

# Mildura Eisteddfod Society Inc.



Competition Guide

---

## Document Version Control

First version created	26 January 2023	Steve Parr
President changes incorporated	28 January 2023	Steve Parr
Addition of rules for Calisthenics Section	5 February 2023	Steve Parr
Updated section numbers in rules for Pianoforte and Instrumental	6 February 2023	Steve Parr
Updated to include Stardom music upload guide	13 February 2023	Steve Parr
Change age rules to delete reference to 2022	22 February 2023	Steve Parr
Updated timelines for 2024 Competition	6 February 2024	Steve Parr
Calisthenics Rules updated for 2024	18 February 2024	Steve Parr
MES Gala Concert Statement of Purpose included	18 February 2024	Steve Parr
Update to Rules re entering Items in multiple disciplines	21 February 2024	Steve Parr
Update to Calisthenics Age Categories	26 February 2024	Steve Parr
Addition of Purpose, amendment to rules 23 and 24 and Vocal sections	19 March 2024	Steve Parr
Change to instructions for uploading Music to Stardom	28 March 2024	Steve Parr
Review timelines and prepare for 2025	15 February 2025	Steve Parr
Update re Curtains and reference to Calisthenics Rules	4 March 2025	Steve Parr
Update to rules regarding Teacher entries	12 March 2025	Steve Parr

## Welcome to the Mildura Eisteddfod

This guide is designed to give you all the information you need about participating in the Mildura Eisteddfod.

### Contents

Welcome to the Mildura Eisteddfod	3
1. The Basics	3
What is the Mildura Eisteddfod Society?	3
Our Purpose	3
Our Vision	3
Our Values	3
What is the Mildura Eisteddfod?	4
Our Statement of Purpose Vision and Values	4
When does the Eisteddfod happen?	4
Eisteddfod Timeline – Important Dates	4
The Schedule	5
Who can participate and who judges?	5
Where does the Eisteddfod happen?	5
How can I participate?	5
How do I upload my backing music to Stardom?	6
2. Competition day	8
Step 1 > Register	8
Step 2 > Head backstage	8
Step 3 > It's Showtime!	9
Step 4 > Adjudication	9
Step 5> Collect your critique sheet, certificate and register bank details	9
3. Competition Rules – the technical stuff	9
General Rules	9
Discipline Specific Rules	11
Choral	11
Classical and Modern Vocal	11
Dance	12
Calisthenics	12
Instrumental	14
Pianoforte	14
Speech and Drama	14
4. Rights and Responsibilities (our Code of Conduct)	15
Your Rights	15
Your Responsibilities	16
5. The Mildura Eisteddfod Gala Concert	17

## 1. The Basics

### What is the Mildura Eisteddfod Society?

The Mildura Eisteddfod Society is an Incorporated Association and Charity registered under Victorian law.

### Our Purpose

The Purpose of the Mildura Eisteddfod Society is to:

- encourage and foster the involvement of people of all ages in the Performing Arts, with particular emphasis on children and adolescents.
- provide performance opportunities and feedback from Specialists in all chosen fields of performance.
- encourage community interest in the Performing Arts

### What is the Mildura Eisteddfod?

The Mildura Eisteddfod is a competition that allows singers, dancers, instrumentalists, actors and other artists to perform against their peers and in front of qualified adjudicators to enhance their craft with constructive criticism and development. The artists benefit via competition: not only are their artistic skills improved, but also confidence, poise, commitment and self esteem, skills which they will later take into the community with them.

The Mildura Eisteddfod includes the following disciplines:

- Speech and Drama
- Classical Vocal
- Modern Vocal
- Instrumental
- Pianoforte
- Dance
- Calisthenics
- Choral
- Community

Each discipline contains several sections, numbered from 009 to 999. If the number of entries in any section exceeds 15 competitors, the section will be split.

Mildura Eisteddfod is a member of the Association of Eisteddfod Societies of Australia (AESAs) Inc and works with Eisteddfodau across Australia to ensure that our Eisteddfod is the best it can be.

