



# Hong Kong School Drama Festival 2022/23

## ONLINE SCHOOL BRIEFING SESSION

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Presented & Produced by **Education Bureau**

Organised by **Steering Committee of the Festival**

Subsidised by **The Lok Sin Tong Benevolent Society, Kowloon**

Co-organised by **Hong Kong Art School** (division of Hong Kong Arts Centre)

# About the Festival



- Encourage schools to develop drama as a regular co-curricular activity for continual development of drama activities at schools
- Promote whole-person and artistic development in students
- Encourage creation of innovative theme and content with positive values worthy of discussion to help audience and participants reflect on the theme

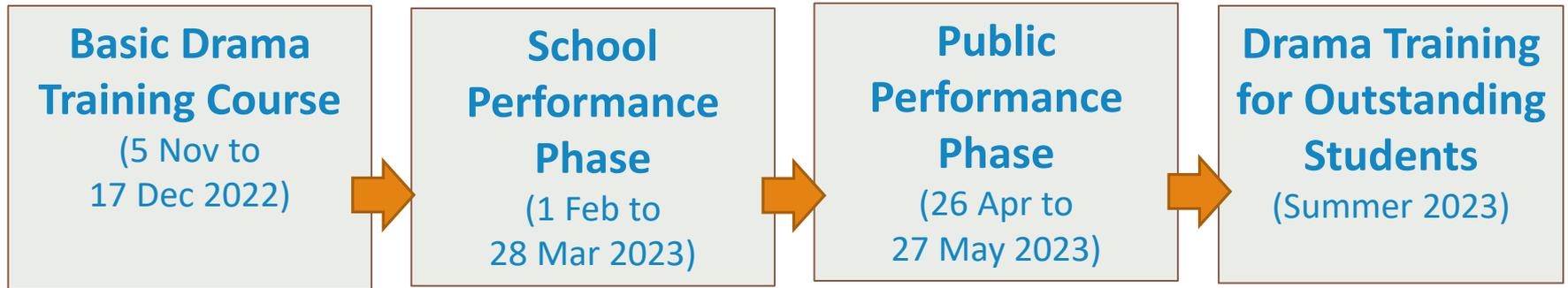
## **It is important to note that...**

- The Festival is not a competition; the awards are for recognition of participants' contribution and achievements
- It's a drama festival, not for testing on Language proficiency
- Innovation, creativity and reflection are valued



# Phases & Activities

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The focus of this briefing session

# Participation



Due to a large no. of participating teams, no change of schedule is allowed unless under very special circumstances

## Primary Teams

Cantonese: 94

Putonghua: 22

English: 155

## Secondary Teams

Cantonese: 152

Putonghua: 14

English: 75



**Total No. of Teams: 512**

# Information & Updates

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➤ **Important news and updates about the Festival:**

<https://www.hksdf-hkas.com/>

➤ **FAQ:**

<https://www.hksdf-hkas.com/faq-%E5%95%8F%E9%A1%8C>

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# **School Performance Phase**

## **Points to note**

# About Reader's Theatre

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- A form of performance in theatrical productions
- Presents a drama mainly by reading aloud
- **Not** the same as a radio show!
- Performers of a school team are **suggested** to interpret the script using their voice, gestures , facial expressions and movement (but not a stage blocking)
- The use of simple costumes, props and makeup are highly recommended

# School Performance

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- All school performances will be conducted in **real-time** through **ZOOM** platform.  
(ZOOM account provided by HKSDF)
- Length:
  - 15 - 30 mins (Secondary School)
  - 10 - 20 mins (Primary School)
- Students are **highly recommended** to login to the online platform individually  
(i.e. each window shows one student; in grid pattern)
- No restrictions to performance venue
- On-stage performance by all performers with blocking is **not preferred**

# School Performance

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- Schools should observe the precautionary measures set out in EDB's letters and put in place appropriate activities arrangements in light of different circumstances.
- Participants should ensure a stable network during the performance.
- Sufficient rehearsal time is important!
- The production team should familiarise themselves with Zoom
  - \* For example: role of co-host, video layout (speaker view/ gallery view), change of background image, application of virtual background, share screen/sound, etc.

