, Commended, Honours, Outstanding, Exceptional).

Competitive Classes: 1st, 2nd and 3rd places may also be awarded for competitive classes. Tied places are allowed.

Awards & Feedback: Certificates and written comments should be collected at the end of each class. Adjudicator decisions are final.

Non-Competitive Classes: Performances will simply be celebrated. No comparison will be made between performances and no places nor medals will be awarded. Each performer will receive written comments and a classification mark for their performance. However, these will not be announced and the adjudicator will simply give constructive comments on the performances overall. Entrants may also enter competitive classes.

Trophies and Prizes: WCAF trophies and prizes are awarded on the recommendation of the adjudicators and at the discretion of the WCAF committee. Unless specifically stated, trophies are not usually awarded simply for winning a competitive class. Trophies may therefore be awarded to performers in non-competitive classes. All trophies and prizes will be awarded at the Festival Concert. Trophy winners are required to sign a form on receipt of their trophy and take responsibility for the safe return of the trophy for the following year by 31st January. A fee may be charged if any trophy is returned late, damaged, dirty, missing its box or it is not returned at all.

Inclusive classes: We want to make WCAF as inclusive and accessible as possible. Therefore, we will make every effort to incorporate changes to existing classes and/or new classes to accommodate anyone who has additional needs in the way that is best for them. Please email admin@wcaf.org.uk to discuss.

5. Festival Days

Timetable: The timetable, adjudicator, venues and running order for specific classes are subject to confirmation once all entries have been received. Classes may be divided, combined and/or cancelled at any time. If necessary, classes may be changed to virtual/online, meaning that video submissions will be required by the advertised deadline. In the event of the cancellation of a class, any fees paid will be returned.

Equipment: If required, performers must provide their own sheet music (including a copy for the adjudicator and/or accompanist, where specified.) Relying solely on digital screens/devices is discouraged.

Photography & Video: Strictly prohibited during all performances and adjudications, except for the official WCAF photographers, who will wear uniform and be clearly identifiable.

Food & Drink: No eating or drinking in performance spaces (water bottles are allowed).

6. Performance Guidelines

Choice of Pieces: In classes where the time limit is 5 minutes or less, ONE piece should be performed. Where the time limit is 6 minutes or more, one or more pieces may be performed within the time limit for the class.

Timing of Pieces: Please see the information for each section/class for time limits and number of pieces permitted. Time limits include all introductions and/or pauses. Exceeding time limits or performing in the wrong genre in competitive classes may result in no placement nor ranking and only feedback being given. Please check the requirements of each class carefully.

Introductions: Performers should introduce their piece(s) at the beginning of their performance.

Adjudicator Copies: Please see the information for each section/class about whether copies for the adjudicator are required.

Accompaniment: Musical performances may use a live accompanist or backing tracks, they may be self-accompanied, totally unaccompanied or a mixture of these. The performer's choice should be stated upon entry and if not, updated by 16th January at the latest. If used, backing tracks must be uploaded by 16th January 2027 and must not include the solo line being performed. Official festival accompanists may be requested during registration and WCAF will contact performers directly to make arrangements and fees, where this is possible.

Costumes & Props: Costumes and props are not permitted in classes on the Music day, including the singing classes. Please see the information for each section/class for elements permitted on the Musical Theatre and Poetry, Prose & Drama days.

7. Strong language and adult content

WCAF is a family-friendly festival. We want everyone to enjoy their experience and feel safe. We recognize that some pieces explore adult themes and contain strong language and we don't want to

'censor' entries, but please choose age-appropriate pieces and avoid unnecessary strong language or offensive content. This includes anything that may cause offence regarding protected characteristics (such as race, sex, disability, sexual orientation, or religious beliefs).

Full details of the piece(s) to be performed (including the name of the piece and the composer/author) are requested, but do not have to be included at the time of entry (simply put TBC or similar). However, all entries must be updated and all entry information must be fully complete ahead of the festival so that you can flag any adult themes, strong language, or sensitive topics. If flagged, this doesn't necessarily mean you won't be able to perform your piece. We will ask for a copy to review with you before the day and may suggest minor script changes or add an audience warning so that everyone gets to make an informed choice about whether to watch.

We reserve the right to reject entries with continuous profanity or discriminatory language.

8. Admission & Spectators

Free Admission: Competitors, accompanists, conductors and teachers who have entered groups or multiple performers are admitted free of charge.

Spectator Entry: Spectator tickets and festival programmes are available online: <https://www.wcaf.org.uk/tickets> or 'on the door' each day. Pre-order and multi-session discounts are only available online, in advance.

Accessibility: Special access or parking needs should be notified at least one week in advance to admin@wcaf.org.uk

9. The WCAF Organising Committee reserves the right to:

Change entry and/or spectator ticket prices;

Offer and withdraw discounts or free entry offers;

Change any class to a virtual class, meaning that video submissions will be required by the advertised deadline;

Cancel any class and return the fee;

Divide and/or combine classes;

Change the order of individual performers in a class and if necessary, the class itself; and

Make any changes necessary to the festival to accommodate any current government guidance.

CHOIRS (Music Day: Saturday 6th March 2027, RGS Worcester) Syllabus

All choirs are welcome at WCAF, whatever your size, age, experience or musical style. Choose to compete against other choirs or simply come and perform to a supportive audience. This year, to try to simplify the entry process, we ask you to make that choice when you make your entry, rather than entering a separate class. This year we have increased the performance time limits and introduced a new Male Voice Choirs award in addition to the Worcestershire Choir of the Year competition!

Entry is free for all choirs and we want to keep it that way. WCAF is a registered charity and we have substantial costs to cover for the choir sections, so please bring as many spectators as possible to support your choir, as the revenue from their tickets helps to ensure the sustainability of the festival.

If you are a school that cannot attend the music day, we would still love for you to be part of WCAF. Our adjudicators may be able to visit your school to hear your performances. Please contact admin@wcaf.org.uk to discuss.

Splitting sections: When entering, please give your choir's size and, where applicable, youngest and oldest singers' ages. This helps us split busy classes fairly. Please also indicate if you class yourselves as a Male Voice Choir. Singers may perform with more than one choir and choirs may enter more than once.

Size of your choir: For ease of making entries, the choir classes are split simply into 'large' (15 people or more) and 'small' (15 people or less). However, we know that there is great variation in the actual size of choirs! Therefore, once we have received all entries, we will look at the numbers in each choir and make sure that for the competitive classes we group similar sized choirs together. We will contact entrants to discuss and make sure you are happy with the arrangements.

Ages: Age groups follow school years, taken from the age of the oldest member of your choir on 1st September 2026. Please give your youngest and oldest singers' ages when entering. This enables us to split classes fairly, if necessary. Choirs entering the Open Adult sections may include under-18s, but most singers must be over 18. If you have any queries regarding age groups, please contact us to discuss, as we are always willing to be flexible. Conductors and accompanists can be any age!

Your performance: You are welcome to perform several pieces within your class time limit, including introductions and pauses. Accompaniment is optional; live accompaniment is preferred. If using a backing track, it must be instrumental only and uploaded to PlayandPerform by 23:45 on 16th January 2027. Please check the additional information when entering. Please provide copies of all sheet music for the adjudicator.

Worcestershire Choir of the Year: The Junior, Senior and Adult trophies are awarded at the adjudicator's discretion, each with a £50 prize, to their chosen choir taking part in the following classes:

- o Junior: 1300, 1301, 1302, 1308, 1309, 1310
- o Senior: 1303, 1304, 1305, 1311, 1312, 1313
- o Adult: 1306, 1307, 1314, 1315

Winners must receive an 'Honours', 'Outstanding' or 'Exceptional' mark and are expected to perform at the Festival Concert on Saturday 20th March 2027.

For help choosing a class, information about financial support, school visits or any other questions, please email admin@wcaf.org.uk

Large Choirs

Class	Age	Time	Fee
1300 LARGE CHOIRS - School year 2 and under Group of a minimum of 15 people	6 and under	Up to 4 mins	£0.00 per group
1301 LARGE CHOIRS - School year 4 and under Group of a minimum of 15 people	8 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
1302 LARGE CHOIRS - School year 6 and under Group of a minimum of 15 people	10 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
1303 LARGE CHOIRS - School year 8 and under Group of a minimum of 15 people	12 and under	Up to 8 mins	£0.00 per group
1304 LARGE CHOIRS - School year 11 and under Group of a minimum of 15 people	15 and under	Up to 8 mins	£0.00 per group
1305 LARGE CHOIRS - School year 13 and under Group of a minimum of 15 people	17 and under	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group
1306 OPEN CLASS FOR LARGE CHOIRS Group of a minimum of 15 people	Any	Up to 15 mins	£0.00 per group
1307 OPEN CLASS FOR LARGE CHOIRS - Adult Group of a minimum of 15 people	18 and over	Up to 15 mins	£0.00 per group

Small Choirs

Class	Age	Time	Fee
1308 SMALL CHOIRS - School year 2 and under Group of 3 to 15 people	6 and under	Up to 4 mins	£0.00 per group
1309 SMALL CHOIRS - School year 4 and under Group of 3 to 15 people	8 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
1310 SMALL CHOIRS - School year 6 and under Group of 3 to 15 people	10 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
1311 SMALL CHOIRS - School year 8 and under Award: 012 - Parsons Chambers Music Award Group of 3 to 15 people	12 and under	Up to 8 mins	£0.00 per group
1312 SMALL CHOIRS - School year 11 and under Group of 3 to 15 people	15 and under	Up to 8 mins	£0.00 per group
1313 SMALL CHOIRS - School year 13 and under Group of 3 to 10 people	17 and under	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group
1314 OPEN CLASS FOR SMALL CHOIRS Group of 3 to 15 people	Any	Up to 15 mins	£0.00 per group
1315 OPEN CLASS FOR SMALL CHOIRS - Adult Group of 3 to 15 people	18 and over	Up to 15 mins	£0.00 per group

ENSEMBLES AND DUETS (Music Day: Sat 6th March 2027, RGS Worcester) Syllabus

All music groups and ensembles are welcome at WCAF, whatever your size, age, ability or experience! Choose to compete or simply perform to a supportive audience. Groups/ensembles in this section enter free and duets receive a 20% 'early-bird' discount until 1st December 2026. We do not believe any performer should miss out due to financial hardship. For help with fees, including possible free places or bursaries, please contact admin@wcaf.org.uk

Any musical style and combination of instruments is welcome, including groups of the same instrument. This year, to simplify the entry process, all groups and ensembles should enter this section, no matter what instruments you are made up of. So whether you are a cello group, a brass band, a ukulele ensemble or a full symphony orchestra, please enter here. Voices may be included, but two-voice and piano-and-voice duets belong in the vocal section. Duets for two pianists should enter the piano duets section. For rock, pop or jazz, you may also like the Marr's Bar sessions.

Age groups follow school years, taken from the age of the oldest member of your ensemble on 1st September 2026. Please give your youngest and oldest singers' ages when entering, to enable us to split classes fairly, if necessary. Ensembles entering Open Adult sections may include under-18s, but most performers must be over 18. If you have any queries, please contact us to discuss, as we are always willing to be flexible. Conductors and accompanists can be any age!

You are welcome to perform multiple pieces within the time limit for your class, including introductions and pauses. Please provide copies of all sheet music for the adjudicator. Accompaniment is optional; live accompaniment is preferred. If used, backing tracks must not include the instruments played by your ensemble and must be uploaded to PlayandPerform by 16th January 2027.

Instrumental Duets

Own choice of duet for instruments or instrument/voice, with or without piano accompaniment. (This does not include piano or vocal duet - please see the piano and vocal sections for these classes.)