### When does the Eisteddfod happen?

The Mildura Eisteddfod takes place over three weeks in June each year, but preparation for the Eisteddfod starts at the beginning of the year – it is especially important for you to know when registrations for the Eisteddfod open and close so you don't miss out!

## Eisteddfod Timeline – Important Dates

February	MES Website updated progressively with details of the current year Eisteddfod
Late February	Registrations Open
Mid April	Registrations Close
Late April	Scheduling completed
Early May	Program released
Late May - June	Mildura Eisteddfod takes place
June	Gala Showcase

## The Schedule

Once registrations are closed, the Mildura Eisteddfod Society schedules the disciplines and sections to create the program. The sections are then grouped into sessions. There are up to five sessions per day.

When the program is released, you can find your section and session, and see when you are going to perform.

It is important that you keep an eye on the Mildura Eisteddfod Society website and facebook so you can get your hands on a copy of the program as soon as it's published.



**Remember: The DISCIPLINE is the overarching category of performing art you are participating in (e.g. Modern Vocal), the SECTION is the specific SECTION you are competing in (e.g. Section 454 15 &16 Years Only Modern Up-tempo Solo), and the SESSION is the time of day that your section is happening (e.g. 9.30am session)**

## Who can participate and who judges?

Each section has its own specific rules which may relate to your age, your instrument, the type of dance or the type of technology you can use in that section. It is important to make sure you are entering the right section for you.

Each discipline is adjudicated by an expert in the field that Mildura Eisteddfod Society brings to the region. These are referred to as our Adjudicators, and information about them is available on the Mildura Eisteddfod Society website and program. Different adjudicators are sought each year.

## Where does the Eisteddfod happen?

The Mildura Eisteddfod happens at the following venues:

- Trinity Lutheran College Sunset Hall for Speech and Drama
- Mildura Arts Centre for Vocal, Modern Vocal, Dance, Pianoforte and Instrumental, Choral and Community

## How can I participate?

Registering for the Mildura Eisteddfod is easy – we use an online system known as Stardom where you can locate your section, enter your details and upload your music.

To register visit [www.stardom.com.au](http://www.stardom.com.au)

You will need to set up an account with Stardom. Once you are a Stardom user, you can locate the Mildura Eisteddfod and complete your registration.


If you have a teacher, they may be able to assist you with registering.



**Remember, you must upload your music (including backing tracks or sheet music) to Stardom. This function does not open on Stardom until after entries have closed and scheduling has been completed. The Eisteddfod social media channels will be updated to let entrants know when they can upload their music files.**

### How do I upload my backing music to Stardom?

Start by checking out this handy how-to video on youtube:

 [Stardom Competitor Upload Files \(version 2\)](#)

**Step #1** Log into Stardom and locate your Mildura Health Fund 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Mildura Eisteddfod entry in the bottom half of your home page under the heading “Completed Entries”.

**Step #2** On the right side under “Other Actions” you should see a treble clef symbol and a “Performance Item” link. Click on that link.



Modify	Entry #	Competition	Added	Entry Total	Status	Other Actions
 Closed	MES230054	Mildura Health Fund 44th Annual Mildura Eisteddfod	15/03/2023	\$100.00	Paid	 View Entry  Performance Item  Contact Event

You will then be taken to a page that lists sections relating to your entry. The sections where files can be uploaded will have a section with a “Backing Track” and/or “Sheet Music” heading.

**Step #3** For each of these sections and the competitors listed, please do the following:

In the box with the heading “Comments”, optionally, enter any information that you think would assist the Mildura team in working with you for your performance.

Then, under the “Backing Track” or “Sheet Music” heading, please include the following information:

- Enter the Track Title
- For Backing Track uploads only - select whether you would like the track be started while you are “Off Stage” or “On Stage”.
- Click “Choose File” and locate the file on your device and then select it.

