

NET Section Drama Competitions: 'Stories on Stage' 2017/18

Conditions and Regulations

1. Organiser

The 'Stories on Stage' Drama Competition is organised by the Native-speaking English Teacher (NET) Section, Curriculum Development Institute (CDI), Education Bureau (EDB).

2. Aims

The aims of the 'Stories on Stage' Drama Competition are to:

- provide students with an opportunity to collaborate on writing a drama script based on a published short story and to perform it on stage for an interschool competition; and
- provide teachers with teaching strategies and classroom activities suitable for teaching short stories, script writing and drama as part of the English Language Curriculum at the junior secondary (KS3) or senior secondary (KS4) level.

3. Description of the Competition

The 'Stories on Stage' Drama Competition is open to all students from secondary schools in Hong Kong offering the Senior Secondary English Language Curriculum.

The competition has two parts: 1) script writing; and 2) drama performance. Each team that enters the competition must have 3-4 student writers and 3-4 student performers.

The student writers are responsible for writing a drama script based on one of the published short stories selected for the competition.

The short stories are selected to cover a range of genres and themes that might appeal to students in Hong Kong. Schools may opt for a short story in their school-based curriculum on the condition that it meets the criteria for the competition, e.g. the story must be fictional, age-appropriate, adaptable for a staged performance, and should have at least three characters.

The student performers are responsible for performing the story on stage on the day of the competition.

Student writers and performers may be the same students or they may be different.



4. Schedule of Events and Submission Deadlines

Schedule	Event or Deadline	Related Documents
late October 2017	Invitation to take part in 'Shorts on Stage' Drama Competition	Fax from the NET Section informing schools of website link to entry form, poster and regulations and conditions
2 November 2017 (Thu) 2:30 – 3:30pm & 3:45 – 4:45pm	Briefing Sessions (optional), Rm E304, East Block, Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre, 19 Suffolk Road, Kowloon Tong, Kowloon	EDB Training Calendar System (TCS) notification/on-line application (Course Codes: CDI020171378/ CDI020171379)
1 December 2017 (Fri) 5:00pm	Deadline for submission of entry forms	'Stories on Stage' entry form
23 January 2018 (Mon) 9:30am – 5:00pm	Professional development workshop on Adapting Short Stories for the Stage, NET Section, Room 1120, 11/F, Tsuen Wan Multi-storey Carpark Building, 174-208 Castle Peak Rd, Tsuen Wan, N.T.	EDB Training Calendar System (TCS) notification/on-line application (around one month before the event)
13 April 2018 (Mon) 5:00pm	Deadline for submission of pledge form and script	'Stories on Stage' pledge form
24 and 26 April 2018 (Tue, Thu) 9:30am – 5:00pm (TBC)	'Stories on Stage' Drama Competition and Awards Ceremonies Venues: TBC	Email from the NET Section, CDI, EDB to notify schools of the confirmed dates
3 July 2018	NET Section Filmit 2018 Awards Ceremony, Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre, 19 Suffolk Road, Kowloon Tong, Kowloon	Email invitation from the NET Section to prize-winning teams to perform

5. Conditions of Entry

5.1 The 'Stories on Stage' entry form must be submitted on or before **5:00pm on Friday, 1 December 2017**.

5.2 As the NET Section competitions adopt a 'train the trainer' model, schools that are new to the competition are encouraged to send **at least one teacher** to one of the two identical **Briefing Sessions** and must send **at least one teacher** to the **Adapting Short Stories for the Stage Professional Development Workshop**.

5.3 Schools may enter **a maximum of one team** with 3-8 students. Each team will consist of 3-4 student writers and 3-4 student performers, who may or may not be the same students. The minimum number of students on a team will be 3, in which case the 3 students will write the script and perform it on stage. The maximum number of students will be 8, in which case 4 students will write the script and 4 different students will perform it on stage. Students in the team may come from the same year level or different year levels.