Class	Age	Time	Fee
400 INSTRUMENTAL DUET - School year 2 and under	8 and under	Up to 3 mins	£12.00
401 INSTRUMENTAL DUET - School year 4 and under	8 and under	Up to 3 mins	£12.00
402 INSTRUMENTAL DUET - School year 6 and under	10 and under	Up to 4 mins	£12.80
404 INSTRUMENTAL DUET - School year 11 and under	15 and under	Up to 6 mins	£14.40
405 OPEN CLASS FOR INSTRUMENTAL DUET	Any	Up to 8 mins	£16.00
406 NON-COMPETITIVE INSTRUMENTAL DUET	Any	Up to 8 mins	£16.00

Small Music Ensemble

Class	Age	Time	Fee
403 INSTRUMENTAL DUET - School year 9 and under	13 and under	Up to 5 mins	£13.60

Class	Age	Time	Fee
407 SMALL ENSEMBLE - Novice - Open This competitive class is for ensembles of beginners of any age, playing piece(s) up to approximately grade 1 standard. Group of 3 to 10 people	Any	Up to 4 mins	£0.00 per group
408 SMALL ENSEMBLE - School year 4 and under Group of 3 to 10 people	8 and under	Up to 4 mins	£0.00 per group
409 SMALL ENSEMBLE - School year 6 and under Group of 3 to 10 people	10 and under	Up to 5 mins	£0.00 per group
410 SMALL ENSEMBLE - School year 9 and under Group of 3 to 10 people	13 and under	Up to 5 mins	£0.00 per group
411 SMALL ENSEMBLE - School year 11 and under Group of 3 to 10 people	15 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
412 SMALL ENSEMBLE - School year 13 and under Group of 3 to 10 people	17 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
413 SMALL ENSEMBLE - Open Group of 3 to 10 people	Any	Up to 8 mins	£0.00 per group
414 SMALL ENSEMBLE - Open adult Group of 3 to 10 people	Any	Up to 8 mins	£0.00 per group
415 NON-COMPETITIVE MUSIC SMALL ENSEMBLE - Open Group of 3 to 10 people	Any	Up to 8 mins	£0.00 per group

Large Music Ensemble, Band or Orchestra

Class	Age	Time	Fee
416 LARGE ENSEMBLE, BAND OR ORCHESTRA - Novice - Open This competitive class is for ensembles of beginners of any age, playing piece(s) up to approximately grade 1 standard. Group of a minimum of 10 people	Any	Up to 4 mins	£0.00 per group
417 LARGE ENSEMBLE, BAND OR ORCHESTRA - School year 2 and under Group of a minimum of 10 people	6 and under	Up to 4 mins	£0.00 per group
418 LARGE ENSEMBLE, BAND OR ORCHESTRA - School year 4 and under Group of a minimum of 10 people	8 and under	Up to 5 mins	£0.00 per group
419 LARGE ENSEMBLE, BAND OR ORCHESTRA - School year 6 and under Group of a minimum of 10 people	10 and under	Up to 5 mins	£0.00 per group
420 LARGE ENSEMBLE, BAND OR ORCHESTRA - School year 9 and under Group of a minimum of 10 people	13 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
421 LARGE ENSEMBLE, BAND OR ORCHESTRA - School year 11 and under Group of a minimum of 10 people	15 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
422 LARGE ENSEMBLE, BAND OR ORCHESTRA - School year 13 and under Group of a minimum of 10 people	17 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
423 LARGE ENSEMBLE, BAND OR ORCHESTRA - Open Group of a minimum of 10 people	Any	Up to 8 mins	£0.00 per group
424 LARGE ENSEMBLE, BAND OR ORCHESTRA - Open adult Group of a minimum of 10 people	Any	Up to 8 mins	£0.00 per group
425 NON-COMPETITIVE MUSIC LARGE ENSEMBLE - Open Group of a minimum of 10 people	Any	Up to 8 mins	£0.00 per group
426 INCLUSIVE MUSIC GROUP - Open Group of a minimum of 10 people	Any	Up to 8 mins	£0.00 per group

SPECIAL CLASSES Syllabus

WCAF has special classes across the festival to celebrate and reward high achievement. A 20% 'early bird' discount is available until 1st December 2026 (the prices advertised throughout the syllabus and on Play&Perform include this discount and will change from 1st December if entries have not been completed). 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

Winners are expected to be available for the WCAF Festival Concert on Saturday 20th March 2027, where trophies will be awarded.

Entrants may also be interested in other WCAF classes with specific prizes:

304 VALE TROPHY - OPEN CLASS FOR PIANO SOLO

930 FESTIVAL PRIZE FOR ACTING

1006 BERTULIS SOLO VERSE SPEAKING CHALLENGE TROPHY

1237/1238/1239 THE MARY MANNION COMPOSITION TROPHY

The above classes are listed in the relevant section, as they include only one discipline. The special classes below cross several disciplines and are intended to encourage and inspire young performers and give opportunities to perform to a supportive audience.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
000 MARIAN BAKER MEMORIAL PRIZE & CUP Award: Marian Baker Cup & £45 Entrants should perform two contrasting pieces on any instrument or voice. A minimum standard of Grade 6 is required.	12 and under	Up to 10 mins	£16.00
001 SPROULE PRIZE & TROPHY FOR SPEECH, DRAMA & MUSIC Award: 199 Sproule Trophy and £50 Entrants are required to perform either a poem or an acted scene AND a song or a piece of music on any instrument of the candidate's choice.	15 and under	Up to 10 mins	£18.00
002 WILLIAM LEWIS RECITAL PRIZE & SALVER Award: 40 William Lewis Salver & £100 (requires Honours or higher) Donated by the parents & friends of the late William Lewis of Stourport. An interesting, varied programme of two or more contrasting pieces for any instrument or voice, choice of which will be taken into account in adjudication.	Any	Up to 15 mins	£20.00

NEWCOMERS' CLASSES

New to WCAF or performing in a festival for the first time? These welcoming, non-competitive classes are designed especially for first-time festival performers of all ages. Whether you play an instrument, sing, or recite a dramatic monologue or poem, you'll have the opportunity to experience the friendly, relaxed atmosphere of the festival.

No previous festival experience is needed. Simply choose a performance that you're proud of and enjoy performing before an experienced, understanding adjudicator and supportive audience. You'll receive encouraging verbal feedback designed to build confidence and celebrate your achievement. There are no trophies or placings - just a positive first festival experience that we hope will inspire you to return again and again. Everyone is welcome.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
003 NEWCOMERS' CLASS - MUSIC & SINGING	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00

MOCK EXAM PERFORMANCE

Preparing for a music examination can be daunting, particularly for the first time. This non-competitive section provides a supportive opportunity for musicians to perform their pieces in front of an experienced independent adjudicator before the actual practical or recorded/digital exam day. Designed to bridge the gap between music lessons and the practical exam, performers will receive constructive verbal and written feedback to help refine their performance, build confidence and develop stage presence in a friendly, encouraging environment.

Whether you're preparing for your first grade or a diploma, suitable preparation for practical examinations across all recognised examination boards and GCSE/A Level, this class offers valuable live performance experience to help you feel ready for exam day.

500 BEGINNER MOCK EXAM PERFORMANCE CLASS (Grade 1- 3)

Fee £12.80

Up to 10 mins

501 INTERMEDIATE MOCK EXAM PERFORMANCE CLASS (Grade 4- 5)

Fee £14.40

Up to 12 mins

502 ADVANCED MOCK EXAM PERFORMANCE CLASS (Grade 6 and above)

Fee £16.00

Up to 18 mins

503 DIPLOMA MOCK EXAM PERFORMANCE CLASS

Fee £20.00

Up to 20 mins

VOCAL (Music Day: Sat 6th March 2027, RGS Worcester) Syllabus

The vocal classes on the Music Day are for all singers, of any age, ability or experience. There are both non-competitive and competitive opportunities to perform. 20% 'early bird' discount is available on all solo and duet entries until 1st December 2026. We do not believe any performer should miss out due to financial hardship. Please contact us to discuss free places and bursaries that may be available: admin@wcaf.org.uk

Categories in the Music Day vocal section this year include: vocal solo, vocal duets, folk song and non-competitive vocal solo. Singers may also be interested in entering the choral sections (which will also take place at the Music Day), musical theatre (27th & 28th Feb 2027) and the Marr's Bar Sessions (7th and 14th March 2027) for rock, pop, jazz, soul...anything goes!

Soloists of any age may enter the class most appropriate for their singing standard and the open class for each competitive section. Singers may enter non-competitive classes in addition. The year 2 and under non-competitive section is a perfect opportunity for younger performers who may not have been learning for very long. It will be fun, friendly and supportive. A copy of all pieces must be provided for the adjudicator.

More experienced performers may also wish to enter the following classes:

- o Marian Baker Memorial Prize and Cup for performers of Grade 6 standard or above AND aged 12 years or under on 1st September 2026.
- o Sproule Prize & Trophy for Speech, Drama and Music for performers who also love speech and drama and were aged 15 years or under on 1st September 2026
- o William Lewis Recital Prize and Salver for performers of any age of grade 6 standard or above.

Vocal Solo

Class	Age	Time	Fee
600 NOVICE VOCAL SOLO (Up to approx. grade 1)	Any	Up to 1 min	£6.40
601 GRADE 1 VOCAL SOLO	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
602 GRADE 2 VOCAL SOLO	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
603 GRADE 3 VOCAL SOLO	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
604 GRADE 4 VOCAL SOLO	Any	Up to 4 mins	£9.60
605 GRADE 5 VOCAL SOLO	Any	Up to 4 mins	£9.60
606 GRADE 6 VOCAL SOLO	Any	Up to 6 mins	£11.20
607 GRADE 7 VOCAL SOLO	Any	Up to 6 mins	£11.20
608 GRADE 8 VOCAL SOLO	Any	Up to 6 mins	£11.20
609 OPEN CLASS FOR VOCAL SOLO	Any	Up to 8 mins	£12.80
610 OPEN CLASS FOR VOCAL SOLO - Adult	18 and over	Up to 8 mins	£12.80
611 TREBLE SOLO	14 and under	Up to 6 mins	£9.60
612 OPEN CLASS FOR ORATORIO/SACRED WORK	Any	Up to 8 mins	£12.80
614 OPEN CLASS FOR LIEDER The Susan Ellis Lieder Prize will be £50 (requires Honours or higher)	Any	Up to 8 mins	£12.80
641 OPEN CLASS FOR OPERA	Any	Up to 8 mins	£12.80

Vocal Duets

Class	Age	Time	Fee
631 VOCAL DUET - School year 4 and under	8 and under	Up to 3 mins	£12.00
632 VOCAL DUET - School year 6 and under	10 and under	Up to 4 mins	£12.80
633 VOCAL DUET - School year 9 and under	13 and under	Up to 4 mins	£13.60
634 VOCAL DUET - School year 11 and under	15 and under	Up to 6 mins	£14.40
635 OPEN CLASS FOR VOCAL DUET	Any	Up to 8 mins	£12.80

Folk Song

Class	Age	Time	Fee
620 NOVICE FOLK SONG SOLO (UP TO APPROX.GRADE 1)	Any	Up to 1 min	£8.00
621 GRADE 1 FOLK SONG SOLO	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
622 GRADE 2 FOLK SONG SOLO	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
623 GRADE 3 FOLK SONG SOLO	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
624 GRADE 4 FOLK SONG SOLO	Any	Up to 4 mins	£9.60
625 GRADE 5 FOLK SONG SOLO	Any	Up to 4 mins	£9.60
626 GRADE 6 FOLK SONG SOLO	Any	Up to 6 mins	£11.20

Class	Age	Time	Fee
627 GRADE 7 FOLK SONG SOLO	Any	Up to 6 mins	£11.20
628 GRADE 8 FOLK SONG SOLO	Any	Up to 6 mins	£11.20
629 OPEN CLASS FOR FOLK SONG SOLO	Any	Up to 8 mins	£12.80
630 OPEN CLASS FOR FOLK SONG SOLO- ADULT	Any	Up to 8 mins	£12.80

Opera and Operetta

Please note that these sections will take place on Saturday 6th March at the Music day. Own choice of opera or operetta performance.

Please do not worry if you have a very small or very large number of performers in your group. It is likely we will split classes further based upon the size of each group and the ages of the performers. Individual performers may perform as part of more than one group and/or school.

Age guidelines are given for each class and performers may enter only one class appropriate for the age of the eldest performer and/or the open class in this section. Please note that the ages for the classes below are the age of the performer on 1st September 2026. Please don't hesitate to speak to us if you have any queries about the age groups: admin@wcaf.org.uk. A different piece must be played or performed for each entry.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
642 OPEN CLASS FOR OPERETTA SOLO	Any	Up to 6 mins	£16.00
643 OPEN CLASS FOR OPERETTA DUET	Any	Up to 6 mins	£16.00
644 OPEN CLASS FOR OPERETTA TRIO/QUARTET Group of 3 to 4 people	7 and over	Up to 6 mins	£17.60
645 OPEN CLASS FOR OPERETTA GROUP Group of a minimum of 5 people	Any	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group
646 NON-COMPETITIVE CLASS FOR OPERETTA SOLO - Open	Any	Up to 6 mins	£12.80
647 NON-COMPETITIVE CLASS FOR OPERETTA GROUP - Open Group of any size	Any	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group

Non-competitive Vocal

Class	Age	Time	Fee
636 NON-COMPETITIVE VOCAL SOLO - School year 2 and under	6 and under	Up to 1 min	£6.40
637 NON-COMPETITIVE VOCAL SOLO - School year 6 and under	10 and under	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
638 NON-COMPETITIVE VOCAL SOLO - School year 13 and under	17 and under	Up to 5 mins	£11.20
639 NON-COMPETITIVE VOCAL SOLO - Open	Any	Up to 8 mins	£12.80
640 NON-COMPETITIVE VOCAL DUET - Open	Any	Up to 5 mins	£16.00

PIANO (Music Day: Sat 6th March 2027, RGS Worcester) Syllabus

These classes are intended to take place on Saturday 6th March 2027 at the Royal Grammar School. Times and dates of all classes are subject to confirmation once all entries have been received. The committee reserve the right to combine and/or separate classes dependent upon the number of entries received.

All large ensembles are free of charge and 20% 'early bird' discount is available until 1st December 2026. 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 piano section this year:

Piano solo (including the Vale Pianos Prize)

Piano duet

Non-competitive piano solo

Non-competitive piano duet

Unless otherwise stated, classes are competitive and places will be awarded. Times and dates of all classes are subject to confirmation once all entries have been received. The committee reserve the right to combine and/or separate classes dependent upon the number of entries received. Non-competitive classes can be found at the end of this section.