**Note:** In some cases you will be asked to upload multiple files. For some sections, a live accompanist will be OK. Check with Mildura eisteddfod, if in doubt.

Section : 428 15 years and over Aria or Oratorio Solo

▼ Betty Smith

**Comments**  
Performance related Comments  
Took photo of my music with my phone. Let me know if it is difficult to read.

**Sheet Music**  
Please upload a copy of the sheet music associated with your performance. In the box provided, please type the title of the music. Optionally, please add any extra comments or explanations about your performance in the text box above.  
Title  
This Day Aria Choose File ThisDayAria.pdf

---

Section : 430 16 years and over Self-Devised Cabaret Solo - Time Limit: 10:00

▼ Betty Smith

**Comments**  
Performance related Comments  
Recording is a little quiet, so may need to be turned up in auditorium.

**Backing Track**  
Please upload the backing track for your performance (preferred formats are MP3, M4A and WAV). Additionally, in the boxes provided, please enter the track name and indicate when the track should be started. Optionally, please use the comments box above to indicate any additional or alternate requirements you have for your performance.  
Title  
Life is a Cabaret  Off Stage  On Stage Choose File LifelsACabaret.mp3

[Save Changes](#)

[Back to Home](#)

#### Step #4 Save your changes (regularly)

At any stage during this process, you can scroll to the very bottom of the page and click on **“Save Changes”** button. We strongly recommend that you do this often if you have a large number of uploads to perform.

[Save Changes](#)

[Back to Home](#)

#### Step #5 Save again and log out

On completing the upload task/s, click on **“Save Changes”** one more time and then scroll back to the top of the page to Logout.

## HINTS AND TIPS

### HOW-TO VIDEO

Stardom have created a how-to guide video, which can be found on YouTube at

[Stardom Competitor Upload Files \(version 2\)](#)

### MUSIC FILE FORMAT

Most audio file formats are OK, but the Eisteddfod **does not accept** AAC and Apple AIFF file formats as they cannot be played on our Windows based PC's. No video should be included with the track – music ONLY.

### FILE NAMES

Mildura Eisteddfod Society Inc

Competition Guide

Page 7 of 17

Please make sure the your name and title of the song is in the file name.

If any of your file names are extra-long, then information may start to disappear off the right side of the page. To view or edit data off to the right, scroll to the bottom of the page and make use of the horizontal scroll bar that is immediately below the “Save Changes” button. Alternatively you can also use TAB key to navigate across the fields for each track to get to the “Choose File” button.

#### FILES NOT SHOWING

If you believe that one of your sections requiring a file upload is not showing on this page, then please email Stardom Support at [support@stardom.com.au](mailto:support@stardom.com.au).

#### BRING A BACKUP

Please bring your music on a USB as a backup. If something goes wrong on the day we want to make sure the performances still go ahead as planned.

Please put a key tag on your USB with the entrant's name. If we have several USBs sitting on the Music desk we don't want to waste everyone's time trying them all to figure out which one belongs to the person about to dance.

ALSO the music file names on the USB must have the section number at the start (or have one USB per section with only that piece of music on it) - otherwise we won't know which one to play.

The USB should NOT have any other material on it.

## 2. Competition day

Once scheduling is completed and you have your program, you will know what day to come to the competition venue. Here's what happens next:

### Step 1 > Register

Eisteddfod staff need to know that you've arrived so they can check your music (if you have it) and confirm the running sheet for your section. The registration desk is signposted. If you are at the Trinity Lutheran College Sunset Hall, the registration desk will be located near the rear entry. If you are at the Mildura Arts Centre, the registration desk will be located in the foyer area.



***YOU MUST REGISTER AT LEAST 30 MINUTES PRIOR TO THE SESSION THAT INCLUDES YOUR SECTION. If you do not register, you will be marked as absent and disqualified.***

### Step 2 > Head backstage

Once you've registered, you can head to the backstage area. Your parents, carers or teacher can come with you backstage if you like.

