**LVS Ascot Performing Arts Festival 2024**

**DANCE DRAMA MUSIC**

LVS Ascot are pleased to be able to host our Performing Arts Festival again this year, offering students the opportunity to compete in Music, Dance and Drama sections. New for 2024, we have our Choir class and Musical Theatre Ensembles in our Music section.

Drama categories will take place on Saturday 2th and Sunday 3rd March 2024.

Music categories will take place during the evenings of March 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th 2024. (Vocal – Monday and Tuesday, Piano – Wednesday, Instrumental – Thursday)

Dance categories will take place on Sunday 3rd, Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th March 2024.

In this pack, you will find a list of categories, classes, rules and important information for each discipline. Please read through the information carefully and then apply through the LVS Ascot website at the following address: <https://www.lvs.ascot.sch.uk/performing-arts-festival>

Deadline for entry is **4pm on February 2nd**and fees are listed below. No entries will be accepted after this date. Please be aware that we may close sections sooner if they become full, so early entry is recommended. We continue to use Festival Connect for our entries. Please click the link on the website and follow the guide if needed. Please note that students may not enter more than one solo in any category.

We look forward to welcoming you to the LVS Ascot Performing Arts Festival.

Kind regards,

Jessica Clark

Director of Performing Arts

**Festival Entry Fees**

**DRAMA**

**Monologue - £7.00**

**Duologue - £6.00 per student**

**Groups - £4.00 per student (min 3 students)**

**MUSIC**

**Solos - £7.00**

**Duets - £6.00 per student**

**Choirs/ Musical Theatre Ensembles - £15.00 per entry**

**DANCE**

**Solos - £7.50**

**Duets - £6.00 per student**

**Trios/Quartets - £4.00 per student**

**Groups - £3.00 per student (min 5 students)**

**Audience Entrance Fees**

Please note that there will be a cost for audience entry to the theatre payable on the door.

Weekly pass (for all Drama, Music and Dance sections) - £18

Two discipline Entry (covering you for two out of three disciplines i.e. drama and music, drama and dance, dance and music) - £15

Dance Pass (all dance sections) - £12

Music Pass (all music sections) - £10

Drama Pass (both sections) - £5

Individual section pass (sections are approx 2.5 hours, 4 sections a day on full days) - £3

**Adjudication**

All competitors will be scored in accordance with the rankings listed below, with a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awarded for each class.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Description | Mark |
| Outstanding | An exceptional performance technically and artistically | 91+ |
| Distinction | An excellent performance technically and artistically | 89-90 |
| Very Good | A convincing performance technically and artistically | 86-88 |
| Merit | A capable performance showing some artistic appreciation and/or technical ability | 83-85 |
| Good | A performance showing development of technique and/or communication | 80-82 |
| Fair | A performance limited in its communication, in need of further preparation | 75-79 |

**DANCE**

**CATEGORIES**

**Ballet**

**Character**

**Contemporary (Age 13+)**

**Tap**

**Modern/Jazz**

**Lyrical (Age 11+)**

**Musical Theatre**

**Acro**

**CLASSES**

**Age taken on 1st September 2023** (Age of oldest competitor taken for duets/trios/ quartets and groups)

I = 6 and under

II = 7-8 years

III = 9-10 years

IV = 11-12 years

V = 13-15 years

VI = 16-18 years

**SOLOS, DUETS, TRIOS and QUARTETS**

Age Classes for Ballet, Character, Tap, Modern/Jazz, Musical Theatre and Acro are outlined. Please note that Contemporary will only have Classes V and VI (ages 13 to 18) and Lyrical Category is only for Classes IV, V and VI (ages 11 to 18).

Mini = 6 and under

Junior = 10 and under

Inter = 14 and under

Senior = 15-18 years

**GROUPS**

Age Classes for all groups are as listed. Groups

must have a minimum of 5 competitors.

**TIME LIMITS**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **SOLOS** | **DUETS, TRIOS & QUARTETS** | **GROUPS** |
| **4 & Under** | 1 mins | 1.5 mins | 4 mins |
| **5-10 Years** | 1.5 mins | 2.5 mins |
| **11-18 Years** | 2 mins | 3 mins |

Please note that Musical Theatre performances are allowed an additional 30 seconds. The stated Time Limits above are maximum times and should not be exceeded but competitors are not required to perform for the full time limit.