Performers should introduce their piece(s) at the beginning of their performance. Timings should include introduction and any breaks between pieces. A copy of all pieces must be provided for the adjudicator. In classes where the time limit is 5 minutes or less, ONE piece is to be performed. Where the time limit is 6 minutes or more, one OR two pieces may be performed within the time limit for the class.

Full details of the 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 name and composer of the piece by 16th January 2027 at the latest.

Piano Solo

Solo performers may enter only the class most appropriate for their playing standard and the open class in this section. Different piece(s) must be played or performed for each entry.

In addition, performers may wish to enter the following special classes:

- Performers who are Grade 6 standard or above AND were aged 12 years or under on 1st September 2026 may also wish to enter the Marian Baker Memorial Prize and Cup class.
- Instrumentalists who also love speech and drama and were aged 15 years or under on 1st September 2026 may also wish to enter the Sproule Prize & Trophy for Speech, Drama and Music.
- Performers who are grade 6 standard or above may also wish to enter the William Lewis Recital Prize and Salver class.

PLEASE NOTE THAT PIECES PERFORMED IN THE PIANO SECTION MAY ALSO BE PLAYED IN THE ABOVE SPECIAL CLASSES

The year 2 and under non-competitive section is a perfect opportunity for younger performers who may not have been learning for very long. It will be fun, friendly and supportive and a small prize will be awarded to all entrants.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
300 NOVICE PIANO SOLO (Up to approx. grade 1)	Any	Up to 1 min	£6.40
301 GRADE 1 PIANO SOLO	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
302 GRADE 2 PIANO SOLO	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
303 GRADE 3 PIANO SOLO	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
304 GRADE 4 PIANO SOLO	Any	Up to 4 mins	£9.60
305 GRADE 5 PIANO SOLO	Any	Up to 4 mins	£9.60
306 GRADE 6 PIANO SOLO	Any	Up to 6 mins	£11.20
307 GRADE 7 PIANO SOLO	Any	Up to 6 mins	£11.20
308 GRADE 8 PIANO SOLO	Any	Up to 6 mins	£11.20
309 OPEN CLASS FOR PIANO SOLO The winner of this class will receive the Vale Trophy at the Festival Concert (requires Honours or higher). This class is open to anyone of any age and the usual standard is grade 8+. In addition, those over the age of 18 may also wish to consider entering the OPEN CLASS FOR PIANO SOLO - ADULT class.	Any	Up to 8 mins	£12.80
310 OPEN CLASS FOR PIANO SOLO - ADULT	18 and over	Up to 8 mins	£12.80

Piano Duet

Class	Age	Time	Fee
311 BEGINNER PIANO DUET - Teacher and student This class is open to grades upto and including grade 3 and all ages. We will split by approximate standard if we get enough entries.	Any	Up to 4 mins	£12.80

Class	Age	Time	Fee
312 INTERMEDIATE PIANO DUET - Teacher and student This class is open to grades 4 and 5 and all ages. We will split by approximate standard if we get enough entries.	Any	Up to 6 mins	£14.40
313 ADVANCED PIANO DUET - Teacher and student This class is open to grades 6 and above and all ages. We will split by approximate standard if we get enough entries.	Any	Up to 8 mins	£16.00
314 PIANO DUET - School year 6 and under	10 and under	Up to 4 mins	£12.80
315 PIANO DUET - School year 11 and under	15 and under	Up to 6 mins	£14.40
316 OPEN CLASS FOR PIANO DUET	Any	Up to 8 mins	£16.00

Non-competitive Piano Solo

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. Performers may enter with their own choice of piece.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
317 NON-COMPETITIVE PIANO SOLO - School year 2 and under	6 and under	Up to 1 min	£6.40
318 NON-COMPETITIVE PIANO SOLO - School year 6 and under	10 and under	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
319 NON-COMPETITIVE PIANO SOLO - School year 13 and under	17 and under	Up to 5 mins	£11.20
320 NON-COMPETITIVE PIANO SOLO - Adult	Any	Up to 8 mins	£12.80

Non-competitive Piano Duet

Performers may choose any piece suitable for their ability. Individual performers may perform as part of more than one duet. There is no age nor ability limit and teacher/pupil duets are welcomed. Different piece(s) must be played for each entry.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
321 NON-COMPETITIVE PIANO DUET - OPEN	Any	Up to 4 mins	£16.00

STRINGS (Music Day: Sat 6th March 2027, RGS Worcester) Syllabus

String classes are for all string instruments, including (but not limited to): violin, viola, cello, double bass, harp, guitar and ukulele. We have simplified entries this year. You will find solo categories for all stringed instruments in this section. However, for all ensembles (including string), please see the Music Day Ensembles and Duets section and you can make your entries there.

20% 'early bird' discount is available on all solo and duet entries until 1st December 2026. We do not believe any performer should miss out due to financial hardship. Please contact us to discuss free places and bursaries that may be available: admin@wcaf.org.uk

Soloists of any age may enter only the class most appropriate for their playing standard and the open class for each instrument in each competitive section. Performers may make further entries to the same class if playing more than one instrument and may enter non-competitive classes in addition. A copy of all pieces must be provided for the adjudicator.

The year 2 and under non-competitive section is a perfect opportunity for younger performers who may not have been learning for very long. It will be fun, friendly and supportive. Electric guitar players should enter the rock and pop section.

More experienced performers may also wish to enter the following classes:

- Marian Baker Memorial Prize and Cup for performers of Grade 6 standard or above AND aged 12 years or under on 1st September 2026.
- Sproule Prize & Trophy for Speech, Drama and Music for performers who also love speech and drama and were aged 15 years or under on 1st September 2026
- William Lewis Recital Prize and Salver for performers of any age of grade 6 standard or above.

Bowed String Solo

These classes are for solo bowed string instruments including violin, viola, cello and double bass. Despite the name of the class, all playing techniques are permitted, including pizzicato. If there are enough entries, we will split classes by instrument.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
100 NOVICE BOWED STRING SOLO (Up to approx. grade 1)	Any	Up to 1 min	£6.40
101 GRADE 1 BOWED STRING SOLO	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
102 GRADE 2 BOWED STRING SOLO	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
103 GRADE 3 BOWED STRING SOLO	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
104 GRADE 4 BOWED STRING SOLO	Any	Up to 4 mins	£9.60
105 GRADE 5 BOWED STRING SOLO	Any	Up to 4 mins	£9.60
106 GRADE 6 BOWED STRING SOLO	Any	Up to 6 mins	£11.20
107 GRADE 7 BOWED STRING SOLO	Any	Up to 6 mins	£11.20
108 GRADE 8 BOWED STRING SOLO	Any	Up to 6 mins	£11.20
109 OPEN CLASS FOR BOWED STRING SOLO	Any	Up to 8 mins	£12.80
110 OPEN CLASS FOR BOWED STRING SOLO - Adult	18 and over	Up to 8 mins	£12.80

Harp Solo

Class	Age	Time	Fee
111 NOVICE HARP SOLO (Up to approx. grade 1)	Any	Up to 1 min	£6.40
112 GRADE 1 HARP SOLO	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
113 GRADE 2 HARP SOLO	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
114 GRADE 3 HARP SOLO	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
115 GRADE 4 HARP SOLO	Any	Up to 4 mins	£9.60
116 GRADE 5 HARP SOLO	Any	Up to 4 mins	£9.60
117 GRADE 6 HARP SOLO	Any	Up to 6 mins	£11.20
118 GRADE 7 HARP SOLO	Any	Up to 6 mins	£11.20
119 GRADE 8 HARP SOLO	Any	Up to 6 mins	£11.20
120 OPEN CLASS FOR HARP SOLO	Any	Up to 8 mins	£12.80
121 OPEN CLASS FOR HARP SOLO - Adult	18 and over	Up to 8 mins	£12.80

Guitar and Ukulele Solo

These classes are for acoustic instruments. If you would like to perform on an electric instrument, these classes will take place for the first time this year at the Rock and Pop days.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
122 NOVICE ACOUSTIC GUITAR SOLO (Up to approx. grade 1)	Any	Up to 1 min	£6.40
123 GRADE 1 ACOUSTIC GUITAR SOLO	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
124 GRADE 2 ACOUSTIC GUITAR SOLO	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
125 GRADE 3 ACOUSTIC GUITAR SOLO	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
126 GRADE 4 ACOUSTIC GUITAR SOLO	Any	Up to 4 mins	£9.60
127 GRADE 5 ACOUSTIC GUITAR SOLO	Any	Up to 4 mins	£9.60
128 GRADE 6 ACOUSTIC GUITAR SOLO	Any	Up to 6 mins	£11.20
129 GRADE 7 ACOUSTIC GUITAR SOLO	Any	Up to 6 mins	£11.20
130 GRADE 8 ACOUSTIC GUITAR SOLO	Any	Up to 6 mins	£11.20
131 OPEN CLASS FOR ACOUSTIC GUITAR SOLO	Any	Up to 8 mins	£12.80
132 OPEN CLASS FOR ACOUSTIC GUITAR SOLO - Adult	18 and over	Up to 8 mins	£12.80
133 NOVICE UKULELE SOLO (Up to approx. grade 1)	Any	Up to 1 min	£6.40
134 GRADE 1 UKULELE SOLO	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
135 GRADE 2 UKULELE SOLO	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
136 GRADE 3 UKULELE SOLO	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
137 GRADE 4 UKULELE SOLO	Any	Up to 4 mins	£9.60
138 GRADE 5 UKULELE SOLO	Any	Up to 4 mins	£9.60
139 GRADE 6 UKULELE SOLO	Any	Up to 6 mins	£11.20
140 GRADE 7 UKULELE SOLO	Any	Up to 6 mins	£11.20

Class	Age	Time	Fee
141 GRADE 8 UKULELE SOLO	Any	Up to 6 mins	£11.20
142 OPEN CLASS FOR UKULELE SOLO	Any	Up to 8 mins	£12.80
143 OPEN CLASS FOR UKULELE SOLO - Adult	18 and over	Up to 8 mins	£12.80

Non-Competitive String Solo

Class	Age	Time	Fee
155 NON-COMPETITIVE STRING SOLO - School year 2 and under	6 and under	Up to 1 min	£6.40
156 NON-COMPETITIVE STRING SOLO - School year 6 and under	10 and under	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
157 NON-COMPETITIVE STRING SOLO - School year 13 and under	17 and under	Up to 5 mins	£11.20
158 NON-COMPETITIVE STRING SOLO - Adult	18 and over	Up to 8 mins	£12.80

Woodwind classes are for all woodwind instruments, including (but not limited to): recorders, flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon and saxophone. We have simplified entries this year. You will find solo categories for all stringed instruments in this section. However, for all ensembles (including woodwind), please see the Music Day Ensembles and Duets section and you can make your entries there.

20% 'early bird' discount is available on all solo and duet entries until 1st December 2026. We do not believe any performer should miss out due to financial hardship. Please contact us to discuss free places and bursaries that may be available: admin@wcaf.org.uk

Soloists of any age may enter only the class most appropriate for their playing standard and the open class for each instrument in each competitive section. Performers may make further entries to the same class if playing more than one instrument and may enter non-competitive classes in addition. The year 2 and under non-competitive section is a perfect opportunity for younger performers who may not have been learning for very long. It will be fun, friendly and supportive. A copy of all pieces must be provided for the adjudicator.

More experienced performers may also wish to enter the following classes:

- o Marian Baker Memorial Prize and Cup for performers of Grade 6 standard or above AND aged 12 years or under on 1st September 2026.
- o Sproule Prize & Trophy for Speech, Drama and Music for performers who also love speech and drama and were aged 15 years or under on 1st September 2026
- o William Lewis Recital Prize and Salver for performers of any age of grade 6 standard or above.

Woodwind Solo

If there are enough entries, we will split the classes into instruments (i.e. flute, recorder etc).

Class	Age	Time	Fee
200 NOVICE WOODWIND SOLO (Up to approx. grade 1)	Any	Up to 1 min	£6.40
201 GRADE 1 WOODWIND SOLO	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
202 GRADE 2 WOODWIND SOLO	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
203 GRADE 3 WOODWIND SOLO	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
204 GRADE 4 WOODWIND SOLO	Any	Up to 4 mins	£9.60
205 GRADE 5 WOODWIND SOLO	Any	Up to 4 mins	£9.60
206 GRADE 6 WOODWIND SOLO	Any	Up to 6 mins	£11.20
207 GRADE 7 WOODWIND SOLO	Any	Up to 6 mins	£11.20
208 GRADE 8 WOODWIND SOLO	Any	Up to 6 mins	£11.20
209 OPEN CLASS FOR WOODWIND SOLO	Any	Up to 8 mins	£12.80

Non-Competitive Woodwind Solo

Class	Age	Time	Fee
218 NON-COMPETITIVE WOODWIND SOLO - School year 2 and under	6 and under	Up to 1 min	£6.40
219 NON-COMPETITIVE WOODWIND SOLO - School year 6 and under	10 and under	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
220 NON-COMPETITIVE WOODWIND SOLO - School year 13 and under	17 and under	Up to 5 mins	£11.20
221 NON-COMPETITIVE WOODWIND SOLO - Adult	18 and over	Up to 8 mins	£12.80

BRASS (Music Day: Sat 6th March 2027, RGS Worcester) Syllabus

Brass classes are for all brass instruments. (This does not include saxophone, as this is classed as a woodwind instrument. Saxophone players may wish to enter the woodwind and/or jazz sections.) We have simplified entries this year. You will find solo categories for all stringed instruments in this section. However, for all ensembles (including woodwind), please see the Music Day Ensembles and Duets section and you can make your entries there.

