

## Foreign Languages Events General Information 2023-2024

The LHSRA offers literary events for French, German, Latin, and Spanish as well as two distinct types of State Rally open performance foreign language events in order to emphasize and encourage the oral-aural aspects of modern foreign language instruction.

### Literary Events

Foreign language literary events that are offered at the District Rallies and State Rally are as follows:

- French I, II, & III
- Spanish I, II, III, & IV

These participants, who have qualified based on their ranking at District Rally to compete at State Rally, take written tests that are scored and rated as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Gold medal and certificate
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Silver medal and certificate
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Bronze medal and certificate
- 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Place: These places recognized on the LHSRA website only when the number of event participants is 16-25 (4<sup>th</sup> Place) or 26 or more (4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Places).

In addition, State Rally offers special foreign language literary events for German I, II, & III and Latin I & II that do not require qualification at a District Rally. Ratings for these special literary events are as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Gold medal and certificate
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Silver medal and certificate
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Bronze medal and certificate
- 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Place: These places recognized on the LHSRA website only when the number of event participants is 16-25 (4<sup>th</sup> Place) or 26 or more (4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Places).

### Open Performance Events

State Rally offers these three open performance event categories that do not require qualification at a District Rally, Festival, or Tournament:

- Extemporaneous Speaking (French, and Spanish – II, III, and IV)
- Interpretive Reading (French, German, and Spanish – I, II, III, and IV)
- Dramatic Skit (German – I, II, III, and IV)

Participants in these State Rally open performance events are rated as follows:

- Superior: Gold medal and certificate
- Excellent: Silver medal and certificate
- Good: Certificate

No school may enter more than one student in each open performance event. A student who is a native speaker of a foreign language is ineligible to participate in that foreign language event. Thus, a student whose main language at home is other than English is considered to be a native speaker of that particular language. Schools must certify that students are non-native speakers of the target language. Entry forms for State Rally Foreign Language events must be completed and submitted on the State Rally website, [www.lhsra.org](http://www.lhsra.org), by **March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024**, the deadline in order to complete registration.

## **Extemporaneous Speaking (French and Spanish)**

Time Limit: Five Minutes

This event is open only to second, third, and fourth year students in French or Spanish. A drawing for subjects will be held the morning of State Rally. Each contestant will draw twice and will have a choice between the two topics. Each will have 30 minutes in which to prepare. The student may use notes; however, during the presentation, the student should use them sparingly so that they do not interfere with the effectiveness of his/her presentation. At the end of the preparation period, the contestants should be ready to speak in an order determined by the lot.

The students will be scored on their (1) pronunciation, (2) fluency, (3) correctness of grammar, (4) richness of vocabulary, and (5) meaningfulness of content. State Rally participants in Foreign Language Extemporaneous Speaking are allowed to use foreign language dictionaries as a reference tool.

## **Interpretive Reading (French, German, and Spanish)**

Time Limit: Five Minutes

This event is open to first, second, third, and fourth year students in French, German, or Spanish. It is suggested that short stories, significant excerpts from novels, or dramatic soliloquies be used as these provide the best material for this contest. However, contestants are free to choose any material whatsoever, prose or poetry, and are at liberty to adapt or cut it in any way necessary to fit the time allowed. The performing individual is expected to have memorized their selection, but may occasionally glance at the text if necessary. Students will be penalized for too much dependence on the printed text. Three copies of each selection must be provided for the judges.

Students will be scored on their (1) pronunciation, (2) fluency, (3) memorization, (4) interpretation, and (5) poise. The difficulty and length of the material will be taken into consideration in the judging process.

Note: The LSU Department of French recommends that subjects chosen for the French I Interpretive Reading event should be within the student's comprehension level and their French level. The adjudicators find it difficult to judge a student's performance if the task the student is trying to perform is beyond the student's reach. They believe that Prevert poems, or La Fontaine fables, or perhaps excerpts from "La Leçon" by Ionesco would be better choices: they are linguistically not too difficult, the ideas are not very complicated, and yet they are worth memorizing because they can be cherished forever.

## **Dramatic Skit (German)**

Time Limit: 15 minutes

This event is open to first, second, third, and fourth year students of German. Contestants are free to choose any dramatic material and to adapt it in order to fit the time allowed and the number in the cast. The performers are expected to have memorized their parts. Three copies of each selection must be provided for use by the judges.

The students will be scored on (1) pronunciation, (2) fluency, (3) memorization, (4) organization, and (5) dramatic effect. Each participant or their representative must report for instruction to the room that has been assigned to his/her event and at the beginning of the designated hour of the event.

## **Special Open Foreign Language Literary Events (German and Latin)**

### **German**

The test in German is multiple choice and assesses the student's abilities in grammar and reading comprehension.

**Eligibility:**

- German I: Students with less than one (1) unit in German.
- German II: Students with less than two (2) units in German.
- German III: Students with less than three (3) units in German.

These events do not require qualification at a District Rally. Students do not need to be currently enrolled in a course to participate in any of the German literary events. No school may enter more than one student in each event. Students may not participate in the same event more than once.

### **Latin**

The test in Latin is composed of nine parts that assesses the student's abilities in the following areas: grammar, Roman life, mythology, history/geography, expressions, mottos, abbreviations, derivatives, and reading comprehension.

**Eligibility:**

- Latin I: Students with less than one (1) unit in Latin.
- Latin II: Students with less than two (2) units in Latin.

These events do not require qualification at a District Rally. Students do not need to be currently enrolled in a course to participate in any of the Latin literary events. No school may enter more than one student in each event. Students may not participate in the same event more than once.