*Arrangement of Audience is unnecessary!*

# Documents to be submitted

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1. Synopsis
2. Cast list and production team list
3. Script



Submission Date: on or before **16 Jan. 2023**

- Adjudicators will collect figures about:  
Total number of student participants (performers & production team)

# Communications

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## The Festival

- Mainly by **email** (stated in the application form)
- check email regularly including the spam folder

## Adjudicators

- Teacher in-charge should confirm the performance date and time with adjudicators **at least 3 working days** prior to the performance and must ensure that adjudicators have got the updated script and cast list
- Adjudicators' mobile phone numbers are **ONLY** for confirming School Performance Phase details



# Guest Visits

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- Steering Committee Members
- EDB officers
- Head Adjudicators
- Festival organisers

## Purpose:

To better understand the operation of the school performance phase

- Advance notice will be given
- The guests **will not** take part in the adjudication and discussion session

# Logistics

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## Performance

- Enter the room **30 minutes earlier** to check the internet connection and test any special effects
- Start the show **on time**

## Post-performance talk

- Around 30-45 minutes
- **ONLY** for the performers and the production team
- Interactive exchange & immediate feedback

## Video recording

- The organiser will record video for facilitating adjudication
- School(Co-host) is allowed to record video by themselves
- Please **DO NOT** upload Adjudicators' image to social media

# May I seek help from outside parties?

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- Working at its best, it would enhance the skills and knowledge of your team
- Make sure you engage a trustworthy organisation/tutor
- Awards will not be given to outside parties
- Respect intellectual property by putting down the right names in the production team list
- Clear the copyright of your script if it is written by outside parties, including the script provided by the organisation/tutor you engage

# Sharing of Resources

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- Video-recordings of public performance of the recent five years are available for loan
  - <https://www.hksdf-hkas.com/forms-%E8%A1%A8%E6%A0%BC>
  - The past 5 years' public performances scripts excerpts can be downloaded at EDB's website for reference
  - <https://www.edb.gov.hk/en/public-admin/related-bodies-schemes/edu-schemes-fund/drama/index.html>

# Sharing of Reader's Theatre

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- <https://www.hksdf-hkas.com/home-%E4%B8%BB%E9%A0%81-copy>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lyil0OfFqfM>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2i3EtuhlhEc>

# Setup and use of ZOOM

- <https://youtu.be/yteYyyR1f6o>
- <https://youtu.be/6nOkyKglQkg>
- <https://youtu.be/WUhqyDZSrl0>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UEABW3ddZkc>

# Awards

(All awards are for school members only)

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Award for Outstanding Script (students/teachers)

Award for Outstanding Director (students/teachers)

Award for Outstanding Performer (students)

Award for Outstanding Audio-visual Effects (schools/students)

Award for Outstanding Cooperation (schools/students)



Certificate

Award for Commendable Overall Performance  
(schools)



Certificate + Trophy

Adjudicators' Award (schools)



Certificate + Trophy  
(Might be invited to Public Performance)

# Adjudication criteria

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<https://www.hksdf-hkas.com/faq-%E5%95%8F%E9%A1%8C>

(Q31, for reference only)

# Subsidy

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- The Education Bureau will provide the following subsidies for each participating team:

School Performance Phase:

- Primary School: HKD 3,350 ; Secondary School: HKD 3,700
- Subsidy release date: December 2022

Public Performance Phase (To be confirmed): HKD 4,300

- Ways of transferal: please refer to FAQ
- Please keep proper financial records for internal retention and auditing purpose

# Notes

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- The organiser reserves the rights to use the visual materials of the participating schools in the Festival, such as pictures, videos, texts, photos of activities, images, posters, pictures or audios, etc. for keeping record and publicity purposes. The media of promotion include but are not limited to publications, websites and promotional materials. Please include this note in the school circulars related to the Festival.
- **Festival Calendar**  
listed in the document '**Tentative schedule of actions for participating schools**' sent to your school (also downloadable at <http://hksdf.hkas.edu.hk/index.html>)

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# Q & A

## Collected questions and responses were consolidated as follows.

1.
  - During the performance, can students live broadcast the on-stage performance via ZOOM?
  - Will we be disqualified for having a group of students performing face-to-face in front of one camera?
  - Our school has resumed full-time classes. Instead of performing online individually, could students perform as a group online on stage?
  - Are we allowed to show multiple students in the same ZOOM window?