20% 'early bird' discount is available on all solo and duet entries until 1st December 2026. We do not believe any performer should miss out due to financial hardship. Please contact us to discuss free places and bursaries that may be available: admin@wcaf.org.uk

Soloists of any age may enter only the class most appropriate for their playing standard and the open class for each instrument in each competitive section. Performers may make further entries to the same class if playing more than one instrument and may enter non-competitive classes in addition. The year 2 and under non-competitive section is a perfect opportunity for younger performers who may not have been learning for very long. It will be fun, friendly and supportive. A copy of all pieces must be provided for the adjudicator.

More experienced performers may also wish to enter the following classes:

- o Marian Baker Memorial Prize and Cup for performers of Grade 6 standard or above AND aged 12 years or under on 1st September 2026.
- o Sproule Prize & Trophy for Speech, Drama and Music for performers who also love speech and drama and were aged 15 years or under on 1st September 2026
- o William Lewis Recital Prize and Salver for performers of any age of grade 6 standard or above.

Brass Solo

If we have enough entries, we will split classes by instrument (i.e. trumpet, trombone etc).

Class	Age	Time	Fee
250 NOVICE BRASS SOLO (Up to approx. grade 1)	Any	Up to 1 min	£6.40
251 GRADE 1 BRASS SOLO	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
252 GRADE 2 BRASS SOLO	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
253 GRADE 3 BRASS SOLO	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
254 GRADE 4 BRASS SOLO	Any	Up to 4 mins	£9.60
255 GRADE 5 BRASS SOLO	Any	Up to 4 mins	£9.60
256 GRADE 6 BRASS SOLO	Any	Up to 6 mins	£11.20
257 GRADE 7 BRASS SOLO	Any	Up to 6 mins	£11.20
258 GRADE 8 BRASS SOLO	Any	Up to 6 mins	£11.20
259 OPEN CLASS FOR BRASS SOLO	Any	Up to 8 mins	£12.80

Non-competitive Brass Solo

Performers may enter with their own choice of piece on any brass instrument. Performers may make more than one entry to these classes on different instruments. Different piece(s) must be played or performed for each entry.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
267 NON-COMPETITIVE BRASS SOLO - School year 2 and under	6 and under	Up to 1 min	£6.40
268 NON-COMPETITIVE BRASS SOLO - School year 6 and under	10 and under	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
269 NON-COMPETITIVE BRASS SOLO - School year 13 and under	17 and under	Up to 5 mins	£11.20
270 NON-COMPETITIVE BRASS SOLO - Adult	18 and over	Up to 8 mins	£12.80

MUSICAL THEATRE (27th & 28th February) Syllabus

WCAF Musical Theatre weekend will take place on Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th February, with exciting professional workshops taking place alongside the competitive and non-competitive sections.

All Musical Theatre ensembles are free of charge and an 'early bird' discount is available for solos, duets, trios and quartets until 1st December. 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

Entries in these sections should be songs that are sung by characters in musicals, in films or in plays. They may combine song, spoken dialogue and movement and/or dance to tell a story. The adjudicator will take into account all elements as part of the overall performance, including the suitability of the song for the age and vocal range of the performer(s). Performers may also be interested in entering the Operetta solos, duets, trios/quartets and groups that will take place on the Music day.

Performers should introduce their song(s) at the beginning of their performance. The introduction should include the performer's name, song title and the show from which the song comes. More information (such as the name of the character who sings it) may be included, but the entire introduction and performance must fit within the time limit for the class.

Scenery and hand-held props may be used, as long as the performer can carry everything on to stage themselves in one attempt. A suggestion of costume (including makeup) may be worn. However, the use of scenery, costume and makeup are optional and will not affect the mark given. You do not need to provide sheet music or lyrics for the adjudicator.

More experienced performers may also wish to enter the following classes:

- o Marian Baker Memorial Prize and Cup for performers of Grade 6 standard or above AND aged 12 years or under on 1st September 2026.

- o Sproule Prize & Trophy for Speech, Drama and Music for performers who also love speech and drama and were aged 15 years or under on 1st September 2026

- o William Lewis Recital Prize and Salver for performers of any age of grade 6 standard or above.

PLEASE NOTE THAT PIECES PERFORMED IN THE MUSICAL THEATRE SECTION MAY ALSO BE PERFORMED IN THE ABOVE SPECIAL CLASSES

WCAF is a family-friendly festival. We want everyone to enjoy their experience and feel safe. We recognize that some pieces explore adult themes and contain strong language and we don't want to 'censor' entries, but please choose age-appropriate pieces and avoid unnecessary strong language or offensive content. This includes anything that may cause offence regarding protected characteristics (such as race, sex, disability, sexual orientation, or religious beliefs). Full details of the piece(s) to be performed (including the name of the piece and the composer/author) are requested, but do not have to be included at the time of entry (simply put TBC or similar). However, all entries must be updated and all entry information must be fully complete ahead of the festival so that you can flag any adult themes, strong language, or sensitive topics. If flagged, this doesn't necessarily mean you won't be able to perform your piece. We will ask for a copy to review with you before the day and may suggest minor script changes or add an audience warning so that everyone gets to make an informed choice about whether to watch.

We reserve the right to reject entries with continuous profanity or discriminatory language.

Musical Theatre Solo

Class	Age	Time	Fee
800 MUSICAL THEATRE SOLO - School year 2 and under	6 and under	Up to 1 min	£6.40
801 MUSICAL THEATRE SOLO - School year 3	7	Up to 2 mins	£8.00
802 MUSICAL THEATRE SOLO - School year 4	8	Up to 2 mins	£8.00
803 MUSICAL THEATRE SOLO - School year 5	9	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
804 MUSICAL THEATRE SOLO - School year 6	10	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
805 MUSICAL THEATRE SOLO - School year 7	11	Up to 4 mins	£9.60
806 MUSICAL THEATRE SOLO - School year 8	12	Up to 4 mins	£9.60
807 MUSICAL THEATRE SOLO - School year 9	13	Up to 4 mins	£9.60
808 MUSICAL THEATRE SOLO - School year 10	14	Up to 4 mins	£9.60
809 MUSICAL THEATRE SOLO - School year 11	15	Up to 5 mins	£11.20
810 MUSICAL THEATRE SOLO - School year 12	16	Up to 5 mins	£11.20
811 MUSICAL THEATRE SOLO - School year 13	17	Up to 5 mins	£11.20
812 OPEN CLASS FOR MUSICAL THEATRE SOLO	Any	Up to 6 mins	£12.80
813 OPEN CLASS FOR MUSICAL THEATRE SOLO - Adult	18 and over	Up to 6 mins	£12.80
838 MUSICAL THEATRE SOLO - INCLUSIVE This class is open to anyone who may have additional needs. Please contact us to discuss how we can accommodate you in the best way.	Any	Up to 3 mins	£6.00

Musical Theatre Duet

Own choice of musical theatre duet. Duets made up of exactly the same performers may enter only one class appropriate for the age of the eldest performer and/or the open class in this section. Individuals may be part of more than one duet with different partners. A different song must be performed for each entry.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
814 MUSICAL THEATRE DUET - School year 4 and under Oldest performer in the duet must be aged 7 or 8 on 1st September 2026.	8 and under	Up to 3.5 mins	£12.00
815 MUSICAL THEATRE DUET - School year 6 and under Oldest performer in the duet must be aged 9 or 10 on 1st September 2026.	10 and under	Up to 3.5 mins	£12.80
816 MUSICAL THEATRE DUET - School year 9 and under Oldest performer in the duet must be aged 12 or 13 on 1st September 2026.	Between 7 and 13	Up to 4 mins	£13.60
817 MUSICAL THEATRE DUET - School year 11 and under Oldest performer in the duet must be aged 14 or 15 on 1st September 2026.	Between 7 and 15	Up to 4 mins	£14.40
818 MUSICAL THEATRE DUET - School year 13 and under Oldest performer in the duet must be aged 16 or 17 on 1st September 2026.	Between 7 and 17	Up to 5 mins	£15.20
819 OPEN CLASS FOR MUSICAL THEATRE DUET	7 and over	Up to 6 mins	£16.00

Musical Theatre Trio/Quartet

Own choice of musical theatre trio or quartet, as appropriate. Trios/quartets made up of exactly the same performers may enter only one class appropriate for the age of the eldest performer and/or the open class in this section. Individuals may be part of more than one ensemble. A different song must be performed for each entry.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
820 MUSICAL THEATRE TRIO/QUARTET - School year 4 and under Oldest performer in the duet must be aged 7 or 8 on 1st September 2026. Group of 3 to 4 people	8 and under	Up to 3.5 mins	£13.60
821 MUSICAL THEATRE TRIO/QUARTET - School year 6 and under Oldest performer in the group must be aged 9 or 10 on 1st September 2026. Group of 3 to 4 people	10 and under	Up to 3.5 mins	£14.40
822 MUSICAL THEATRE TRIO/QUARTET - School year 9 and under Oldest performer in the group must be aged 12 or 13 on 1st September 2026. Group of 3 to 4 people	Between 7 and 13	Up to 4 mins	£15.20
823 MUSICAL THEATRE TRIO/QUARTET - School year 11 and under Oldest performer in the group must be aged between 13 & 15 on 1st September 2026. Group of 3 to 4 people	Between 7 and 15	Up to 4 mins	£16.00
824 OPEN CLASS FOR MUSICAL THEATRE TRIO/QUARTET Group of 3 to 4 people	7 and over	Up to 6 mins	£17.60

Musical Theatre Group

Own choice of musical theatre group performance. Please do not worry if you have a very small or very large number of performers in your group. It is likely we will split the class further based upon the size of each group and the ages of the performers. Individual performers may perform as part of more than one group and/or school.

Group sections are categorised by school year. However, we appreciate that it is not always possible to align the ages of the performers in your groups entirely with the age categories. As long as there are a small minority of individual performers outside of the age bracket and they are only one school year above, we will always try to be flexible. Ensembles entering the Open Adult classes may include performers under the age of 18, but the majority of performers must be over 18. Please don't hesitate to speak to us if you have any queries about the age groups: admin@wcaf.org.uk.

Groups should enter the class appropriate for the age of the eldest performer. Please ensure that the age of the eldest performer on 1st September 2026 is given in all except Open Adult classes. This will enable classes to be split fairly if there are too many entries. Ensembles entering the Open Adult classes may include performers under the age of 18, but the majority of performers must be over 18.

A different piece must be played or performed for each entry.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
825 MUSICAL THEATRE GROUP - School year 6 and under Award: 133 - WCAF Trophy Group of a minimum of 5 people	10 and under	Up to 5 mins	£0.00 per group

Class	Age	Time	Fee
826 MUSICAL THEATRE GROUP - School year 9 and under Award: 081 - Performance in Music Group of a minimum of 5 people	13 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
827 MUSICAL THEATRE GROUP - School year 11 and under Award: 181 - WCAF Cup Group of a minimum of 5 people	15 and under	Up to 7 mins	£0.00 per group
828 MUSICAL THEATRE GROUP - School year 13 and under Group of a minimum of 5 people	17 and under	Up to 8 mins	£0.00 per group
829 OPEN CLASS FOR MUSICAL THEATRE GROUPS Award: 112 - Parkinson Wright Cup Group of a minimum of 5 people	Any	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group
830 OPEN CLASS FOR MUSICAL THEATRE GROUPS - Adult Award: 028 - W.O.S. The Hanbury Cup Group of a minimum of 5 people	18 and over	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group

Musical Theatre (Non-competitive)

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.