Once you get to the backstage entrance, you will be assisted by an Eisteddfod volunteer, who will:

- Direct you where to wait for your performance



- Help you with any props you may have (if you have them)
- Show you where to go to get into costume (if you have one)
- Take you side stage when your section is about to begin

Once you are about to head side stage, you will say goodbye to your parent, carer or teacher. Only competitors are allowed side stage, and strictly no parents, carers or teachers are allowed. The only exception to this rule is if a string instrument teacher needs to tune the instrument for a competitor, or in specified sections of the dance discipline.

Here are some other important things to remember about being backstage:

- If you have a costume and need to change, you should bring coat hangers for your clothes and containers for your other belongings. It is less likely to get lost that way.
- We advise against leaving valuables backstage. It is best to leave them with your parent, carer or teacher.
- The Mildura Eisteddfod Society does not take responsibility for items left unattended at the venue.
- All electrical items used backstage and onstage are required to have been tested and tagged within the past twelve months.

### Step 3 > It's Showtime!

Do your best and have fun!

### Step 4 > Adjudication

After your performance, you will return side stage and then be guided back to the auditorium by an Eisteddfod Volunteer to wait for the end of the section. Once everyone in your section has performed, the adjudicator will adjudicate and announce the prize winners.

### Step 5> Collect your critique sheet, certificate and register bank details

Every competitor will get an critique sheet with your score and feedback from the adjudicator.

Competitors who receive an Honourable Mention will also receive a certificate.

Competitors who place in 2<sup>nd</sup> or 1<sup>st</sup> receive prize money or a medallion. Your certificate and medallion can be collected from the desk. A form will be provided for you, your parent or carer to provide your bank details so that your prize money can be transferred to you after the Eisteddfod.

Please note that it does take some time for Eisteddfod Volunteers to sort and print adjudication sheets and certificates, so there may be a short wait at this time. Your patience is appreciated.

## 3. Competition Rules – the technical stuff

Like all good competitions, formal rules are important. These are ours:

### General Rules

1. A competitor performs an item in a section (numbered 099 – 999) within a discipline (e.g. Vocal).  
A section may be split into divisions if entries exceed 15.
2. A competitor may be one person, or any group of two or more people.

3. Entry fees are not refundable except where a section is cancelled by the Mildura Eisteddfod Society.
4. Late entries will not be accepted under any circumstances.
5. A competitor's age as at 1st January on the same year of the Eisteddfod shall be deemed to be the age of the entrant. Competitors may be asked to furnish proof of age at their own expense. The committee reserve the right to withhold a prize until such proof has been sighted.
6. All sections are open to amateurs only, a choral conductor or accompanist or where specified.
7. An amateur is considered to be any person who has not worked professionally and derived a majority of their income from the exercise of talent in the particular discipline for which he or she may have entered.
8. Teachers are not permitted to enter the Mildura Eisteddfod in the discipline that they teach, except the following sections:
  - a. any section that is explicitly titled as a Teachers Section
  - b. Section 423, The Open Aria Award
  - c. Section 326, The June Missen Sonata Award
9. A Teacher is defined as anybody over 18 years of age who derives an income of any amount monetary or non-monetary from the teaching of a discipline that forms part of the Mildura Eisteddfod
10. People aged 18 years and under who are engaged in teaching are permitted to enter the Mildura Eisteddfod, but are not permitted to compete against their own students.
11. The Mildura Eisteddfod will make available a Teachers section within the following disciplines: Speech and Drama, Pianoforte, Instrumental, Vocal and Dance. These sections will be for the purposes of critique only and will not attract prize money or placing.
12. Only one entry is allowed from each competitor in each individual section except where specified under discipline headings below. Group and ensembles must contain a majority of new members if competing more than once in the same section.
13. Competitors who have been taught by an adjudicator in private or group tuition (workshops excepted) in the last 6 months may not enter the competition where the adjudicator is adjudicating.
14. The adjudicator has the right to refrain from awarding a prize where insufficient merit has been displayed.
15. The adjudicator's decision will be final in all sections.
16. Any approach to the adjudicator by a competitor, parent, teacher or friend of the competitor, during the Eisteddfod, is strictly forbidden.
17. An item can only be performed once during the entire Eisteddfod in a given year. Items are not allowed to be repeated in different sections or disciplines.
18. Time limits where applicable will be strictly adhered to. It is not necessary to reach a maximum time, however if a minimum time is stated it must be met. Point penalties at the adjudicator's discretion may be incurred for performances outside the time limits. Competitors should also note that they may perform any number of pieces or movements provided they stay within the specified time limits.
19. Use of microphones is not permitted except where specified.
20. No prompting or assistance of any kind may be rendered to a competitor in a section during a performance except by the adjudicator. NB: Adult conductors must not sing or speak along with choirs or groups during the performance. For breaches of this rule, disqualification will be enforced.

