



2026
SCHEDULE



Brisbane Drama Festival General Policies

1. Entries must be received by Brisbane Drama Festival Administration prior to the close date advertised in the Schedule of the Event. **Entries must be completed correctly, comply with all rules listed in associated Festival schedule and be accompanied by full fees including program cost or they will not be processed.** Responsibility for correct entry rests with the entrant. The Festival Administrator cannot be responsible for entries lost through failed electronic transmission. An **entry acknowledgement receipt** will be sent to the email address provided on the entry form, confirming the sections (s) entered and fees paid. Entrants must contact the Festival Administrator if this acknowledgement is not received within 3 days of entry submission. **Entrants are advised to check the details carefully and notify the Eisteddfod immediately of any errors, including spelling of names, etc. Corrections cannot be made after final timetabling.**
2. All Festival correspondence is via email. It is the entrant's responsibility to ensure that Brisbane Drama Festival emails are not blocked by spam filters.
3. **Entry Fees and Program costs are not refundable except when the Festival is cancelled.** Entry fees and program costs cannot be transferred to another Event should entrants change their mind after final timetabling for the initial entry.
4. **Purchase of a Festival Program is compulsory and is added to the invoice at the time of entry. Teachers submitting entries for individual students may purchase one program and pass it on to students. Programs are only available as digital/downloadable and hard copies will NOT be available for separate purchase.**
5. Please email brisdramafest@gmail.com if the downloadable program has not arrived within seven days of Festival start date.
6. The Venue and surrounds are SMOKE FREE!
7. A high standard of decorum, behaviour and professionalism is expected at all times. Unseemly, aggressive, abusive or unsportsmanlike behaviour is contrary to the spirit of the Festival and will not be tolerated in any form.
8. In the interest of fairness, no competitor will be allowed to perform if they have had professional contact with any adjudicator(s) in the six months prior to the start date of the Festival.
9. Personal communication with or other representation to the adjudicator(s) by competitors, teachers, parents, friends or associated parties is strictly prohibited and may result in disqualification.
10. The Adjudicator(s) may exercise discretion and withhold one or more prizes in any section.
11. The Adjudicator(s)' decision is final.
12. The Festival Administrator reserves the right to appoint substitute adjudicator (s) if circumstances require.
13. Awards and prize money will be allocated as per the Schedule.
14. The Festival Administrator reserves the right to alter or amend the Program in any way. Sections may be combined or cancelled as deemed necessary.
15. No person will be permitted to enter or leave the Auditorium during a performance.
16. All mobile phones/devices with screens must be turned off within the Auditorium.
17. The Festival Administrator will not be liable for personal items lost or stolen during the course of the Event. Lost property will be held for a period of one month after the final day of the Event.
18. **TICKET SALES: Tickets are non-refundable.** Except in circumstances where the event must be cancelled.



BRISBANE DRAMA FESTIVAL

SCHEDULE 2026

INFORMATION FOR ENTRANTS

Festival Administrator – Jem Hill

CONTACT – brisdramafest@gmail.com (email is the preferred method of contact)

DATES: Solos and Duos

Saturday 1st August - Sunday 9th August 2026.

AGE REQUIREMENTS: AGE IS AS AT **1st January 2026**

ENTRIES

12 & under - \$12.00 per competitor.

13 & Over - \$18 per competitor.

Duo Sections - \$22.00.

Group Sections - \$25.00 - (**all groups must have a title and be entered on one entry form only**)

Plays /Musicals- \$33.00

Compulsory Digital Program - \$5.00 - one per family

(1 added with entry - If multiple families please specify number)

Admin Fee \$6.00 (added at time of entry)

*all payments will be made by Direct Deposit via the Online entry system

*competitor surname and invoice number must be added as reference

ENTER ONLINE All entries and payments are to be submitted online via:

<https://www.brisbanedramafestival.com.au/>

Entries Open - April 3rd 2026

ENTRIES CLOSE – 15th June 2026 - late entries accepted at Festival Administrator's discretion.

VENUE

Yeronga State High School Auditorium, Oakwood Street, Yeronga

(only weekends and afternoons after 4pm will be used for general competition in 2026.)

COMMUNICATION AND NEWS

Facebook is used to post updates and news so please 'like' the 'Brisbane Drama Festival' Page.