The year 2 and under non-competitive section provides perfect opportunities for younger performers who may not have been learning for very long. It will be fun, friendly and supportive.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
831 NON-COMPETITIVE MUSICAL THEATRE SOLO - School year 2 and under Award: Each performer receives a small bag of sweets	6 and under	Up to 1 min	£6.40
832 NON-COMPETITIVE MUSICAL THEATRE SOLO - School year 6 and under Award: Non-competitive	Between 7 and 10	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
833 NON-COMPETITIVE MUSICAL THEATRE SOLO - School year 9 and under Award: Non-competitive	Between 9 and 13	Up to 4 mins	£9.60
834 NON-COMPETITIVE MUSICAL THEATRE SOLO - School year 13 and under Award: Non-competitive	Between 13 and 17	Up to 5 mins	£11.20
835 NON-COMPETITIVE MUSICAL THEATRE SOLO - Open Award: Non-competitive	17 and over	Up to 6 mins	£12.80
836 NON-COMPETITIVE MUSICAL THEATRE DUET/TRIO/QUARTET - Open Award: Non-competitive Group of 2 to 4 people	7 and over	Up to 6 mins	£16.00
837 NON-COMPETITIVE MUSICAL THEATRE GROUP - Open Award: Non-competitive Group of a minimum of 5 people	7 and over	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group

MARR'S BAR SESSIONS (Rock, Pop, Jazz... any style welcome!) Syllabus

Once again, we are delighted to be partnering with Worcester's premier contemporary music venue, The Marr's Bar, for two days of Rock and Pop sections on Sundays 7th and 14th March 2027. We are also further developing our partnership with Sunshine Festival following another successful Sunshine Arts Stage this summer, hosted by WCAF. The Sunshine Arts Stage showcased multiple young artists, promoting a wealth of local talent. Some acts even got to perform on the Main Stage before the headliners! We hope to offer similar exciting opportunities in 2027.

The Rock and Pop sections are relaxed, fun and exciting performance opportunities, enabling performers to showcase their talents in a professional venue. We welcome instrumental and vocal soloists, as well as bands/groups performing any and all styles of music, including Jazz, Blues, Rap, Reggae, Soul, Hip-Hop, RnB, Country, EDM and many more. There are competitive and non-competitive opportunities to perform. We love to hear both original work and cover versions.

Entry for bands/groups is free of charge and a substantial 'early bird' discount is available for soloists until 1st December. 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

We are trying to make entering as easy as possible for everyone, so please ensure you answer all the questions as you make the entry. To make an entry, simply go to the PlayandPerform platform, choose whether you will be entering as a soloist or a group (you are more than welcome to do both!), your preferred date, and whether you will be performing your own work or cover versions. Then, once all entries have been received, we will divide entries into sections as fairly as possible using factors such as availability, age, number of performers in the group, type of instruments, choice of songs, and performing experience etc. We will make sure everyone has the chance to perform with their own age group/ability/style of music, wherever possible. Please don't worry - we will make the sections as fair as possible for everyone.

You can choose to perform as many songs as you wish within the time limit, but please remember WCAF is family-friendly, so consider any lyrics and 'keep it clean', folks!. You do not have to state the names of the songs/pieces you will be performing at the time of entry (just put TBC). Chosen song(s)/pieces should ideally be performed from memory.

If you are using backing tracks in your performance, we will be in contact after entries close in January to ensure that these are sent to us as soon as possible.

This year, the number of entries is strictly limited, so please don't delay. Your entry is not confirmed until payment is received.

The Marr's Bar will be open to paying spectators during these classes and therefore it is essential that any performer under the age of 18 is accompanied by a responsible adult at all times. ID may be requested. Bring along your supporters (entry tickets allow them to stay, enjoy the amazing performances and have a fantastic time!)

Please do not hesitate to get in contact should you have any queries: admin@wcaf.org.uk

Solo

Soloists may enter on any instrument or voice. We have tried to simplify entries this year, so please ensure you answer all the questions as you make the entry. We will then divide the sections by age, the type of music you are playing and/or by the makeup/size of your group. Please don't worry - we will make the sections as fair as possible for everyone. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in contact.

Any number of songs can be played within the time limit, but don't worry if you just want to perform one. We will have a compere to announce your act, but all performances should be introduced by the performer. Time limits must be adhered to and the time limit includes any introductions and/or speaking between songs.

Backing tracks are permitted, but 'live' accompaniment is preferred. You may accompany yourself on any instrument, or may bring an accompanist if you choose. If backing tracks are used, they must be uploaded by 16th January 2027 to PlayandPerform. If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact us: admin@wcaf.org.uk

Class	Age	Time	Fee
700 SOLO - ORIGINALS Any instrument or voice. Originals only - cover versions must not be included.	Any	Up to 8 mins	£12.80
701 SOLO - COVER VERSIONS Any instrument or voice. Cover versions only.	Any	Up to 8 mins	£12.80
702 ROCK AND POP SOLO Any instrument or voice. Simply perform your own songs and/or cover versions to a supportive audience. No place will be given but the adjudicator will give constructive feedback. This is ideal for those with limited experience of public performing.	Any	Up to 8 mins	£12.80

Groups/Ensembles

Groups may be made up of any combination of instruments and/or vocalists. Groups can be any size from 2 performers upwards and the overall (rather than individual) performance will be assessed. All performances should be introduced by one of the performers. Any number of songs can be played within the time limit, but don't worry if you just want to perform one or two. The time limit includes any introductions and/or speaking between songs. Individuals may perform as part of more than one group.

Performances in these classes may be accompanied (for example, if a group is made up only of vocalists) and it is fine for music teachers to accompany a group of students on any instrument or to play as part of the group, if necessary. Backing tracks are permitted but 'live' accompaniment is preferred. If you are using backing tracks, they must be uploaded to PlayandPerform by 16th January 2027.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
703 ROCK/POP GROUP - ORIGINALS Originals only - cover versions must not be included. Group of any size	Any	Up to 15 mins	£0.00 per group

Class	Age	Time	Fee
704 ROCK/POP GROUP - COVER VERSIONS Cover versions only. Group of any size	Any	Up to 15 mins	£0.00 per group
705 NON-COMPETITIVE ROCK/POP GROUP Award: Non-competitive Simply perform your own songs and/or cover versions to a supportive audience. No place will be given but the adjudicator will give constructive feedback. This is ideal for those with limited experience of public performing. Group of any size	Any	Up to 15 mins	£0.00 per group

DJ

This year, we are hoping to have a separate DJ day on Sunday 21st March. Venue to be announced! All styles of music are welcome.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
706 DJ	Any	Up to 10 mins	£12.80

POETRY, PROSE AND DRAMA Syllabus

These classes are intended to take place on Saturday 13th March 2027 at the Royal Grammar School, Worcester.

All large groups are free of charge and a substantial 'early bird' discount is available for solos and duologues until 1st December 2026. 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

Performers who are also singers or instrumentalists and were aged 15 years or under on 1st September 2026 may also wish to enter the Sproule Prize & Trophy for Speech, Drama and Music. Please see the Special Classes section for more details.

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 2026 and the open class in each of the categories above. Groups of more than one performer (that are made up of exactly the same performers) may enter only one class appropriate for the age of the oldest performer in the group on 1st September 2026 and the open class in each section. However, individuals may perform as part of more than one group as long as they adhere to the age limits. A different piece must be performed for each entry.

Full details of the 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 name and author of the work by 16th January 2027 at the latest. Performers must provide a written copy of their extract for the adjudicator (except for improvisation and sightreading classes).

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.

Please make sure that themes as well as language are suitable for a family audience of all ages to enjoy. If you wish to perform anything which may be thematically contentious or controversial, or includes strong language or blasphemy, please contact us first.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
900 NEWCOMERS' CLASS - POETRY, PROSE AND DRAMA New to WCAF or performing in a festival for the very first time? This welcoming, non-competitive class is designed especially for first-time festival performers of all ages. Whether you choose to read a poem, act a monologue or solo scene or read an extract from your favourite book, you'll have the opportunity to experience the friendly, relaxed atmosphere of the festival. No previous festival experience is needed. Simply choose a performance that you're proud of and enjoy performing before an experienced, understanding adjudicator and supportive audience. You'll receive encouraging verbal feedback designed to build confidence and celebrate your achievement. There are no trophies or placings - just a positive first festival experience that we hope will inspire you to return again and again. Everyone is welcome.	Any	Up to 3 mins	£8.00

POETRY

Verse Speaking (Bertulis Cup & Set Verse)

Choose the poem that best suits you from the relevant anthology. A short poem is just as likely to do well as a longer one! Performers in classes 1000, 1001 and 1002 may be selected to perform again in the Bertulis Solo Verse Speaking Challenge ahead of the Festival Concert on Saturday 20th March 2027.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
902 SET VERSE SPEAKING SOLO - School year 4 and under Any poem or extract within the time-limit from: "Dragon Cat" by Pie Corbett, Published by Otter-Barry Books	8 and under	Up to 2 mins	£8.00
903 SET VERSE SPEAKING SOLO - School years 5 and 6 Any poem or extract within the time-limit from: "Bright Bursts of Colour" by Matt Goodfellow, published by Bloomsbury	Age 9 and 10	Up to 2 mins	£8.00
904 SET VERSE SPEAKING SOLO - School years 7 and 8 Any poem or extract, within the time-limit, from "Stars in Jars" by Chrissie Gittins, published by Bloomsbury	Age 11 and 12	Up to 3 mins	£9.60
905 SET VERSE SPEAKING SOLO - School years 9 and 10 Any poem or extract, within the time-limit, from: 'Overheard in a Tower Block' by Joseph Coelho, published by Otter-Barry Books	Age 13 and 14	Up to 3 mins	£9.60
906 SET VERSE SPEAKING SOLO - School years 11, 12 and 13 Any poem or extract within the time limit from "You Are Not Alone" by Shauna Darling Robertson, published by Troika Books	Between 15 and 17	Up to 4 mins	£11.20
907 SET VERSE SPEAKING SOLO - Open Any poem or extract from: 'The Poetry Pharmacy' by William Seighart	Any	Up to 5 mins	£12.80

Verse Speaking (Own Choice)

Performers may choose any published poem or extract within the time limit.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
908 VERSE SPEAKING SOLO - School year 2 and under	6 and under	Up to 1 min	£6.40
909 VERSE SPEAKING SOLO - School years 3 and 4	Age 7 and 8	Up to 2 mins	£8.00

Class	Age	Time	Fee
910 VERSE SPEAKING SOLO - School years 5 and 6	Age 9 and 10	Up to 2 mins	£8.00
911 VERSE SPEAKING SOLO - School years 7 and 8	Age 11 and 12	Up to 3 mins	£9.60
912 VERSE SPEAKING SOLO - School years 9 and 10	Age 13 and 14	Up to 3 mins	£9.60
913 VERSE SPEAKING SOLO - School years 11, 12 and 13 Award: 139 Droitwich Spa Advertiser	Between 15 and 17	Up to 4 mins	£11.20
914 VERSE SPEAKING SOLO - Open	Any	Up to 5 mins	£12.80

Verse Speaking in Pairs

Own choice of a poem to be presented from memory by two performers, with minimal movement. Unison, solo and combination speaking may be used. The same pair of performers may enter only one class appropriate for the age of the eldest in the pair and the open class in this section, but individuals may perform in multiple pairs with different partners as long as they adhere to the age limits. A different piece must be performed for each entry.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
915 VERSE SPEAKING IN PAIRS - School year 4 and under	8 and under	Up to 3 mins	£12.00
916 VERSE SPEAKING IN PAIRS - School year 6 and under	10 and under	Up to 3 mins	£12.80
917 VERSE SPEAKING IN PAIRS - School year 8 and under	12 and under	Up to 3 mins	£13.60
918 VERSE SPEAKING IN PAIRS - School year 10 and under	14 and under	Up to 4 mins	£14.40
919 VERSE SPEAKING IN PAIRS - School year 13 and under	17 and under	Up to 4 mins	£15.20
920 VERSE SPEAKING IN PAIRS - Open	Any	Up to 4 mins	£16.00

Group Dramatised Verse

Own choice of poem to be acted out by the group. Unison, solo and combination speaking may all be used, along with movement and sound effects. Hand props may be used. Performers must provide a written copy of their poem or extract for the adjudicator. Performers must also provide a brief spoken introduction at the beginning of their performance. This is included in the time limit.

