

**The Association of English Medium Secondary  
Schools**



# English Drama Fest 2026

## FACT SHEET

### ORGANIZER

The Association of English Medium Secondary Schools

### SUPPORTING ORGANIZATION

NET Section, Education Bureau

### OBJECTIVES

- To promote and enhance students' interest and proficiency in English in a fun and active way
- To provide an opportunity for students in EMI schools to foster an inter-school exchange in theatre art

### EVENT DATE AND VENUES

Date	Venue
Friday, 20 March 2026	Queen Elizabeth School (category: tbc)
Saturday, 21 March 2026	Heep Yuun School (category:Reader's Theatre)
Wednesday, 29 April 2026 Or Thursday, 30 April 2026	Heep Yuun School (category:Shakespearean Drama)
Early May 2026	Prize Presentation Ceremony & Outstanding Performance (Gold Award Winner)

### ENTRY CATEGORIES

Schools may choose to participate in one or more categories: A/Modern Drama, B/Shakespearean Drama, and C/Reader's Theatre.

## A/ MODERN DRAMA

Text:

Modern I: a set script, 'Ashes'

Modern II: an original or adapted play

Duration of the play: **MUST NOT** exceed 15 minutes

Team Size: no limit to the number of actors/actresses

Recommended targets:

Schools interested in a deeper exploration of contemporary themed dramatic texts and diverse styles, with a performance duration of up to 15 minutes. This category is suitable for students with prior performance skills who should be comfortable with basic stagecraft, such as props, costumes, and sound effects to enhance their storytelling.

Instructions for participating schools:

- Schools are encouraged to use **basic furniture**, such as chairs, desks, and notice boards (provided by the host schools), as the set.
- Only **ONE** pre-recorded sound file is allowed during the performance.
- Simple props and costumes should be prepared by the participating schools.
- Simple stage lighting is preferred; however, electric pre-set lighting is **NOT** allowed.
- Use of multimedia or video projections is **NOT** allowed.

### **\*\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*\***

1/ Schools (for all categories) that exceed the time limit or employ multimedia or video projection will **NOT** be considered for the Outstanding Performance Award and will **NOT** be invited to perform at the Prize Presentation Ceremony.

2/Schools must ensure that all drama themes, scripts, and elements comply with the laws of Hong Kong. The English Drama Festival 2026 organizer reserves the right to make the final decision on content suitability.

## **B/ SHAKESPEAREAN DRAMA**

Text: a set extract from Macbeth Act 1 Scene 3-5 (either in the original or modern language)

Duration of the play:**MUST NOT** exceed 20 minutes

Team Size: no limit to the number of actors/actresses

Recommended targets:

Schools with more advanced drama skills, focusing on performing set extracts from Shakespeare's works, either in the original or modern language. Participants typically have greater acting experience and an appreciation for classic texts and heightened language, with performances lasting up to 20 minutes. Schools in this category are expected to demonstrate strong vocal clarity, expression, and an understanding of Shakespearean themes.

Event date: Wednesday, 29 April 2026 or Thursday, 30 April 2026 (tbc)

Venue: Heep Yuun School (1 Farm Road, Ma Tau Wai, Kowloon)

Instructions for participating schools:

- Schools are encouraged to use **basic furniture**, such as chairs, desks, and notice boards (provided by the host schools), as the set.
- Only **ONE** pre-recorded sound file is allowed during the performance.
- Simple props and costumes should be prepared by the participating schools.
- Simple stage lighting is preferred; however, electric pre-set lighting is **NOT** allowed.
- Use of multimedia or video projections is **NOT** allowed.

### **\*\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*\***

1/ Schools (for all categories) that exceed the time limit or employ multimedia or video projection will **NOT** be considered for the Outstanding Performance Award and will **NOT** be invited to perform at the Prize Presentation Ceremony.

2/Schools must ensure that all drama themes, scripts, and elements comply with the laws of Hong Kong. The English Drama Festival 2026 organizer reserves the right to make the final decision on content suitability.