Results are posted on Facebook as soon as possible after the adjudications.

Emails with updates and news prior to the event will be sent to the email addresses registered at the time of entry.



Rules Specific to Speech & Drama

1. All competitions are open to amateurs only. The definition of amateur for the purpose of competing in the Brisbane Eisteddfod shall be “any person not working full time as a teacher and/or performer. Student teachers presently studying and/or teaching under the guidance of professional teachers are classified as amateur”. Confirmation in writing may be requested from student teachers in the case of a dispute.
2. A clear copy of performance piece, free of any annotation must be furnished on the day of competition for use by the adjudicator. Copy to be marked with SECTION NUMBER AND COMPETITOR’S NUMBER ON TOP RIGHT HAND SIDE OF PAGE. Items may not be used more than once by the same person. Only original copies of work will be returned in accordance with copyright laws. All other material will be destroyed at the end of the section.
3. Competitors may not transfer from one part to another where sections have been divided.
4. If for an exceptional circumstance a competitor performs out of session they will still receive an adjudication report and may use that piece for championship eligibility but they will not be considered for an award in that particular section.
5. Time limits: There is no minimum time limit and pieces can be as brief as teachers consider desirable. Maximum time limits will be enforced. Points may be deducted for over-time.
6. It is understood that in Open Sections competitors may choose work that may NOT be appropriate for a general audience. It is important these mature competitors are able to perform these works as they prepare for examinations and possible professional careers. If competitors have chosen such works, an announcement will be made to advise the audience and give them the opportunity to leave the auditorium if they choose.
7. No competitor may appear more than once in a solo section. In duos and group sections competitors may appear twice.
8. No competitor may perform the same piece in different sections.
9. All pieces to be memorised (except sections marked “reading or memorised”).
10. In all duo sections, different ages are allowed. The age of the older competitor determines section.
11. The committee reserves the right to alter or amend the program in any way and at any time to refuse entry, cancel any entries, refund entry fees, cancel or combine any events where entries are insufficient to proceed.
12. All prompting to be done by the adjudicator, except for one act plays.
13. Props must be kept to a minimum to avoid delays between items. No props made of glass or china, no liquids on stage, no naked flame permitted (candles, matches etc.)
14. Private videotaping and still photography (no flash) by persons associated with the performance is permitted with approval of the convenor. Other competitor’s performances are not permitted to be videotaped or photographed and could result in disqualification of competitor associated with the offender. (Please note copyright restrictions for plays forbid the use of any recording device.)
15. The adjudicator reserves the right to terminate a competitor’s performance at any time for whatever reason.



SECTION DESCRIPTIONS AND REQUIREMENTS – ALL AGE GROUPS

- ! **AGE IS AS AT 1st January 2026**
- ! Timing where stated is the MAXIMUM time limit. There is no minimum time.
- ! All Sections are Own Choice.
- ! All Sections are for both boys and girls.
- ! Character Performance - In costume. A dramatic scene, original material or from a published work. Props to be kept to a minimum and cleared at the end of each session. In eight and under sections a character poem is acceptable.
- ! Restricted Sections are for performers who have not previously won first, second or third prize in any solo section of Speech & Drama at a previous Brisbane Festival.
- ! Solo Mime- No costume. Theatre blacks acceptable. Music can be used.
- ! Duologue – In costume. Original material or from a published work. Recorded sound effects permitted. Age of older competitor determines section.
- ! Australian Verse/Prose. By an Australian writer. Any style of poem. Poet's name must be on copy.
- ! Period drama. - Costume optional. Must be from a published play or script written before 1950.
- ! Extract from a play – Costume optional. Theatre blacks acceptable. Must be from a published play or script.
- ! Poems in Pairs. - Any type of poem. There should be unison lines as well as individual lines in the presentation. Interaction is important. Movements and gestures can be used.
- ! Mime in pairs - No costume. Theatre blacks acceptable. Music can be used.
- ! One Minute Please. Impromptu talk. Topic set by Adjudicator. Warning bell at 45 seconds. 60 seconds given for preparation.
- ! Musical Theatre- A selected piece from a musical that includes at least 1.5 minutes of acting and also includes singing and choreographed movement. Costume when appropriate.