Groups may enter only one class appropriate for the age of the eldest in the group and the open class in this section, but individuals may perform in multiple groups as long as they adhere to the age limits. A different piece must be performed for each entry.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
921 GROUP DRAMATISED VERSE - School year 4 and under Group of 3 to 15 people	8 and under	Up to 4 mins	£0.00 per group
922 GROUP DRAMATISED VERSE - School year 6 and under Award: 092 - Cup for Speech and Drama Group of 3 to 15 people	10 and under	Up to 4 mins	£0.00 per group
923 GROUP DRAMATISED VERSE - School year 8 and under Group of 3 to 15 people	12 and under	Up to 5 mins	£0.00 per group
924 GROUP DRAMATISED VERSE - School year 10 and under Award: 108 - The Evans Cup Group of 3 to 15 people	14 and under	Up to 5 mins	£0.00 per group

Class	Age	Time	Fee
925 GROUP DRAMATISED VERSE - School year 13 and under Group of 3 to 15 people	17 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
926 OPEN CLASS FOR GROUP DRAMATISED VERSE Award: 142 - WCAF Cup Speech and Drama Group of 3 to 15 people	Any	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group

Verse Speaking With English As An Additional Language (In-person))

These classes will be held in person. If you would rather submit a video to be adjudicated online and not in person, please enter the online class.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
927 VERSE SPEAKING (EAL) - School year 4 and under	8 and under	Up to 2 mins	£8.00
928 VERSE SPEAKING (EAL) - School years 5 and 6	Age 9 and 10	Up to 2 mins	£8.00
929 VERSE SPEAKING (EAL) - School years 7 and 8	Age 11 and 12	Up to 3 mins	£9.60
930 VERSE SPEAKING (EAL) - School years 9 and 10	Age 13 and 14	Up to 3 mins	£9.60
931 VERSE SPEAKING (EAL) - School years 11, 12 and 13	Between 15 and 17	Up to 4 mins	£11.20
932 OPEN CLASS FOR VERSE SPEAKING (EAL)	Any	Up to 5 mins	£12.80

Verse Speaking (Sonnet)

Any poem with the recognised characteristics of a sonnet may be performed - it doesn't have to be Shakespearean! Performers must provide an introduction at the beginning of their performance that will be included in the time limit.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
933 SONNET SOLO - School year 6 and under	10 and under		£8.00
934 SONNET SOLO - School years 7 and 8	Age 11 and 12		£9.60
935 SONNET SOLO - School years 9 and 10	Age 13 and 14		£9.60
936 SONNET SOLO - School years 11, 12 and 13	Between 15 and 17		£11.20
937 OPEN CLASS FOR SONNET SOLO	Any		£12.80

Verse Speaking (Non-Competitive)

Performers may choose any published poem or extract within the time limit. Please consider whether the passage chosen is suitable for a mixed audience and highlight any potentially contentious themes or language.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
938 NON-COMPETITIVE VERSE SPEAKING SOLO - School year 2 and under	6 and under	Up to 1 min	£6.40
939 NON-COMPETITIVE VERSE SPEAKING SOLO - School years 3 to 6	Between 7 and 10	Up to 2 mins	£8.00
940 NON-COMPETITIVE VERSE SPEAKING SOLO - School years 7 to 10	Between 11 and 14	Up to 2 mins	£9.60
941 NON-COMPETITIVE VERSE SPEAKING SOLO - School years 11 to 13	Between 15 and 17	Up to 4 mins	£11.20
942 NON-COMPETITIVE VERSE SPEAKING SOLO - OPEN	Any	Up to 5 mins	£12.80

Class	Age	Time	Fee
943 NON-COMPETITIVE VERSE SPEAKING IN PAIRS	Any	Up to 5 mins	£12.00
944 NON-COMPETITIVE GROUP DRAMATISED VERSE Group of 3 to 15 people	Any	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group

Verse Sight Reading Solo

Class	Age	Time	Fee
945 VERSE SIGHT READING SOLO - School Year 4 and under Verse Sight Reading - Entrants will be given a poem of the adjudicator's choice to perform after 1 minute to read through.	8 and under		£8.00
946 VERSE SIGHT READING SOLO - School Years 5 and 6 Verse Sight Reading - Entrants will be given a poem of the adjudicator's choice to perform after 1 minute to read through.	Between 8 and 11		£8.00
947 VERSE SIGHT READING SOLO - School Years 7 and 8 Verse Sight Reading - Entrants will be given a poem of the adjudicator's choice to perform after 1 minute to read through.	Between 11 and 13		£9.60
948 VERSE SIGHT READING SOLO - School Years 9 and 10 Verse Sight Reading - Entrants will be given a poem of the adjudicator's choice to perform after 1 minute to read through.	Between 13 and 15		£9.60
949 VERSE SIGHT READING SOLO - Schools Years 11,12 and 13 Verse Sight Reading - Entrants will be given a poem of the adjudicator's choice to perform after 2 minutes to read through.	Between 15 and 18		£11.20

WCAF Poetry Slam

This gives poets of all ages, abilities and experience the opportunity to perform their own poetry and get feedback from a fantastic team of judges and a supportive audience.

The Slam will take place over four rounds. In round one, everyone will perform their own poetry. You will have a 3 minute maximum time slot. You may perform one poem or a few poems in this time but do not go over your 3-minute time limit! You do not have to use up the full 3 minutes. The judges will then score each performance.

If you score enough points to move into round two, the Quarter-Final, you will perform different poetry, again up to 3 minutes maximum.

If you score enough points to head into round three, the Semi-Final, you will perform a third time (again, different poetry) for up to 3 minutes maximum.

If you score enough points to head into round four, the final, you will perform a fourth time for up to 3 minutes maximum. It is up to you whether you perform different poetry or include poems you have already performed in the final.

You will need to enter the slam with enough poems to see you through what could be 3 rounds - if you score enough points! Please also write and upload a short introduction that will be read out to the audience before you come on stage to perform in round one. This can be a biographical note, or something about the poetry you are about to perform, or anything else you'd like to say by way of introduction, comical or serious! Your intro must be up to 30 words maximum, and can be written in either the first or third person.

Can I perform other people's poetry? No. Each poet must perform a different piece or pieces of their own poetry in each round. Do I have to learn my poems or can I read them? You may read your poems or recite them from memory.

Can I use props or music? You are not permitted to use, musical instruments, soundtracks or backing music/sounds. You may use small props if necessary.

Can I perform poetry with 'adult' themes and swearing? Audience members are aware that the event may contain adult language and subject matter. We will not censor poets. Your poems may be

serious or comical and on any theme. Poets are permitted to issue a short 'trigger' warning before poems of a sensitive nature. This must be clearly indicated as a trigger warning and will not be included in the three minute time limit. The trigger warning must NOT be part of the poem.

Do I have to be a published poet or a professional performance poet to take part in the Slam? Anyone can take part - from an absolute beginner to a seasoned slammer. All you need is a heart that beats, and a mind that speaks.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
950 WCAF POETRY SLAM - Youth	17 and under	Up to 3 mins	£0.00
951 WCAF POETRY SLAM - Adult	18 and over	Up to 3 mins	£0.00

PROSE

Please enter the name of the book and the author, either on entry, or before January 16th 2027. (Put TBC if so)

Unacceptable themes and language thresholds. Please make sure that themes as well as language are suitable for a family audience of all ages to enjoy. If you wish to perform anything which may be thematically contentious or controversial, or includes strong language or blasphemy, please contact us first.

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
952 PREPARED PROSE READING SOLO - 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	£6.40
953 PREPARED PROSE READING SOLO - 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
954 PREPARED PROSE READING SOLO - 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
955 PREPARED PROSE READING SOLO - 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	£9.60
956 PREPARED PROSE READING SOLO - 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	£9.60

Class	Age	Time	Fee
957 PREPARED PROSE READING SOLO - School years 11, 12 and 13 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	£11.20
958 OPEN CLASS FOR PREPARED PROSE READING Any passage from your favourite book.	Any	Up to 5 mins	£12.80

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
959 SIGHT READING SOLO - School year 4 and under	8 and under		£8.00
960 SIGHT READING SOLO - School years 5 and 6	Age 9 and 10		£8.00
961 SIGHT READING SOLO - School years 7 and 8	Age 11 and 12		£9.60
962 SIGHT READING SOLO - School years 9 and 10	Age 13 and 14		£9.60
963 SIGHT READING SOLO - School years 11, 12 and 13	Between 15 and 17		£11.20
964 SIGHT READING SOLO - Open	Any		£12.80

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
965 NON-COMPETITIVE PREPARED PROSE READING - School year 2 and under	6 and under	Up to 1 min	£6.40
966 NON-COMPETITIVE PREPARED PROSE READING - School years 3 to 6 Any passage from your favourite book.	Between 7 and 10	Up to 2 mins	£8.00
967 NON-COMPETITIVE PREPARED PROSE READING - School years 7 to 10 Any passage from your favourite book.	Between 11 and 14	Up to 2 mins	£9.60
968 NON-COMPETITIVE PREPARED PROSE READING - School years 11 to 13 Any passage from your favourite book.	Between 15 and 17	Up to 4 mins	£11.20
969 NON-COMPETITIVE PROSE READING - OPEN Any passage from your favourite book.	Any	Up to 5 mins	£12.80
970 NON-COMPETITIVE SIGHTREADING - OPEN	Any		£12.80

DRAMA

Essential information for all drama entrants

Unacceptable themes and language thresholds. Please make sure that themes as well as language are suitable for a family audience of all ages to enjoy. If you wish to perform anything which may be thematically contentious or controversial, or includes strong language or blasphemy, please contact us first.

Performers are reminded that due to Performing Rights restrictions, neither full costume/makeup nor scenery may be used but movement and basic props are permitted. The following items are acceptable: scarves/shawls, headwear, gloves, fans and other hand-held small items. Mobile phones, kindles, iPads, e-readers and laptops are not permitted unless they are required for the use of music and/or sound effects or as a hand prop.

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. Duologues and group dramatic activity are NOT covered by this agreement and copyright for these items should be sought by entrants.

Acting Solo

Own choice of one character only from any published play to be performed from memory.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
971 SOLO ACTING - School year 2 and under	6 and under	Up to 1 min	£6.40
972 SOLO ACTING - School years 3 and 4	Age 7 and 8	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
973 SOLO ACTING - School years 5 and 6	Age 9 and 10	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
974 SOLO ACTING - School years 7 and 8	Age 11 and 12	Up to 4 mins	£9.60
975 SOLO ACTING - School years 9 and 10	Age 13 and 14	Up to 4 mins	£9.60
976 SOLO ACTING - School years 11, 12 and 13	Between 15 and 17	Up to 5 mins	£11.20
977 SOLO ACTING - Open	Any	Up to 6 mins	£12.80
978 SOLO ACTING - Open Adult	18 and over	Up to 6 mins	£12.80
979 SOLO ACTING (COMEDY DRAMA) - Open One humorous character only.	Any	Up to 6 mins	£12.80
980 FESTIVAL PRIZE FOR SOLO ACTING - 20 years and under Award: A prize of £50 will be awarded (providing the winner gains an Honours mark or higher). Programme of acting of three contrasting characters of the performer's own choice.	20 and under	Up to 15 mins	£20.00

Shakespeare Acting Solo

Own choice solo acting from one of Shakespeare's plays to be performed from memory.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
981 SHAKESPEARE SOLO - School years 5 and 6	Age 9 and 10	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
982 SHAKESPEARE SOLO - School years 7 and 8	Age 11 and 12	Up to 4 mins	£9.60
983 SHAKESPEARE SOLO - School years 9 and 10	Age 13 and 14	Up to 4 mins	£9.60
984 SHAKESPEARE SOLO - School years 11, 12 and 13	Between 15 and 17	Up to 5 mins	£11.20
985 SHAKESPEARE SOLO - Open	Any	Up to 6 mins	£12.80
986 SHAKESPEARE SOLO - Open Adult	18 and over	Up to 6 mins	£12.80

Acting Duologue

Own choice of a scene with two characters to be performed from memory. The same pair of performers may enter only one class appropriate for the age of the eldest in the pair and the open class in this section, but individuals may perform in multiple pairs with different partners as long as they adhere to the age limits. A different piece must be performed for each entry.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
987 DUOLOGUE ACTING - School year 4 and under	8 and under	Up to 3 mins	£12.00
988 DUOLOGUE ACTING - School year 6 and under	10 and under	Up to 3 mins	£12.80
989 DUOLOGUE ACTING - School year 8 and under	12 and under	Up to 4 mins	£13.60
990 DUOLOGUE ACTING - School year 10 and under	14 and under	Up to 4 mins	£14.40
991 DUOLOGUE ACTING - School year 13 and under	17 and under	Up to 5 mins	£15.20
992 DUOLOGUE ACTING - Open	Any	Up to 6 mins	£16.00
993 DUOLOGUE ACTING - Open Adult	18 and over	Up to 6 mins	£16.00

Acted Scene

Own choice of a scene for multiple characters from any play (which may include the works of Shakespeare) or adapted from the dialogue of a published novel to be performed from memory. Groups may enter only one class appropriate for the age of the eldest in the group and the open class in this section, but individuals may perform in multiple groups as long as they adhere to the age limits. A different piece must be performed for each entry.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
994 GROUP ACTED SCENE - School year 4 and under Group of a minimum of 3 people	8 and under	Up to 5 mins	£0.00 per group
995 GROUP ACTED SCENE - School year 6 and under Group of a minimum of 3 people	10 and under	Up to 5 mins	£0.00 per group
996 GROUP ACTED SCENE - School year 8 and under Group of a minimum of 3 people	12 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
997 GROUP ACTED SCENE - School year 10 and under Group of a minimum of 3 people	14 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group

Class	Age	Time	Fee
998 GROUP ACTED SCENE - School year 13 and under Award: 010 - WCAF Trophy Group of a minimum of 3 people	17 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
999 GROUP ACTED SCENE - Open Group of a minimum of 3 people	Any	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
1000 GROUP ACTED SCENE - Open Adult Group of a minimum of 3 people	18 and over	Up to 8 mins	£0.00 per group