## C/ READER'S THEATRE

Text:

Reader's theatre I: a recommended set script

Reader's theatre II: an original or adapted play

Duration of the play: **MUST NOT** exceed 5 minutes

Team Size: 2-6 actors only

Recommended Targets:

This category is ideal for beginner-level participants and schools new to English drama competition. It offers a supportive, low-pressure environment emphasizing oral reading, expression, and teamwork, making it perfect for first-time participants building confidence in English drama.

Event date: Saturday, 21 March 2026

Venue: Heep Yuun School (1 Farm Road, Ma Tau Wai, Kowloon)

Instructions for participating schools:

- No costumes, sets, props, pre-recorded sound, use of multimedia, or stage lighting are allowed.
- No physical movement or blocking; performers must remain standing during the performance.
- All performers must wear all-black outfits (black tops and black pants).
- This is an open-script performance; performers may have scripts on music stands, and memorization is not required.

### **\*\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*\***

1/ Schools (for all categories) that exceed the time limit or employ multimedia or video projection will **NOT** be considered for the Outstanding Performance Award and will **NOT** be invited to perform at the Prize Presentation Ceremony.

2/Schools must ensure that all drama themes, scripts, and elements comply with the laws of Hong Kong. The English Drama Festival 2026 organizer reserves the right to make the final decision on content suitability.

## AWARD LIST FOR ALL CATEGORIES

### A/ For overall performance

- Outstanding Performance (Gold Award)\*
- Outstanding Performance (Silver Award)
- Commendable Overall Performance

### B/ For performers

- Outstanding Lead Actor/Actress
- Outstanding Supporting Actor/ Actress
- Star Performer

### C/ For backstage and delivery

- Outstanding Stage Effects - Light and Sound
- Outstanding Scenic Design
- Outstanding Styling - Makeup and Costumes
- Outstanding Spoken English
- Outstanding Directing
- Outstanding Script Writing or Script Adaptation

### D/ For all teams

Commendable Award for Spoken English

*\*Winners of the Outstanding Performance (Gold Award) will be invited to perform at the Prize Presentation Ceremony in early May 2026.\**

## EVENT TIMELINE

Date	Event
2 Dec 2025	Application begins
Mid Dec 2025	Online info meeting on “Reader’s Theatre”
5 Jan 2026	Deadline of application
16 Jan 2026	Deadline of entry fee payment
Early Feb 2026	Confirmation participations after the release of performance date & venue
Early Feb 2026	Online meeting for Host Schools organizers
2 weeks before the event	Return production team, cast list, script with light cues and sound cues, technical form (for Modern & Shakespearean drama only)
1 week before the event	Online technical meeting session with Drama Fest co-ordinator (for both participating schools and host schools)
Mid-March to April 2026	Show Time!!!
Early May 2026	Prize Presentation Ceremony & Outstanding Performance by Gold Award Winners

## HOW TO APPLY

1/ Complete the application form: <https://forms.gle/J3r6SiSb1JfEj9zS9>

Application deadline: **Monday, 5 January 2026**

2/ Submit the application fee after receiving the confirmation of your application

Entry fee for Modern Drama: \$1000 per school

Entry fee for Shakespearean Drama: \$1000 per school

Entry fee for Reader's theatre: \$500 per school

Entry fee payment deadline (by post): **Friday, 16 January 2026**

Please make the cheque payable to '***The Association of English Medium Secondary Schools***', put down the name of the school, and name and contact number of the person-in-charge written on the back of the cheque, and post it to:

**Mr. Chan Chung Leung, Treasurer,  
AEMSS % SKH Lam Kau Mow Secondary School,  
10 Tai Po Street, City One, Sha Tin,  
New Territories, Hong Kong**

*\*Places for the Drama Fest are limited. Allocation will be on a first-come-first-served basis.*

Successful applicants will receive a final email confirmation *no later than Friday, 23 January 2026.*

For any further enquiries, please visit the AEMSS website at [www.emi.edu.hk](http://www.emi.edu.hk) or contact Ms. Jen Lam, Coordinator of the Drama Fest, at [emidramafest2024@gmail.com](mailto:emidramafest2024@gmail.com).