21. Apart from one teacher per competitor for dance sections only, and where a strings teacher is required to tune an instrument for a competitor, teachers and parents will not be allowed side stage during performances.
22. The theatre technician will set stage lighting for all sections. No curtains or any other special effects will be provided for any section of the Eisteddfod other than those sections where it is required by the Australia Calisthenics Federation rules for Calisthenics Competitions.
23. No rehearsal or practice is permitted on the stage while the Eisteddfod is occupying the venue. Any competitor not observing this condition will be disqualified. Warm up for dance or sound check must be negotiated with the Eisteddfod Committee.
24. Rude, aggressive and un-cooperative behaviour of teachers, parents or competitors during the competition may result in disqualification and possible barring of the related entrant(s) from competing in the coming 12 months. Please refer to the rights and responsibilities section of the guide for more information.
25. Entrants in any section with acoustic accompaniment (other than vocal section 433 - original song solo) must provide a copy of sheet music for the adjudicator. This copy is to be uploaded to Stardom.
26. Entrants using backing music must use original or officially authorised backing music not containing lead or principal vocals. Backing tracks must be uploaded to Stardom before the cut off date. Failure to comply with copyright regulations will render a competitor ineligible.
27. Competitors acknowledge they compete at their own risk.
28. The Mildura Eisteddfod Society does not take responsibility for instruments or properties.
29. The stage manager or adjudicator has the right to stop any item if they are of the opinion a competitor has suffered a serious injury, or there is possible risk of serious injury. Minor accidents which occur due to faulty props, choreography or costume design are not necessarily a reason to stop and restart an item. Only the ultimate safety of the competitor is to be considered.
30. The Mildura Eisteddfod Committee reserves the right to:
  - a. Divide a section.
  - b. Cancel or combine any section with three (3) competitors or less.
  - c. Award only one prize if a section has less than three (3) competitors on the day.
  - d. Appoint a substitute adjudicator if required.

## Discipline Specific Rules

### Choral

1. Choirs must consist of at least 4 members.
2. Two songs (preferably contrasting) must be presented.
3. A piano will be provided. Choirs may provide their own instruments.
4. The "Big Sing" is an all school warm up at the beginning of the choral sections. There is no need to enter. Please contact your Eisteddfod Choral Convener for sheet music for this section
5. In order to compete in the Open Choral Choir Championship (section 497), competitors must have competed in both sections 495 and 496. Competitors will sing one song, and may include movement and body percussion.