Musical Theatre Duo- A selected piece from a musical involving two characters and including acting, singing and choreographed movement. Costumes when appropriate.
- ! Performance Poetry- A creative interpretation of a poem that may include props, costumes, music, song and dance.
- ! Public Speaking- A formal speech on a topic of the performer's choice that must include the use of palm cards.
- ! Storytelling- May be an original story or from a published piece but should be presented in a relaxed manner that is not obviously memorized. Should not be a prose presentation.
- ! Stand-Up Comedy- an original and entertaining piece presented to the audience.

- ! Group Scene. Costume optional. Minimum three members. Can be an extract from play, dramatised poem or story, or group devised pieces. Can include music.
- ! Individual Improvisation. Improvised scene using speech and action based on a theme given by the Adjudicator.
- ! Group Improvisation. Improvised scene using speech and action based on a theme given by the Adjudicator. Minimum two members.
- ! One Act Plays. In costume. An extract from a recognised play or an original piece.
- ! One Act Musical. A costumed performance from a musical that must include speaking, singing and choreographed movement.



PREPARATORY SECTION

8 years & under

1st, 2nd and 3rd place medallions, Highly Commended ribbons and adjudicators reports presented for each section.

Book prizes will be awarded at the Adjudicator's discretion.

Overall Champion and Runner Up Trophies and cash prizes presented during the event.

Overall Encouragement Award Trophies to be chosen by the adjudicator and presented during the event.

Awards for Best Play, Best Actor in a female role and Best Actor in a male role presented after the Play Section

Certificates and ribbons presented for Group Items after these sections.

4 years and under

P1 Nursery rhyme or poem. (Costume optional)

5 years and under

P2 Poem (any style)

6 years and under

P3 Verse Humorous

P4 Character Performance-may be a character poem or a drama piece (3min)

P5 Verse (not humorous)

7 years

P6 Verse Humorous

P7 Character Performance - may be a character poem or a drama piece (3mins)

P8 Verse (not humorous)

8 years

P9 Verse (not humorous)

P10 Verse Humorous

P11 Character performance- may be a character poem or a drama piece (3min)

8 years and under

P12 Prose - Reading or memorised (3min)

P13 Restricted Verse or Prose

P14 Solo Mime (3min)

P15 Australian Verse

P16 Solo Improvisation (2min with warning bell at 1.5mins)

P17 Impromptu Reading

P18 Duo Poem

P19 Duologue (4min)

P20 Duo Mime (3min)

P21. Duo Improvisation (2min with warning bell at 1.5mins)

GROUP SECTIONS:

P22 Group Scene (5min)

P23 Group Improvisation (2min with warning bell at 1.5mins)

P24 Group Mime (5min)

P25 One Act Play/Musical (30min)



JUNIOR SECTION

9 & 10 years

1st, 2nd and 3rd place medallions, Highly Commended ribbons and adjudicators reports presented for each section.

Book prizes will be awarded at the Adjudicator's discretion.

Overall Champion and Runner Up Trophies and cash prizes presented during the event.

Overall Encouragement Award Trophies to be chosen by the adjudicator and presented during the event.

Awards for Best Play, Best Actor in a female role and Best Actor in a male role presented after the Play Section

Certificates and ribbons presented for Group Items after these sections.

9 years

J1 Verse (not humorous)

J2 Verse humorous

J3 Prose - Reading or memorised (3min)

J4 Character performance (4min)

10 years

J5 Verse (not humorous)

J6 Verse humorous

J7 Prose - Reading or Memorised (3min)

J8 Character performance (4min)

10 years and under

J9 Solo Mime (3mins)

J10 Solo Improvisation (2min with warning bell at 1.5mins)

J11 Impromptu Reading

J12 Australian Verse

J13 Restricted Verse or Prose (2min)

J14 One Minute Please Impromptu Speech

J15 Write and Read Own Poem/Short Story/Monologue (5mins)

J16 Extract from a Play / Monologue (4 min)

J17 Duologue (5min)

J18 Duo Mime (3min)

J19 Duo Poem

J20 Duo Improvisation (2mins with warning bell at 1.5 mins)

GROUP SECTIONS:

J21 Group Mime (5min)

J22 Group improvisation (2min with warning bell at 1.5mins)

J23 Group scene (5min)

J24 One act Play/Musical (30min)



INTERMEDIATE SECTION

11 & 12 years

1st, 2nd and 3rd place medallions, Highly Commended ribbons and adjudicators reports presented for each section.

