

The Department of Modern Languages & Literatures at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln
presents the 41st Annual Modern Language Fair – Thursday, April 13, 2017

General Information

Registration & Fees

Any student currently enrolled in a grade 9-12 French, German, Japanese, Chinese, Russian or Spanish class may attend. Each student who attends may participate in a maximum of two competitive events (drama, music, folk dance, poetry and poster). **Students must be present to compete.** A fee of \$10 per student is charged if registered before the event and \$15 the day of event. Lunch is not provided. You must pay for the number of pre-registered students or the number that actually attend, whichever is greater. There will be no refunds.

Schedule

- General Registration will be held the morning of the Fair from 8 am to 8:45 am in the Nebraska Union.
 - Teachers are to check in at the General Registration booth **first**, where additional fees (if necessary) are to be submitted and to receive a schedule of events and map for each participant.
 - After check-in, teachers can request additions, cancellations, and changes to individual competitions at the appropriate language table(s). We ask that **only teachers** make these requests, and we will try to accommodate them to the best of our ability; know that while every effort will be made, we cannot guarantee changes requested on the morning of the fair.
- The opening ceremony will begin at 9 am, and competitive events will start promptly at 9:30 am.
- The closing ceremony will begin at 2 pm and finish by 2:45 pm.
 - If you will need to leave prior to the closing ceremonies, please note the time on the registration form so that we may schedule competitions and parking shuttles accordingly.

Competitive Events & Awards

In each event both a top performance (1st place) and an honorable mention (2nd place) will be awarded. Students will be evaluated according to three levels: ***The level for a group activity is determined by the highest level of any single member***

- **Level 1** = 1 and 2 years of language study
- **Level 2** = 3 or more years of language study
- **Heritage Speaker.** Heritage Speakers of Spanish can win 1st and 2nd place prizes in the categories of Drama, Music and/or Poetry.

Judging Criteria and Score Sheets

We have attached a copy of the judging competitive events score sheet (double-sided). You must print the appropriate number of sheet(s) for each student/group performance.

- Fill out the form legibly and completely for *each* event in which your student/group competes.
- Bring these forms to the fair

Other Events

Language Mini-lessons are designed to give students a taste of languages from around the world. Mini-lessons will be offered throughout the day in a variety of languages.

International Folk Dancing Mini-lessons will be provided throughout the day for students to engage in various cultures' dancing traditions. The UNL International Folk Dancing Club will provide instruction and students are encouraged to bring their enthusiasm!

UNL's Education Abroad will have a booth at the Language Fair with information about **Study Abroad** programs. Your students can learn about the many opportunities available to them from undergraduates who have taken trips to a variety of foreign language speaking countries.

Teachers and chaperones are invited to the **Teacher's Hospitality Suite** in the Nebraska Student Union for relaxation and refreshments throughout the day.

We look forward to seeing you at the 41st Annual Language Fair!

(Over for Competitive Event Information)

General Information

Competitive Events

Below is information specific to each of our competitive events. Deviating from the policies listed below will result in reduced points.

Drama: Each class may present one scene from dramatic literature or an original skit written by the students in the target language.

- **Scenes must be acted from memory and should not be more than 10 minutes long, including set-up time.**
- **Judges must be provided with a copy of the texts used.**
- Students will have to bring their own costumes, props and equipment.
- Please note: there is not a storage area for props; we will have an unsecured space for the props to be stowed.

Folk Dance: Dances must be appropriate to the language or culture studied and must be introduced by a short memorized explanation (including period, style, country, etc.) delivered in both English and in the target language.

- Music must be provided by the performers. We will supply CD players with MP3 docks.
- The time limit, including introduction, is five minutes. This will be strictly enforced in order to accommodate all of the dancing competitions.
- Keep in mind that folk dance is recreation of a traditional form, and to receive the highest rating, the performance should be inspired by authentic variations of music, dance patterns, and dress.
- Costumes need not be elaborate, but they should be uniform and correspond to the country from which the music is chosen.

Music (Solo, Duet or Group - please limit group size to 10): Music performances must be relevant to the country and language studied and be introduced by a short, memorized explanation of this relevance in the target language. The music itself need not be memorized.

- Selections should be made by the student and teacher and should not be more than 5 minutes long including set up time. The time limit will be strictly enforced in order to accommodate all performances.
- There will be CD players with MP3 connectors available, instruments must be provided by the performers.
- **Purely instrumental selections are not appropriate.**

Poetry: Appropriate poems for each level would be those found in your textbooks, but may be drawn from other sources.

- **Judges must be given a copy of the text used.**
- Please include a variety of poems from your students; advanced students should choose a more difficult text, such as a sonnet.
- Each selection should be introduced by title and author.
- Poems must be recited from memory and should not be more than 5 minutes long.

Poster: Registration for the poster competition will happen on-site. Score sheets should be completed with student name and school information and posted with the posters in the Ballroom. Students are invited to design a colorful and informative poster for display and judging.

- The theme for this year is **Popular Culture**
- Due to space restrictions, posters must be two-dimensional, no larger than 18"x22," and mounted on a rigid surface for ease of display. **We will adhere strictly to these parameters for 2017 judging.**
- Only the target language may be used.
- **Each school may submit no more than one poster per class, per level.**
- A 3x5 card with the following information must be affixed to the lower right front corner of each poster:
 - school, city, teacher, language, level (preferably typed)

Please return the attached registration form with your payment by Friday, March 3, 2017.

Upon receipt of this information we will send an acknowledgment, schedule and parking information.

**We regret that entries which do not conform to the stated criteria
must be eliminated from the competition.**