## Classical and Modern Vocal

1. Sections 400-428 are to be accompanied by one chosen unamplified instrument. Microphones are not permitted in these sections.
2. Sections 412-418 inclusive must be in costume.
3. Sections 434-466 inclusive (amplified) are to be accompanied by a backing track or acoustic accompaniment and microphone.
4. Backing tracks may include some backing vocals but no lead vocals.
5. Microphone technique may be adjudicated.
6. Section 429 is to be sung Acapella (no instrument backing).
7. Section 433 may have up to two acoustic instruments as backing and have the option of using a microphone. Songwriter may have song performed by another vocalist. Adjudication will be on the song writing.
8. In Section 427, each competitor is to perform two arias sung in two different languages in original keys from the standard repertoire of opera or oratorio. Competitors will introduce and give a brief synopsis of the operas and the characters singing their chosen arias.
9. In Section 428, a Novice is defined as an entrant who has not previously won this section.
10. In Section 430, each competitor is to prepare a short Cabaret performance of up to 10 minutes duration comprising of song and pattern of their own design. Competitors are to be accompanied by an unamplified instrument of their choosing and have the option of using a microphone.
11. Duet or group performances must include some harmony.
12. Props are allowed for music theatre performances and must be kept to a minimum amount, size and weight due to limited space side stage.
13. Competitors are encouraged to honour the vocal style of the section where specified.

## Dance

1. Groups must consist of 4 or more dancers.
2. Troupes must consist of 6 or more dancers.
3. Street Dance is defined as Hip Hop, Funk, or any dance derived from "street".
4. Student choreography can be danced by the choreographer or student of their choice. Must be student or student teacher's own choreography. Choreography must be age appropriate and can incorporate any style of dance.
5. Music may contain lyrics but must be appropriate language.
6. Props should be kept to a minimum and made of non-hazardous materials. Please refrain from using allergenic materials such as straw and fresh flowers.
7. For section 634, Contemporary Improvisation, black leotard and black tights to be worn.
8. For sections 618,619 and 620, Classical Ballet, half tutu must be worn.
9. For sections 671 and 672, Tap Improvisation, black leggings and plain black leotard/t-shirt must be worn.
10. Acro Dance: Routine using controlled movements and flexibility, walkovers, aerials, back hand springs etc. Must incorporate strong balance of dance technique. Any drop to the knees must have knee pads.

## Calisthenics

1. The Mildura Eisteddfod aligns with the Australian Calisthenic Federation Rules and Regulations. These can be found by visiting the Event Information Page of the Mildura Eisteddfod website - <https://www.milduraeisteddfod.com/info-for-entrants>

## Instrumental

1. In instrumental sections only solo instruments may be accompanied as accompanists for ensembles alter the interactive dynamics between performers on which they are adjudicated.
2. Music stands for solo and duet items may be provided by the Mildura Eisteddfod Society. Ensemble and group competitors will need to provide their own.
3. ANZCA/ AMEB Guitar – Acoustic or Amplified Guitar, including Bass Guitar may be played.
4. Ensembles must be no less than 3 or no more than 9 players.
5. Groups must be a minimum of 10 players except Sections 138 and 139 Percussions Groups.
6. Primary and Secondary school ensembles may include one teacher apart from the conductor. Primary and Secondary groups may include two teachers apart from the conductor.
7. A competitor may perform in only one AMEB Section from 207, 208, 209 or 210 on the same instrument.
8. VCE – One piece to be chosen from the unaccompanied works in the current VCAA prescribed list of notated solo works. No vocalists are permitted to enter this section. Amplifier allowed.
9. Singers may accompany group sections and mixed instrumental ensembles. Microphones may be used.
10. Solo instrumentalists may enter a section more than once provided they are performing on a different instrument from that class of instruments (e.g. flute and piccolo in woodwind section. Violin and cello in strings section etc).
11. Set up time for Instrumental Group sections is 4 minutes including sound check. A group representative must inform the Eisteddfod backstage crew of the positioning of the piano and drum kit (if required) and the number of chairs required for the item prior to the section starting. The correct number of chairs will be placed on stage and drum kit and piano moved to required position or offstage by Eisteddfod personnel. Positioning of the chairs, music stands and other instrumentation is the responsibility of the performing group and must be done in the 4 minute time allowance.

## Pianoforte

1. A competitor may perform in only one of AMEB/ ANZCA Sections 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321 and in one of AMEB Sections 322, 323, 324 and 325.