It is not recommended.

Participants are recommended to login on ZOOM individually, which means one person one camera.

2.
  - Our school will resume the whole-day timetable in December. We are wondering if our students can take their masks off during the performance if they are performing inside the school premises?
  - Is it possible for the performers to be in the same room (with a mask and a board) during the performance?
  - According to EDB's guideline, primary students having received 2 doses of COVID-19 vaccine for more than 14 days can participate in school activities without masks. Can students have their masks off during the performance at school?
  - If students do not perform in the school can they not wear masks?  
Schools can arrange to have students who have received three doses of COVID-19 vaccine (secondary students) and two doses of COVID-19 vaccine for more than 14 days (primary students) to participate in school activities that require taking off their masks.
3. Can transparent masks be used during the performance?  
Surgical masks are more suitable
4. What is the procedure if a student has COVID on the day of the performance? Does the teacher read their lines?  
Students may participate in the performance at home if their physical condition allows. An understudy (student or teacher) can also replace the actor.

5. If the schools has resumed full-time classes, could student perform physically instead of a ZOOM reading?  
This year's school performance phase will continue with an online performance in the form of Reader's Theater.
6. - What is the maximum number of participants in Reader's Theatre?  
- What is the recommended number of students to participate in Reader's Theatre?  
It depends on directors/creative team's choice.
7. Would it be possible for us to provide the ZOOM link instead?  
All ZOOM links are provided by HKSDF.
8. Will students be penalised on time lags caused by internet/ZOOM connection?  
If delay really happens because of network problems, the adjudicators would understand it and the performance teams will not be penalised.
9. Is virtual background preferred, as they function as backdrops of the play?  
(despite some parts of the actor's might be covered)  
A virtual background can enhance the visual effect of a performance, and are one of the options. It is up to the director/creative team to decide whether to use it or not.

10. Is there a marking scheme available for teacher guidance?  
The Adjudication Criteria has been uploaded on the Festival webpage for reference.
11. Are there any changes from last years procedures? The time between now and the performance is very tight. Do adjudicators expect students to memorise their lines?  
There are no changes in the procedures from last year's.  
If the performer is familiar enough with the script, it would be ideal to perform without holding a script.
12. Do we need to read out the stage directions when performing the play?  
It depends on the director's artistic preference.
13. As the performance may be conducted at school, would you suggest how to tackle the audio issue of iPad?  
All participants are recommended to wear headphones/ earphones.
14. What questions do students need to know for the after-show discussion?  
After the performance, the adjudicators will interact with the creative team and share their views about the show. They would ask you questions to understand about the creative process, but you do not need to prepare any answers in advance.

15. Our script is adapted from other sources. Do we need to ask for permission from the original author?  
Adapted scrips are protected with intellectual property rights. Please ask for permission from the original author before you use their work.
16. Can the adjudicators' comments on the teams invited to the public performances be made available to the public?  
The Adjudicators' Notes will be shown in the house programme of public performances.
17. The *Hong Kong School Drama Handbook* is only available in Chinese. Will there be an English version available soon?  
No. There is only a Chinese version.

# Thank You, and all the best with your drama journeys!

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## News & Updates

- ✓ **HKSDF Website**
- ✓ **Instagram:** [hksdf.official](https://www.instagram.com/hksdf.official)
- ✓ **Facebook:** [香港學校戲劇節 Hong Kong School Drama Festival](https://www.facebook.com/HongKongSchoolDramaFestival)