Overall Champion and Runner Up Trophies and cash prizes presented during the event.

Overall Encouragement Award Trophies chosen by the adjudicator and presented during the event

Awards for Best Play, Best Actor in a female role and Best Actor in a male role presented after the Play Section.

Certificates and ribbons presented for Group Items after these sections.

11 years

IT1 Verse (not humorous)

IT2 Verse humorous

IT3 Prose - Reading or Memorised (4min)

IT4 Character performance (5min)

IT5 Impromptu reading

12 years

IT6 Verse (not humorous)

IT7 Verse humorous

IT8 Prose - Reading or Memorised (4min)

IT9 Character performance (5min)

IT10 Impromptu reading

12 years and under

IT11 Solo Extract from a Play (5min)

IT12 Solo Mime (3min)

IT13 Australian Verse

IT14 One minute Please Impromptu Speech

IT15 Write and Perform Own Poem/Short Story/Monologue - Reading or Memorised (5mins)

IT16 Restricted verse or prose (3min)

IT17 Solo Improvisation (2.5 with warning bell at 2min)

IT18 Public Speaking (with Palm cards)

IT19 Performance Poetry

IT20 Musical Theatre (5min)

IT21 Storytelling (3min)

IT22 Stand-up Comedy (3min)

IT23 Duo Improvisation (2.5mins with warning bell at 2mins)

IT24 Duo Mime (4min)

IT25 Duologue (5min)

IT26 Duo Poem

GROUP SECTIONS:

IT27 Group improvisation (2.5min with warning bell at 2min)

IT28 Group Mime (5min)

IT29 Group Scene (5min)

IT30 One act Play/Musical (40 min)



Convenors Note

After years of watching the numbers of senior students participating in the Festival diminish and recognising that so many of these senior students are time poor and struggle to memorise some of the lengthy pieces suitable for senior work, we'd like to try something different.

We'd like to offer the opportunity for verses and proses to be presented as either read or memorised and adjudicated together.

Acting pieces e.g. Character, Period Drama, Extract from a play, Duologue must be memorised.

This apparently works well at other drama competitions and might help minimise the pressure of having to memorise so many long pieces and encourage more participation by our senior students.

SENIOR SECTION

13 years and over

1st, 2nd and 3rd place medallions, Highly Commended ribbons and adjudicators reports presented for each section.

Overall Champion and Runner Up Trophies and cash prizes presented during the event

Overall Encouragement Award Trophies chosen by the adjudicator and presented during the event.

Awards for Best Play, Best actor in a female role and Best Actor in a male role presented after the Play sections.

Certificates and ribbons awarded in Group Items after these sections.

13 & 14 years

S1 Character Performance (5min)

15-17 years

S2 Character Performance (5min)

13-17 years

S5 Verse-Memorised or Reading

S7 Prose- Memorised or Reading (4min)

S12. Period Drama-written prior to 1920 (5 mins)

13 years and over

S3 Impromptu Reading

S4 Solo improvisation (3min with warning bell at 2.5mins)

S6 Humorous Verse - Memorised or Reading

S8 Australian Verse - Memorised or Reading

S9 One Minute Please Impromptu Speech

S10 Write and Perform Own Poem/Short Story/ Monologue - Memorised or Reading (5mins)

S11 Solo Mime (3min)

S13 Public Speaking (with palm cards)(5min)

S14 Performance Poetry

S15 Musical Theatre (6min)

S16 Duo Poem

S17 Duo Mime (3mins)

S18 Duo Improvisation – (2.5min with warning bell at 2mins)

S19 Duo Musical Theatre (6min)

S20 Duologue (6min)

18 years & over

S25 Character Performance (5 mins)

S26 Verse - memorised or Reading

S27 Prose- memorised or Reading (4min)

S28. Period drama- written prior to 1920 (5 mins)

GROUP SECTIONS:

S21 Group improvisation (2.5min with warning bell at 2mins)

S22 Group Mime (5 min)

S23 Group Scene (5 min)

S24 One Act Play/Musical (60 min)