**DRAMA**

**CATEGORIES**

**Monologue**

A monologue from a published play. For KS1 and KS2 sections a poem can be performed. The title and author should be announced prior to commencing the piece. There is no need to give a description of the piece. See rules for time lengths.

There will be two categories and students are welcome to enter both. These are:

**Classical** – Elizabethan/Jacobean(1558-1625), Greek or Roman (500BC-4BC), Restoration or Post Restoration (1626-1799)

**Modern** – 1800-Present

**Duologue**

A extract from a published play performed by two people. The title and author should be announced prior to commencing the piece. There is no need to give a description of the piece.

**Groups**

There will be two sections for groups, a scripted and a devised section available for KS2b and above. For devised pieces a synopsis of the piece will be required and a title for the piece.

**CLASSES**

KS1 – Years 1 & 2

KS2a – Years 3 & 4

KS2b – Years 5 & 6

KS3 – Years 7, 8 & 9

KS4 – Years 10 & 11

KS5 – Years 12 & 13

Classes are defined by the competitors year group for both monologues and duologues.

**TIME LIMITS**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **MONOLOGUES** | **DUOLOGUES** | **GROUPS** |
| **KS1 & KS2a** | 1 mins | 1.5 mins | N/A |
| **KS2b & KS3** | 1.5 mins | 2 mins | 10 mins |
| **KS4 & KS5** | 2 mins | 3 mins | 12 mins |

Please note that the stated Time Limits above are maximum times and should not be exceeded but competitors are not required to perform for the full time limit.

**MUSIC**

**CATEGORIES - SOLO**

**Instrumental**

Brass (Euphonium, French Horn, Trombone, Trumpet, Tuba)

Percussion (Drums, Orchestral Percussion)

Guitar (Acoustic, Electric)

Strings (Cello, Double Bass, Harp, Viola, Violin)

Woodwind (Bassoon, Clarinet, Flute, Oboe, Piccolo, Recorder, Saxophone)

**Piano**

Organ

Piano

**Voice**

Classical

Contemporary (Pop and Jazz)

Musical Theatre

**CATEGORIES – DUET**

Any duet combination is possible. All duets will compete against one another on a single day.

**CATEGORIES – CHORAL & MUSICAL THEATRE ENSEMBLE**

**Choral**

School Choirs KS1 & KS2 Time Limit 6 minutes

School Choirs KS3 to KS5 Time Limit 8 minutes

Youth Choirs (under 19yrs, excluding schools) Time Limit 10 minutes

Church Choirs Time Limit 10 minutes

Adult Choirs Time Limit 10 minutes

**Musical Theatre Ensemble** Time Limit 8 minutes

**CLASSES**

Preliminary: Pre-Grade 1 (including beginners)

Primary: Grade 1 level approximately

Junior: Grade 2-3 level approximately

Intermediate: Grade 4-5 level approximately

Advanced: Grade 6-7 level approximately

Senior: Grade 8+

**Instrumental and Piano** categories are determined by the standard of music played rather than a grade examination that has been passed or is being prepared. It is important that performers enter the appropriate class according to their standard.

A = 7 and under

B = 8-10 years

C = 11-13 years

D = 14-16 years

E = 17-18 years

**Voice** category classes are age based.

**TIME LIMITS**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Preliminary/ Primary** | **Junior** | **Inter** | **Advanced** | **Senior** |
| **INSTRUMENTAL** | **BRASS & WOODWIND** | 2 mins | 2.5 mins | 4 mins | 5 mins | 6 mins |
| **STRINGS** | 1.5 mins | 2.5 mins | 4 mins | 5 mins | 7 mins |
| **DRUMS & GUITAR** | 2 mins | 2.5 mins | 4 mins | 4 mins | 6 mins |
| **PIANO** |  | 1.5 mins | 2.5 mins | 3.5 mins | 5 mins | 8 mins |
|  |  | **A** | **B** | **C** | **D** | **E** |
| **VOICE** |  | 1.5 mins | 2 mins | 3 mins | 4 mins | 5 mins |

Please note that the stated Time Limits above are maximum times and should not be exceeded but competitors are not required to perform for the full time limit.

**RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**OVERALL**

1. Child safety is of upmost importance and as such all volunteers and festival staff hold a current DBS check. Staff at LVS Ascot all have up to date safeguarding training.
2. No student will be allowed to walk around the school site unaccompanied.
3. Entries must be submitted via the website by February 2nd at 4pm
4. Entries will be closed when the festival is full which may come before the closing date, entries will be processed in order of receipt.
5. Refunds of fees are not possible under any circumstances unless the festival is cancelled by LVS Ascot.
6. Payment must be made at time of entry. Any fees not paid by the deadline will be removed from the competition.
7. The final schedule will be sent out via email to the email address you have provided and will be available on the online entry system.
8. Any queries relating to the festival should be addressed to the Festival Organiser via email: lvsfestival@lvs.ascot.sch.uk
9. The adjudicator’s decision will be final in all classes. Any communication relating to decisions is strictly forbidden and may render the competitor liable to disqualification.
10. Music will be deleted after the festival date and used only for the festival.
11. The use of any recording or photographic equipment during performances is strictly forbidden and competitors may be disqualified if this rule is not adhered to.
12. The competition may be professionally photographed and these will be available for purchase after the festival. Any screenshots taken and posted online without permission of the photographer will result in the student being banned from entering future festivals.
13. By participating in the festival you are giving permission to be photographed and should inform the festival organiser if you do not wish your child/student to be photographed. Teachers should ensure they have photo permission from parents.
14. LVS Ascot and its festival staff reserve the right to alter, modify or cancel any of the arrangements.
15. LVS Ascot cannot be held responsible for any loss of or damage to any personal property on site.
16. The festival may run behind schedule and students should be prepared for this.
17. Competitors and teachers must sign in and out at the dressing room and will be brought down to the stage.
18. Only festival staff and teachers with a valid DBS shown to the festival organiser will be allowed backstage (applies only to Dance)
19. Seating in the auditorium is on a first come first served basis and spectators must not reserve seats for people.
20. Teachers and choreographers are responsible for their own music licensing. You will not be asked for a copy of your music licence, this is left up to each teacher/choreographer and not the responsibility of the festival.
21. Medals will be given to the competitors on stage should they be fortunate enough to place in a section.
22. Certificates and feedback sheets can be collected by a nominated teacher from the festival organiser during break times only. They must be collected on the day and will not be able to be posted after the festival.
23. LVS Ascot will have first aiders on site and any accidents should be reported immediately to the Festival Organiser.
24. All competitors and spectators must be pleasant and kind to one another and will be asked to leave if this is not the case. We aim to have a friendly and supportive competition where all students have the opportunity to share their talents.
25. Competitors must attend their class no later than 30 minutes before it is due to start. Classes may run up to one hour ahead or behind schedule; please check the LVS Perform Instagram feed for information. In exceptional circumstances adjudication may be delayed owing to the late arrival of entrants at the discretion of the festival organiser and / or adjudicator.
26. Performers or teachers should notify the Festival Organiser if they are no longer able to attend, giving as much notice as possible. This enables the smooth running of the Festival on the day of the event.
27. Students may wish to wear costumes to add to their performance. No marks are awarded for costume but adjudicators will be looking at the overall performance.
28. No set is allowed but small hand held props are permitted.
29. Students will have access to up to two chairs if they require them. If groups require chairs supplied by LVS they must contact and agree this with the festival organiser prior to the festival.
30. Students will not be permitted to start again if they make a mistake or forget their routine, unless at the discretion of the judge.
31. Students should enter only once in any category across all disciplines.
32. Please note that the stated Time Limits above should not be exceeded; if you exceed the time limit the adjudicator may ask for the competitor to stop the performance.