Improvised Drama Solo

The adjudicator will give the same stimulus to each performer. Performers will then have time to create a dramatic scene based on this before they perform to the adjudicator and audience. Performers will be given the stimulus in order of performance to ensure everyone has the same amount of time to prepare and will only be able to watch others once they have performed.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
1001 IMPROVISED DRAMA SOLO - School Years 3 and 4	8 and under	Up to 1.5 mins	£8.00
1002 IMPROVISED DRAMA SOLO - School Years 5 and 6	10 and under	Up to 1.5 mins	£8.00
1003 IMPROVISED DRAMA SOLO - School Years 7 and 8	12 and under	Up to 2.5 mins	£9.60
1004 IMPROVISED DRAMA SOLO - School years 9 and 10	10 and under	Up to 3 mins	£9.60
1005 IMPROVISED DRAMA SOLO - School years 11, 12 and 13	Any	Up to 3.5 mins	£11.20
1006 IMPROVISED DRAMA SOLO - Open	Any	Up to 4 mins	£12.80
1007 IMPROVISED DRAMA SOLO - Open Adult	18 and over	Up to 4 mins	£12.80

Devised Drama Solo

Class	Age	Time	Fee
1008 DEvised DRAMA SOLO - School years 3 and 4 Please base your devising on the theme: 'The Surprise'	Age 7 and 8	Up to 2 mins	£8.00
1009 DEvised DRAMA SOLO - School years 5 and 6 Please base your devising on the theme: 'The Unexpected'	Age 9 and 10	Up to 2 mins	£8.00
1010 DEvised DRAMA SOLO - School years 7 and 8 Please base your devising on the theme: 'Let's talk about the weather'.	Age 11 and 12	Up to 3 mins	£9.60
1011 DEvised DRAMA SOLO - School years 9 and 10 Please base your devising on the theme: 'Tomorrow'	Age 13 and 14	Up to 3 mins	£9.60
1012 DEvised DRAMA SOLO - School years 11, 12 and 13 Please base your devising on the theme: 'A dream or a nightmare?'	Between 15 and 17	Up to 4 mins	£11.20
1013 DEvised DRAMA SOLO - Open Please base your devising on a Shakespeare play.	Any	Up to 5 mins	£12.80
1014 DEvised DRAMA SOLO - Open Adult Your devising can be based on any stimulus.	18 and over	Up to 5 mins	£12.80

Devised Drama Duologue

The same pair of performers may enter only one class appropriate for the age of the eldest in the pair and the open class in this section, but individuals may perform in multiple pairs with different partners as long as they adhere to the age limits. A different piece must be performed for each entry.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
1015 DEvised DRAMA DUOLOGUE - School year 4 and under Please base your devising on any character or quote from Jack and the Beanstalk or Puss in Boots	8 and under	Up to 3 mins	£12.00
1016 DEvised DRAMA DUOLOGUE - School year 6 and under Please base your devising on a character from Harry Potter or any Michael Morpurgo novel.	10 and under	Up to 4 mins	£12.80
1017 DEvised DRAMA DUOLOGUE - School year 8 and under Please base your devising on the theme of 'Hope'.	12 and under	Up to 5 mins	£13.60
1018 DEvised DRAMA DUOLOGUE - School year 10 and under Please base your devising on the theme of "Rejection".	14 and under	Up to 5 mins	£14.40
1019 DEvised DRAMA DUOLOGUE - School year 13 and under Please base your devising on an issue in the news.	17 and under	Up to 5 mins	£15.20
1020 DEvised DRAMA DUOLOGUE - Open Please base your devising on a theme of your own choice.	Any	Up to 6 mins	£16.00
1021 DEvised DRAMA DUOLOGUE - Open Adult Please base your devising on a theme of your own choice.	18 and over	Up to 6 mins	£16.00

Devised Drama Group

Groups may enter only one class appropriate for the age of the eldest in the group and the open class in this section, but individuals may perform in multiple groups as long as they adhere to the age limits. A different piece must be performed for each entry.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
1022 GROUP DEvised DRAMA - School year 4 and under Please base your devising on the theme: 'The Park' Group of 3 to 15 people	8 and under	Up to 3 mins	£0.00 per group
1023 GROUP DEvised DRAMA - School year 6 and under Please base your devising on the theme: 'A Mystery'. Group of 3 to 15 people	10 and under	Up to 4 mins	£0.00 per group
1024 GROUP DEvised DRAMA - School year 8 and under Please base your devising on the theme: 'The Toolshed'. Group of 3 to 15 people	12 and under	Up to 5 mins	£0.00 per group
1025 GROUP DEvised DRAMA - School year 10 and under Please base your devising on the theme of 'Separation'. Group of 3 to 15 people	14 and under	Up to 5 mins	£0.00 per group
1026 GROUP DEvised DRAMA - School year 13 and under Award: 180 - R Hopkins Cup Please base your devising on the theme of 'Leaving home' Group of 3 to 15 people	17 and under	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
1027 GROUP DEvised DRAMA - Open Please base your devising on the theme of "Time". Group of 3 to 15 people	Any	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group
1028 GROUP DEvised DRAMA - Open Adult Please base your devising on a recent event in the news. Group of 3 to 15 people	18 and over	Up to 10 mins	£0.00 per group

Dramatic Sightreading

Class	Age	Time	Fee
1029 DRAMATIC SIGHTREADING SOLO - School Years 3 and 4	8 and under		£8.00
1030 DRAMATIC SIGHTREADING SOLO - School years 5 and 6	Age 9 and 10		£8.00
1031 DRAMATIC SIGHTREADING SOLO - School years 7 and 8	Age 11 and 12		£9.60
1032 DRAMATIC SIGHTREADING SOLO - School years 9 and 10	Age 13 and 14		£9.60
1033 DRAMATIC SIGHTREADING SOLO - School years 11, 12 and 13	Between 15 and 17		£11.20
1034 DRAMATIC SIGHTREADING SOLO - Open	Any		£12.80
1035 DRAMATIC SIGHTREADING SOLO - Open Adult	Any		£12.80

Devised Drama Group

Groups may enter only one class appropriate for the age of the eldest in the group and the open class in this section, but individuals may perform in multiple groups as long as they adhere to the age limits. A different piece must be performed for each entry.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
1036 INCLUSIVE CLASS FOR GROUP DEVISED DRAMA Any stimulus may be used. Group of 3 to 30 people	Any	Up to 8 mins	£0.00 per group
1037 INCLUSIVE CLASS FOR GROUP DEVISED DANCE Any stimulus may be used. Group of 3 to 30 people	Any	Up to 8 mins	£0.00 per group
1038 INCLUSIVE CLASS FOR GROUP DEVISED DRAMA AND DANCE Group of 3 to 30 people	Any	Up to 8 mins	£0.00 per group

Non-Competitive Acting or Devised Drama

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.

Own choice of excerpt from any published play to be performed from memory. Performers must provide a written copy of their scene or extract for the adjudicator. Providers must provide a brief introduction at the beginning of their performance.

The age groups are fairly wide because these are non-competitive classes. However, if there are lots of entries, we will split the sections by age and/or number of performers.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
1039 NON-COMP ACTING OR DEVISED DRAMA SOLO - School year 2 and under	6 and under	Up to 1 min	£6.40
1040 NON-COMP ACTING OR DEVISED DRAMA SOLO - School years 3 to 6	Between 7 and 10	Up to 2 mins	£8.00
1041 NON-COMP ACTING OR DEVISED DRAMA SOLO - School years 7 to 10	Between 11 and 14	Up to 3 mins	£9.60
1042 NON-COMP ACTING OR DEVISED DRAMA SOLO - School years 11 to 13	Between 15 and 17	Up to 5 mins	£11.20
1043 NON-COMP ACTING OR DEVISED DRAMA SOLO - Open	Any	Up to 6 mins	£12.80

Class	Age	Time	Fee
1044 NON-COMP ACTING OR DEVISED DRAMA DUOLOGUE - Open	Any	Up to 5 mins	£12.80
1045 NON-COMP GROUP DEVISED DRAMA OR ACTED SCENE - Open Group of a minimum of 3 people	Any	Up to 6 mins	£0.00 per group

ORIGINAL WORK Syllabus

We are pleased to offer great opportunities for anyone who wants to write stories, poems or plays or who composes music or songs. The open sections are for anyone, of any age (including adults!). For younger people of school age, the sections are split by ages equivalent to school year groups. Please note that ages stated below are the age of the performer on 1st September 2026. If you have any queries with regards to which section to enter, please email: admin@wcaf.org.uk for further details. We cannot wait to showcase the best original work.

All entries to the original work classes are free of charge.

Sections this year include:

- Poetry writing
- Story writing
- Monologue writing
- Presenting and Public Speaking
- Music and Song Composing
- Creative Writing Workshops

****The WCAF Poetry Slam is back! Perform your own poetry in an exciting and supportive environment. See the Poetry syllabus for details.****

The Creative Writing and Musical Composition classes are free to enter. However, we do have to cover the costs of the adjudicators and prizes, therefore donations are welcomed. Please visit our festival shop: https://playandperform.co.uk/gst/gst_login.php?pn_token=wr

We advise you to make your entry as soon as possible, but poems, stories, plays, presentations and compositions do not need to be uploaded until 23:45 on 16th January 2027. Please ensure they are uploaded by the deadline. If you have any concerns about using the online entry system, please email: admin@wcaf.org.uk and we will do all we can to help. For schools where multiple entries need to be made, please contact us to make things as easy as possible for you.

Entrants will retain all copyright for their story for future use. By entering the competition and submitting their work, entrants agree that their story can be used for marketing purposes. All entries may be displayed at the festival or in other venues and selected entrants may be invited to perform their work at the festival or to submit a video or audio performance to be played at the festival. Entries may be displayed on the WCAF website and/or included as part of anthologies.

Creative Writing

Poetry Writing

Entrants should write their own poem on the theme of 'Hope' and to submit the written copy. The exception to this is entries to the Open class, which can be on any theme.

Poems must be written in English. Submitted poems must not have been published elsewhere and must be the entrant's original, unaided work. The adjudicator will be looking for originality, imagination and the ability to craft the poem in a manner that engages the audience.

These classes are free to enter. However, we do have to cover the costs of the adjudicators and prizes, therefore donations are welcomed. Please visit our festival shop: https://playandperform.co.uk/gst/gst_login.php?pn_token=wr

All written poems must be uploaded to Play & Perform by 11:45pm on 16th January 2027. Typed or handwritten submissions are acceptable, but please ensure that all the words of the poem are clearly visible. Either a pdf or image file can be uploaded. Please ensure that the title of the poem and the author's name are included.

Entrants who would like the opportunity to perform their own poetry should see our really exciting Poetry Slam section, which can be found in the Poetry syllabus.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
1200 WRITE A POEM - School year 2 and under	6 and under		£0.00
1201 WRITE A POEM - School Year 3	7		£0.00
1202 WRITE A POEM - School Year 4	8		£0.00
1203 WRITE A POEM - School Year 5	9		£0.00
1204 WRITE A POEM - School Year 6	10		£0.00
1205 WRITE A POEM - School Year 7	11		£0.00
1206 WRITE A POEM - School Year 8	12		£0.00
1207 WRITE A POEM - School Year 9	13		£0.00
1208 WRITE A POEM - School Years 10 and 11	Age 14 and 15		£0.00
1209 WRITE A POEM - School Years 12 and 13	Age 16 and 17		£0.00
1210 WRITE A POEM - Open Poems in this class can be on any theme.	Any		£0.00

Short story writing

Entrants to write their own story in approximately 300 words with the title 'Danger'. Stories must be written in English. The exception to this is entries to the Open class, which can be on any theme.

The adjudicator will be looking for adherence to the theme (where applicable), originality, imagination and the ability to craft the story in a manner that engages the audience.

These classes are free to enter. However, we do have to cover the costs of the adjudicators and prizes, therefore donations are welcomed. Please visit our festival shop: https://playandperform.co.uk/gst/gst_login.php?pn_token=wr

All short stories must be uploaded to Play&Perform by 11:45pm on 16th January 2027. Please ensure that the title of the short story, the author's name and the word count are included. Scanned typed or handwritten submissions are acceptable, but please ensure that all the words of the story are clearly visible. A pdf or image file can be uploaded. Submitted stories must not have been published elsewhere and must be the entrant's original, unaided work.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
1211 WRITE A SHORT STORY - School Year 2	6 and under		£0.00
1212 WRITE A SHORT STORY - School Year 3	7		£0.00
1213 WRITE A SHORT STORY - School Year 4	8		£0.00
1214 WRITE A SHORT STORY - School Year 5	9		£0.00
1215 WRITE A SHORT STORY - School Year 6	10		£0.00
1216 WRITE A SHORT STORY - School Year 7	11		£0.00
1217 WRITE A SHORT STORY - School Year 8	12		£0.00
1218 WRITE A SHORT STORY - School Year 9	13		£0.00
1219 WRITE A SHORT STORY - School Year 10-11	Age 14 and 15		£0.00
1220 WRITE A SHORT STORY School Years 12 - 13	Age 16 and 17		£0.00
1221 WRITE A SHORT STORY - Open	Any		£0.00

Dramatic Monologue Writing

Entrants to write a monologue performed by a character of their own creation , lasting between approximately 2 -3 minutes, with the theme of 'The End'. The main language must be English. The adjudicator will be looking for originality, imagination and the ability to craft the storyline and character in a manner that engages the audience.