## Speech and Drama

1. Inappropriate language and/or gestures will result in disqualification. If concerned, please contact the Eisteddfod committee for clarification.
2. Prepared Speeches – Palm cards are allowed. A bell will be rung with 15 seconds remaining.
3. Prepared Readings – competitors will make their own choice of passage from the New Testament (any version) OR an age suitable passage of prose.
4. All readings must be read from an original textbook and not from a photocopy.
5. Drama Sections – Make a Scene, Welcome to my Party and the Question Game require teams that consists of 4 members.
6. Make a Scene teams will receive a note containing a brief synopsis of a scenario to act out while back stage and will receive 3 minutes to discuss and prepare the scene. Teams will then be required to act out the scenario and will be adjudicated on character development, use of

the stage, originality, team interaction and use of humour both physical and verbal. Time limit will be signalled by a bell.

7. Welcome to my Party – each team will select a host who will be required to stand aside from the rest of the team while backstage. The other team members will be given a note containing character which may be human, creature or object. These team members must then act out their character without referring to the title of their character. Level of character complexity will be age appropriate. The host will then welcome their character guests one by one each time the bell rings and interact with them trying to guess the character by naming them and asking them to leave the party until there are no more guests. If the host guesses right, the character will leave the stage and if not will stay and continue to act out their character. Time limit will be signalled by a bell.
8. A group consists of 4 members. Each team will select a narrator who will be given a scenario to narrate and act out. The narrator is the only team member who can say anything. The other three team members will be given two lines each. They can only speak using the two lines that they have been given to add to the story that the narrator is telling. Adjudication will be on the frequency and appropriateness of interjections as well as character development, use of humour, and fluency of dialogue. A bell will ring to signal the time limit has been reached.
9. The Question Game- a team consists of 4 members. Each team will receive a scenario on stage. Two of the team members will begin by having a conversation that consists of only questions. If the team member makes a statement or takes too long to answer the next team member will step forward to begin asking the questions. Time limit will be signalled by a bell.
10. So Pleased You're Here solo section - Each competitor will receive appropriate additional clothing for the section and will be directed when to enter the scene. A group of actors will act out the scene calling on the competitor to answer questions or provide brief statements appropriate to the dialogue and scenario. Competitors will be adjudicated on originality of answers, character development and use of humour throughout the scene. A bell will ring to signal that the time limit has been reached.

If you have any questions about these rules, please contact the Mildura Eisteddfod Society.

## 4. Rights and Responsibilities (our Code of Conduct)

This section applies to competitors, volunteers, teachers, parents and carers and supporters of the Mildura Eisteddfod.

Like all aspects of life, the Mildura Eisteddfod comes with rights – things we can rightly expect from you, you can expect from the Eisteddfod and we can expect of each other, and responsibilities - things we have to do in order to enjoy ourselves, be safe and make the Eisteddfod great.

They are:

### Your Rights

Competitors, volunteers, teachers, parents and carers, while participating in the Mildura Eisteddfod, have the right to:

- Participate in the competition according to competition rules
- Access facilities required to prepare for and participate in the competition
- Be treated in a courteous and respectful manner by all other persons
- Be given all necessary information required to compete, support a competitor or watch the competition
- Be supported and encouraged throughout the competition
- Perform on stage without distraction from any side stage or auditorium activity
- Have easy access to the stage area for each performance.
- Enjoy a friendly, harmonious and safe atmosphere
- Be adequately informed of all instruction necessary to complete registration for competition entry and be provided with assistance if required
- Perform without distraction from their performance by the audience.
- Receive encouragement and acknowledgement for their performance through applause by the audience.
- Have their performance viewed by the adjudicator in a manner conducive to fair competition and without distraction
- View the performance without distraction by other audience members.
- View the performance of all competitors in a positive, supportive and encouraging environment.