**DANCE**

1. Students may only enter once in any section. They may not compete with two different trios in the same section, however they may enter separate sections, e.g. modern and lyrical.
2. This competition is for amateur dancers only.
3. If students competing in a duet/trio or quartet section are in different age categories, e.g. Age 9-10 and Age 11-12, the oldest age of the competitors is taken.
4. One group per school only in each category and age group.
5. Musical Theatre songs must be age appropriate, generally songs with a narrative work best, which usually come from musicals or movie musicals. Over-staging and gesturing of the song are discouraged. Where dance is used, the dance should come as an alternative way of expressing the theme of the song, but there shouldn’t be dance for dance sake. The character and story must be sustained and developed in the dance break, the audience should know more of the story and characterisation after the dance break than before.
6. Competitors must be ready for their class no later than 30 minutes before it is due to start. Classes may run ahead or behind schedule. In exceptional circumstances adjudication may be delayed owing to the late arrival of entrants at the discretion of the festival organiser and / or adjudicator.
7. A changing/warm up room will be available. Parents will not be permitted to enter this area unless they have a DBS check and this has been shown to a member of staff. Teachers wearing a name badge, supplied by the festival organisers will be admitted. We suggest where possible students arrive in costume. If teachers wish to go backstage to support students they will need to show their DBS to festival staff and this will be noted on their teachers badge.
8. A quick change area will be available backstage for those in multiple sections scheduled closely.
9. We aim to schedule sections with enough of a break for students to have time to change in between but this may not always be possible.
10. For the purposes of this festival, a novice dancer is a dancer with less than two years experience in Festival performing, who has never won at a festival with a score of 82 or above or scored 84 or above (regardless of placing) in any category.  Students may only be entered into the open or novice section for the entire festival, (for example, they cannot compete in novice for ballet and open for modern).  Groups may be entered as novice so long as 75% of the group are classed as novice dancers.  Please do ensure that you enter your students in the correct section, if you have any questions please do ask as soon as possible.

**DRAMA**

1. If students competing in a duologue section are in different age categories, e.g. a Year 6 student and a Year 7 student, then they should enter the section of the oldest performer, e.g. KS3D.
2. This competition is for amateur performers only.
3. Students may wish to wear simple costumes to help them get into character.
4. No set is allowed but small hand held props are permitted.
5. Students will have access to up to two chairs and one table if they require them. Anything else must be agreed with the festival organiser prior to the date of the festival and may or may not be possible.
6. A changing/warm up room will be available. Parents will not be permitted to enter this area unless they have a DBS or chaperone licence and this has been shown to a member of staff. We suggest where possible students arrive in costume.
7. A quick change area will be available backstage for those in multiple sections scheduled closely.
8. There will be no lighting or sound available for performances.
9. Competitors and teachers must sign in and out at the dressing room and will be brought down to the stage.
10. We aim to have all competitors watch each section where possible and as such will reserve the front two rows for the competitors.

**MUSIC**

1. Instrumental candidates who require accompaniment may use their own accompanist or the recommended festival accompanist **Julie Aherne**, contact details for Julie Aherne can be found on the website. It is recommended that students book a practice with the festival accompanist, responsibility for this lies with the student and costs should be agreed directly with the accompanist.
2. Students requiring a backing track (Drums, Electric Guitar and Bass Guitar only) will need to submit these with the entry.
3. All voice candidates will be required to use a live accompanist, the only exception being the Contemporary (pop and jazz) section. No backing tracks will be allowed in the classical and musical theatre voice classes. Music must be presented to the Accompanist in a form which is easy to manage and read at the piano. Any cuts or repeats should be clearly marked. A chord chart with lyrics or lead sheet with chords and lyrics and melody will not be accepted.
4. An original copy of the score or authorised photocopy of the sheet music for voice students must be produced for the adjudicator in all classes on the day of the competition. When a work is selected from a publication containing several different works which are not published separately, a photocopy may be made for the use of the adjudicator, provided that the competitor or participant has already purchased his/her own copy. The photocopy will be retained and destroyed by the Festival Organiser immediately after the event. It is illegal to photocopy works which are copyright, without the permission of the copyright holder.
5. A full score (not just instrumental part) should be provided to the Adjudicator on the day of the Festival.
6. Competitors should not enter a class that is lower than the grade they have already taken, failure to comply could result in disqualification.
7. Competitors from Junior level upwards should introduce their piece before performing, clearly stating the title of the piece and the composer/songwriter/lyricist. We would encourage younger competitors to also introduce their piece, but it is not mandatory.
8. Microphones may only be used in Contemporary Vocal category.