These classes are free to enter. However, we do have to cover the costs of the adjudicators and prizes, therefore donations are welcomed. Please visit our festival shop: https://playandperform.co.uk/gst/gst_login.php?pn_token=wr

All monologues must be uploaded to Play&Perform by 11:45pm on 16th January 2027. Please ensure that the title of the monologue and the author's name are included. Scanned, typed or handwritten submissions are acceptable, but please ensure that all the words of the story are clearly visible. A pdf or image file can be uploaded. Submitted monologues must not have been published elsewhere and must be the entrant's original, unaided work.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
1222 DRAMATIC MONOLOGUE WRITING - School year 7 and under	11 and under	Up to 5 mins	£0.00
1223 DRAMATIC MONOLOGUE WRITING - School years 8 and 9	Age 12 and 13	Up to 10 mins	£0.00
1224 DRAMATIC MONOLOGUE WRITING - School years 10 and 11	Age 14 and 15	Up to 10 mins	£0.00
1225 DRAMATIC MONOLOGUE WRITING - School years 12 and 13	Age 16 and 17	Up to 10 mins	£0.00
1226 DRAMATIC MONOLOGUE WRITING - Open	Any	Up to 10 mins	£0.00

Presenting and Public Speaking

These sections give entrants the opportunity to present to an audience on a subject of their choice. Powerpoint or other presentation tools may be used, along with relevant props/objects (these must be able to be carried by the entrant alone). The presentations will be assessed based upon their construction and delivery, the use of visual aids and interaction with the audience. This offers perfect practice and preparation for presentations for EPQ or for Duke of Edinburgh's award.

If using powerpoint or other presentation tools, please upload a copy by 16th January 2027 to PlayandPerform. We will contact you in advance of the day to discuss any specific needs you may have in terms of your presentation.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
1231 SOLO PRESENTATION - School year 4 and under	8 and under	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
1232 SOLO PRESENTATION - School years 5 and 6	Age 9 and 10	Up to 3 mins	£8.00
1233 SOLO PRESENTATION - School years 7 and 8	Age 11 and 12	Up to 4 mins	£12.80
1234 SOLO PRESENTATION - School years 9 and 10	Age 13 and 14	Up to 4 mins	£12.80
1235 SOLO PRESENTATION - School years 11 to 13	Between 15 and 17	Up to 5 mins	£12.80
1236 SOLO PRESENTATION - Open	Any	Up to 6 mins	£14.40

Musical Composition

Music and Song Composing

The composing sections are for instrumental and/or song composition. It can be for one instrument/voice or for many. It can be of any length and any style. Electronic music is acceptable.

These classes are free to enter. However, we do have to cover the costs of the adjudicators and prizes, therefore donations are welcomed. Please visit our festival shop: https://playandperform.co.uk/gst/gst_login.php?pn_token=wr

These are competitive classes and places will be awarded. Composers may enter only one class appropriate for their age and the open classes or one/both open classes. A different piece must be submitted for each entry. A written score (either hand written or printed) should be uploaded for the adjudicator, along with an audio or video recording of a performance of the original composition if at all possible. However, lyrics with chords or a graphic score is acceptable as long as it is accompanied by a video or audio recording. 'Live' performance is preferred for the recording, but if this is not possible, then an electronic performance from music software (i.e. Cubase etc) is acceptable. If for any reason you cannot produce a recording, please let us know: admin@wcaf.org.uk We will make allowance if this is not possible.

SCORES AND A RECORDING OF THE COMPOSITION TO BE SUBMITTED ONLINE BY 11:45pm ON 16th JANUARY 2027.

The recording should include an introduction from the composer prior to the performance. Quality of composition, score and performance will all be taken into account by the Adjudicators.

Composers will also perform their compositions at the festival (except in exceptional circumstances, where the submitted recording will be played) and prizes will be awarded.

Class	Age	Time	Fee
1237 INSTRUMENTAL OR SONG COMPOSITION - School year 6 and under Award: The Mary Mannion Trophy and a £15 voucher may be awarded to the winner of classes 1237, 1238 or 1239 at the adjudicator's discretion (providing they gain Honours or higher)	10 and under	Up to 5 mins	£0.00
1238 INSTRUMENTAL OR SONG COMPOSITION - School year 9 and under Award: The Mary Mannion Trophy and a £15 voucher may be awarded to the winner of classes 1237, 1238 or 1239 at the adjudicator's discretion (providing they gain Honours or higher)	13 and under	Up to 5 mins	£0.00
1239 INSTRUMENTAL OR SONG COMPOSITION - School years 10 and 11 Award: The Mary Mannion Trophy and a £15 voucher may be awarded to the winner of classes 1237, 1238 or 1239 at the adjudicator's discretion (providing they gain Honours or higher)	Age 14 and 15	Up to 6 mins	£0.00
1240 INSTRUMENTAL OR SONG COMPOSITION - School years 12 and 13 Award: The Mary Mannion Trophy and a £15 voucher may be awarded to the winner of classes 1237, 1238 or 1239 at the adjudicator's discretion (providing they gain Honours or higher)	Age 16 and 17	Up to 7.5 mins	£0.00
1241 OPEN CLASS FOR INSTRUMENTAL COMPOSITION	Any	Up to 20 mins	£0.00
1242 OPEN CLASS FOR SONG COMPOSITION	Any		£0.00

Policies

PRIVACY NOTICE

Worcester Creative Arts Festival (WCAF) takes great care to preserve your privacy and safeguard any personal data you provide to us. We may collect personal data from your name, address, date of birth, telephone number, email address. We may use your personal data in a number of ways:

- Processing your entry form to take part in WCAF
- Including your name in our programme
- Sending you adjudicator comments and certificates
- Responding to a general enquiry made to us
- Dealing with a complaint or concern
- Including your photo or name on our website or social media
- We will only ever use your personal data to manage your Festival involvement with us, including keeping you up to date with any festival news.
- We will never disclose your personal data to anyone outside the organization of the festival without your prior permission.
- We will never sell your details to any third party and we do not buy any personal data.
- We may share or disclose your personal data if we are required to do so by any law or court order.
- We have implemented measures to protect your personal data from improper use.

For any concerns regarding your rights in respect of the personal data we hold about you, please contact us.

WCAF Contact Email: admin@wcaf.org.uk

WCAF Contact Telephone: 07702 799688

Chair of Organising Committee: Kate Branchett

Festival Safeguarding Officer (FSO): Phillip Ray

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

WORCESTERSHIRE CREATIVE ARTS FESTIVAL 2027

SAFEGUARDING/CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

Policy Review Date: 11/09/2026

Next Review Date: 11/09/2027

Festival Safeguarding Officer (FSO): Phillip Ray

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

This Policy aligns with the British and International Federation of Festivals 'Creating Safer Festivals for Everyone document'.

The British and International Federation of Festivals and Worcestershire Creative Arts Festival are committed to ensuring a safe environment for children and young people and recognise our responsibility to safeguard their welfare by a commitment to recommend best practice which protects them.

This Policy applies to all personnel working on behalf of Worcestershire Creative Arts Festival.

We recognise that:

The safety of children and members of other vulnerable groups is paramount. All children and vulnerable adults regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse. All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously, responded to swiftly and appropriately and all the festival's organisers and volunteers have a responsibility to report concerns.

THE PURPOSE OF THE POLICY

To provide protection for the children and young people who participate in our Festival, including the

children of festival members.

To provide Festival personnel guidance on procedures they should adopt in the event that they suspect a child or young person may be experiencing, or be at risk of, harm.

We will seek to safeguard children and young people by: Valuing them, listening to and respecting them; adopting child protection guidelines through procedures and safe working practice for all Festival staff.

We will provide effective management for Festival personnel through supervision, support and training.

Any concerns will be documented, signed and dated and passed to the FSO.

We will share information about child protection and safe working practice with parents and volunteer staff

If deemed necessary, we will share information about concerns with appropriate agencies.

TO WHOM DOES THIS POLICY APPLY

This policy relates to children under the age of 18yrs and members of vulnerable groups of any age whose needs are identified to the Festival organisers by parents/guardians/and /or teachers prior to their arrival at the Festival. Our Festival actively seeks, wherever possible, to meet these needs (including those with physical disabilities) but must know beforehand in order to provide assistance.

THE FESTIVAL ENVIRONMENT

The object of the Festival is to provide a safe environment for amateur performance in Music and Drama, combined with an educational element from professional adjudicators. Competitors up to the age of 18yrs are the responsibility of their parents, guardians, carers or teachers whilst at the Festival. Public areas, practice rooms, toilets and changing areas will NOT be supervised by Festival Stewards on the days of the Festival.

Where parents/guardians /carers/teachers are not personally attending with their children, this Policy requires them to be satisfied that their children will be accompanied to the festival and adequately supervised by responsible adults acting at all times on their behalf.

A copy of this Policy is available online on our website[wcaf.org.uk], in the Festival Syllabus, Festival Programme and displayed publicly in the Reception area on Festival days. All stewards are made aware of this Policy at their training sessions.

THE FESTIVAL PERSONNEL

All Festival Personnel are volunteers.

Names and addresses of all members of the Festival committee and Stewards are held securely by the FSO and used solely for the purpose of the Festival. The Adjudicators and Festival committee are DBS checked and stewards are required to complete the required British and International Federation of Festival's recruitment form. All stewards attend a 2-hour Training session prior to the Festival Day including Safeguarding and Fire Evacuation Procedures.

Adjudicators, Committee members, Stewards, Photographer, First Aider will sign in/out on Festival days and wear an identifiable badge.

MOBILE PHONES, PHOTOGRAPHS, VIDEO RECORDING

An official photographer will be appointed to take photos. They will be required to wear an identity badge.

It is the responsibility of the parent/teacher/carer/guardian to give permission on entry form for official photographs to be taken which may subsequently be used by the Press or on the Festival website.

It is the responsibility of the parent/carer/guardian/teacher to notify the FSO of any child not able to be included in a photograph for social/legal reasons.

All mobile phones must be switched off during classes.

No videoing or photography will be allowed during classes except for the official photographer. Any person infringing this rule will be asked to leave the room where the class is being held.

UNACCEPTABLE LANGUAGE THRESHOLDS

The Festival 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, sexual inferences and/or gratuitous expletives. We ask that you present your work in a manner that respects the 'family' orientated nature of the Festival and avoids the unnecessary exposure of younger children to inappropriate themes and language.

ONLINE SAFETY - ONLINE CLASSES

This policy covers the use of social media by the Festival. Permission must be given on the entry form by the parent/guardian to allow a video performance if required to be used. This permission will be held safely by Festival personnel. The Festival will be using a third-party platform: Play and Perform (www.playandperform.co.uk) to ensure the secure delivery of the best virtual event possible. The video performance will be distributed only to Festival Personnel and the appropriate Adjudicator and deleted once adjudication has taken place. Access to the video will be by protected password.

If recording for online submission, this is the responsibility of the host of the location at which the recorded performance takes place (i.e. parent/guardian/teacher). Hosts should ensure the space used is appropriate for the performance and is free from Health and safety risks such as slip or trip hazards. It is the responsibility of the teacher/parent to assess the suitability of the location for recording the video and to follow the Government Guidelines on Covid -19 regarding social distancing, sanitisation, masks, in place in that area at the time of recording. The Festival is not responsible for any injury that may occur because of a video performance being made.

DATA PROTECTION

We only use the data you supply to us for the purposes of running the Worcestershire Creative Arts Festival. Information is not shared with any other organisations. The Festival uses a third-party platform Play and Perform [www.playandperform.co.uk]

Personal data is used to manage only your Festival involvement with Worcestershire Creative Arts Festival. Entry Forms will be stored securely in an encrypted form and deleted 18 months after the closing date of entries.

RISK ASSESSMENT

A full Risk Assessment is carried out by the FSO in collaboration with any host venue prior to the Festival days. This will include disabled access and toilet provision.

We will follow Government guidelines on Covid -19 in place at the time of the Festival.

CONCERNS

Any concerns must be documented, dated, signed and sent to the FSO.

We will seek to share information about concerns with agencies who need to know and involve parents and children if appropriate.

THE LEGISLATION AND GUIDANCE SUPPORTING THIS POLICY

Working Together to Safeguard Children {HM Government 2015}. The Children Act 1989, 2004; The Protection of Children Act 1999; The Protection of Vulnerable Groups Act 2006; The Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974; The Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000; The Policy Act 1997; The Data Protection Act 2018, The Human Rights Act 1998; Protection of Freedom Act 2012. BIFF Online Safety Policy Guidelines; and Child Protection Company 2022.

By submitting your entry form, you consent to the Worcestershire Creative Arts Festival processing and storing your contact details for specific use by the WCAF Committee (UKGDPR May 2018), The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999.

POLICY REVIEW

The Festival Committee will review this Policy annually. Child Protection accreditation will be renewed every two years. In doing so the FSO will look to the British & International Federation of

Festivals for support and that body, in turn, will look to other agencies for good practice, most notably the NSPCC and Arts Council of England policy guidelines.

Festival Safeguarding Officer: Phillip Ray

07736 230242

admin@wcaf.org.uk