### Your Responsibilities

Competitors, volunteers, teachers, parents and carers have the responsibility to:

- Act in a manner respectful of other persons occupying all areas
- Follow instructions given by Eisteddfod volunteers
- Inform Eisteddfod volunteers or Front of House Officer of any issues that may cause safety concerns
- For Eisteddfod Volunteers, hold a current Victorian Working With Children's Check
- Follow instructions given to facilitate fair competition including Eisteddfod rules
- Always be supportive and encouraging of other participants
- Stay clear of any entry or exit area which may inhibit or distract from another competitor's performance
- Observe all rules and instructions while side stage awaiting performance

- Not act in any way which may compromise the physical, psychological or emotional wellbeing of any other person present in all areas
- Act in a courteous and respectful manner to Eisteddfod and venue staff
- Do all things necessary to complete registration
- Act in a courteous and respectful manner to other venue users
- Follow rules set down by the venue or the eisteddfod that constitute personal safety or the safety of others
- Refrain from any behaviour that intends to insult, degrade or ridicule any other persons accessing the venue or participating in the competition.
- Refrain from doing anything that may knowingly contribute to the damage of venue property
- Observe all behaviour protocols of audience participation
- Not behave in any way that could distract a competitor from their performance
- Observe all rules, instruction and advice given by Eisteddfod volunteers and Venue staff
- Act in a way that is conducive to the physical, psychological and emotional safety of all other persons in the auditorium
- Not approach or distract the adjudicator at any time unless authorized specifically to do so by Eisteddfod personnel
- Sit in designated areas in the auditorium as instructed by Eisteddfod Volunteers and venue staff.

The Mildura Eisteddfod Society reserves the right to issue warnings and or penalties, including disqualification from the competition or removal from the auditorium, to any person who is deemed to be acting in a way that impacts on the rights of other people, or acting irresponsibly with regard to the above responsibilities at the Mildura Eisteddfod.

If at any time you feel a person has impacted on your rights, or acted irresponsibly, please contact the Mildura Eisteddfod Society via our website, [www.milduraeisteddfod.com.au](http://www.milduraeisteddfod.com.au) , by email to [milduraeisteddfod@gmail.com](mailto:milduraeisteddfod@gmail.com).

## 5. The Mildura Eisteddfod Gala Concert

The Gala Concert is held in the weeks following the Mildura Eisteddfod.

It is a ticketed event that provides an opportunity for:

- Showcasing performers, and performances from the Eisteddfod that had an impact on the adjudicators and the MES committee
- Providing a forum to present the Awards and Scholarships arising from that year's Eisteddfod, including recognising and thankingshowcasing the generous sponsors who support the awards and scholarships

Award and Scholarship winners are invited to attend the Gala to receive their Award or Scholarship, and are provided one free ticket to attend.

Scholarship and Award sponsors are invited to attend the Gala to present the Award of Scholarship named after them, and are provided two free tickets to attend.

Performance in the Gala Concert is by invitation of the MES Committee based on consideration of: In deciding who to include, the MES Committee consider the following:

Mildura Eisteddfod Society Inc

Competition Guide

Page 16 of 17



- Demonstrating and showcasing a variety of disciplines from the Eisteddfod
- Feedback from the Adjudicators
- Feedback from Eisteddfod volunteers and committee members
- The extent to which the competitor upholds and embodies the MES Rights and Responsibilities
- The benefits for individuals or groups in performing in front of a larger audience in a more show-like environment
- Our commitment to social inclusion for people from diverse backgrounds including people with a disability, from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, or who are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
- Exceptional circumstances or opportunity that may arise at the discretion of the Committee

Winning or placing in one or more sections of the Eisteddfod, or an Award or Scholarship does not guarantee inclusion as a performer in the Gala showcase.

The MES aims to inform invited performers as soon as possible after the Eisteddfod to allow for any necessary preparation, and will maintain contact with the performers as the Gala Concert running sheet is developed.

An opportunity to prepare for the Gala Showcase is provided in the days prior to the event. Attendance at this is mandatory. This is not an opportunity for extensive rehearsal. Each performer / performance will be provided a maximum of 10 minutes (at the discretion of the Stage Manager). The purpose being to determine stage locations for instruments, chairs etc, checking video / backing tracks, sound checks and confirming lighting positions.