



Hong Kong School Drama Festival 2025/26

SCHOOL BRIEFING SESSION

Presented & Produced by Education Bureau

Organised by Steering Committee of the Festival

Subsidised by The Lok Sin Tong Benevolent Society, Kowloon

Venue Sponsored by Leisure and Cultural Services Department

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

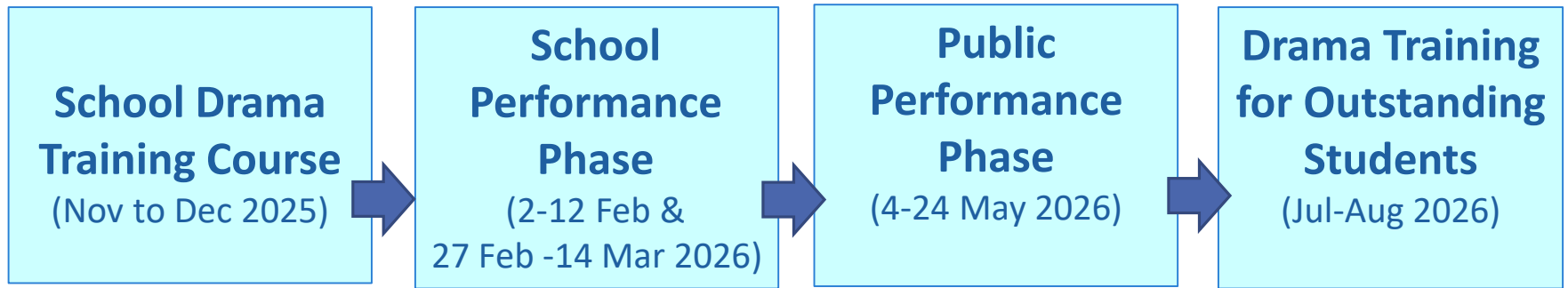
About the Festival

- 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



Participation

Total No. of Teams: 555

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

Primary Teams

Cantonese: 92

Putonghua: 21

English: 209

Secondary Teams

Cantonese: 145

Putonghua: 11

English: 77

School Performance Phase

Points to note

School Performance

➤ The Festival is in the form of live stage performances

➤ Length of the play:

15 - 20 mins (Primary School)

20 - 30 mins (Secondary School)

Plays exceeding the limit might NOT be nominated for the Public Performance Phase

➤ Venue: Any location deem suitable for the play and audience.
e.g. School hall, activity room, classroom, site-specific venue, etc.

School Performance

- Sometimes, venues other than the school hall may work better for young actors or for certain performance styles
- Whichever venue you choose, on-site rehearsals, including technical rehearsals are crucial
- Carefully plan logistics and resource allocation

**Arrange Audience to share and demonstrate
appreciation, support and encouragement.**

Why is it important to have an audience?

- Audience is an integral part of performing arts
- Students can understand theatre audience etiquette
- Presence and interaction with audience may enhance the performance of the team
- Recognition from teachers, parents and schoolmates towards the team

Documents to be submitted

1. Synopsis
2. Cast list and production team list
(Please note the correct spelling of participants' names)
3. Script

Submission Date: on or before **16 Jan 2026**

Figures collected by Adjudicators:

Total number of student participants (performers, production team & audience)

Communications

The Festival

- Mainly by **email** (Email address stated in the application form)
- Regularly check email folders including the spam/ junk folder)

Adjudicators

- Teacher in-charge should confirm the performance date and time with adjudicators **at least 5 working days** prior to the performance and must ensure that adjudicators have received the latest script and cast list
- Adjudicators' mobile phone numbers shall be used **ONLY for confirming school performances as mentioned.**

Guest Visits

Following stakeholders may visit school performances

- 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
- Guests will act as observers and will not take part in adjudication and discussion session

Logistics

Performance

- Start the show **on time**

Post-performance talk

- Around 30 minutes
- **ONLY for production team**
- Interactive exchange & immediate feedback

Video recording

- Schools may record for internal reference
- The organiser may ask for a copy with prior consent
- The organiser may arrange recording/interviews with prior notice
- **DO NOT upload Adjudicators' image to the internet/social media**

Engagement of outside parties

- May enhance the skills and knowledge of your team if appropriately arranged.
- Make sure you engage a trustworthy organisation/tutor
- Awards will not be given to alumni / outside parties / organisations
- Respect intellectual property rights by correctly stating all names in the production team list
- Clarify the copyright of your script if it is written by outside parties (the script may have been used / will be used for another school)

Sharing of Resources

- Participating schools of this year's festival can apply to view video-recordings of public performance of the recent five years

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

Awards

Award for Outstanding Script (students/ teachers)
Award for Outstanding Director (students/ teachers)
Award for Outstanding Performer (students)
Award for Outstanding Stage 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

Refer to the Festival's website

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

Public Performance

- 42 teams will perform at the following venues in May 2026:
- North District Town Hall (5, 6, 7 May)
- Y-Theatre (10, 11, 13, 14 May)
- Yuen Long Theatre (20, 21, 22, 23, 24* May)

Start at 7:30pm

Prize Presentation Ceremony to be held on 24 May 2026 (Sun)

Please encourage your students to participate as audience!


Public Performance

School teams entering the Public Performance Phase must submit a 2-3 minute “making-of” video clip. This clip will be played during the Public Performance. It could include photos and videos of the preparation and production process: discussion, rehearsal, interviews of teachers/students/parents. Schools should record these processes and engage a suitable staff/student to conduct video editing.

Notes

- The organiser reserves the rights to use materials provided by and/or captured of participating schools in the Festival, including but not limited to pictures, videos, texts, photos of activities, images, posters, pictures and audios for record and publicity purposes. The channels of promotion includes and is not limited to publications, websites and social network platforms. Schools should include this note in the school circular.
- **Festival Calendar**
Listed in the document 'Tentative schedule of actions for participating schools' sent to your school, also downloadable at <https://www.hksdf-hkas.com/>

Q & A



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