6. Regulations

- 6.1 Drama scripts should be typed with a standard 12pt font, 1.0 line spacing and normal margins (top/bottom: 2.54 cm; left/right: 3.18cm). The name of the school should appear in the header and all pages should be numbered.
- 6.2 The performance must be between 5 – 8 minutes. An initial bell will be rung at 5 minutes and a final bell will be rung at 8 minutes, at which point the student speaking must finish their sentence and the team will be asked to return to their seats. Marks will be deducted if the performance is under 5 minutes or exceeds 8 minutes by more than one sentence.
- 6.3 Simple costumes and props are permitted, but no stage sets or large props are allowed. Four chairs and one small table will be made available at the venue. There are no special prizes for costumes and props. The judges will focus primarily on use of language, use of dramatic technique and interpretation of the story.
- 6.4 Sound effects are permitted. Sound files must be sent to the NET Section via email or Edmodo at least one day before the event.
- 6.5 There will be no special lighting effects at the venue. Student writers are encouraged to describe the stage lighting and other special effects in the stage directions of the drama script. One judge will be responsible for reading the drama scripts and will make a note of the stage directions as part of the judging criteria.
- 6.6 Teams must arrive at least 10 minutes before the competition begins. Start and end times will be confirmed later.
- 6.7 The audience (teachers and students) will remain silent during the performances. Mobile phones must be switched off or set to silent mode. Marks will be deducted after one warning if teams in the audience cause a disturbance.

7. Adjudication

The judging panel may include representatives from the EDB, professional writing or drama instructors, and front-line English teachers. Student scripts and performances will be assessed on the following criteria:

A. Use of language	<i>accuracy, fluency, stress, intonation, expression</i>
B. Use of dramatic technique	<i>use of the stage, facial expression, body movement, interaction, teamwork, voice projection</i>
C. Creative interpretation	<i>creative interpretation of characters and setting, creative adaptation of story events</i>
D. Drama script	<i>adherence to the conventions of script writing, content, organisation, use of language and style</i>

Note: The decision of the judging panel will be considered final. No correspondence will be entered into after the results are announced.

8. Awards and Certificates

The 'Stories on Stage' Drama Competition may have more than one session depending on the number of teams that enrol. Each session will accommodate between 10 – 12 teams. The following prizes will be awarded to teams and students in each session.

Category	Award
Team awards and prizes:	
1 st Prize	trophy + book coupons + certificates
2 nd Prize	trophy + book coupons + certificates
3 rd Prize	trophy + book coupons + certificates
Merit	book coupons + certificates
Best Script	book coupons + certificates
Individual prizes:	
Outstanding Actors (3 individuals)	trophy + book coupons+ certificates (x3)
Other:	
Every team member	Certificate of Participation

9. Reminder of Submission of Entry and Forms

Deadline	Related Document
5:00pm Friday, 1 December, 2017	The deadline for submission of forms. Late entries may NOT be considered.
5:00pm Friday, 13 April, 2018	The deadline for submission of the ‘Stories on Stage’ pledge form along with a draft of the drama script
The day of the competition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A hard copy of the team members’ names • The school and parental consent form
Within 3 working days after the competition	A soft copy name list must be submitted through Google Forms. This soft copy name list will be used to issue the Prize Winners’ certificates and the Certificates of Participation. Teachers are responsible for the accuracy of the names. Certificates will be posted out to the competition contact teachers within one month of the competition.

Entry forms can be emailed, faxed, posted or dropped off in person to the NET Section office:

Attn: ‘Shorts on Stage’ Drama Competition
 Regional NET Coordinating Team
 Native-speaking English Teacher Section,
 Room 1120, 11/F Tsuen Wan Multi-storey Carpark Building,
 174 – 208 Castle Peak Road, Tsuen Wan, NT
 Email: cooley@edb.gov.hk
 Fax: 3549 8379

10. Enquiries

For further enquiries, please contact Mr Stephen COOLEY at 3549 8361 or by email at cooley@edb.gov.hk .