



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION TECHNOLOGICAL AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING PONTIFICATIONS AND POETRY 2023

Event

The Ministry of Education Technological and Vocational Training (METVT) in collaboration with Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) and Starcom Network Inc., presents “**Pontifications and Poetry 2023**”, an oratorical (prepared speech and poetry) contest/showcase to celebrate Education Month and CBC’s 60th Anniversary.

The competition, which is open to all public and private, primary and secondary schools, seeks to:

1. Hone and/or enhance the public speaking skills of our youth as independent learners
2. Sensitise them to the current issues within our nation and the Caribbean
3. Afford them the opportunity to be a voice for the youth
4. Embrace the Ministry of Education’s thrust towards sustainable education & global citizenship

Theme

A Bright Future for Every Child

Preliminaries

Video upload to METVT

Venue (Finals)

CBC Studios, Pine St. Michael

The Competition Outline

The **poetry contest** will feature Primary School students (Age 9 – 11 years) where prizes will be awarded to the **1st, 2nd, and 3rd place**.

The **prepared speech contest** will feature students in the Junior school (Age 11 – 14 years) and Senior school (Age 15 - 18) where prizes will be awarded to the **1st and 2nd place** in each age category.

Poetry Preliminary Round

Each participant must prepare and UPLOAD (via Teacher/Focal Point) an ORIGINAL poem on any aspect/issue relating to the selected theme for Education month – **A Bright Future for Every Child**. It may be humorous/informative/persuasive/narrative/descriptive or a combination of any, and **MUST** have a title. It must be **1 minute in duration** and may be delivered with or without a script; however, contestants should avoid slavish reliance on the script.

NB: There will be a PENALTY of 5 points to be deducted for presentations over 1. 30 mins and under 1.00 min.

Participants may use props, visual aids, music or any paraphernalia that may enhance the message. The focus must be on the contestant; hence, the props must not overpower the contestant.

Prepared Speech Preliminary Round

Each participant must prepare and UPLOAD (via Teacher/Focal Point) an ORIGINAL speech on any aspect/issue relating to the selected theme for Education month – **A Bright Future for Every Child**. It may be humorous/informative/persuasive/narrative/descriptive or a combination of any and **MUST** have a title. It must be **2 minutes in duration** and may be delivered with or without a script; however, contestants should avoid slavish reliance on the script.

NB: There will be a PENALTY of 5 points to be deducted for presentations over 2. 30 mins and under 2.00 mins.

Participants may use props, visual aids, music or any paraphernalia that may enhance the message. The focus must be on the contestant; hence the props must not overpower the contestant.

IMPORTANT DATES/TIMELINES

Registration Opens: Monday, September 18, 2023

Primary Schools: <https://forms.gle/8xjasidzwAy44k9D9>

Secondary Schools: <https://forms.gle/bXnW5EHaGAv9Vkun7>

Registration Closes: Friday, **October 6**, 2023 at 11. 59 p.m.

Video Upload: On or before Monday, **October 9**, 2023 at 11. 59 p.m.

Duration of Poetry Video: 1 minute

Duration of Speech Video: 2 minutes

After registration, participants (via Teachers/Focal Points) will receive a response receipt and should proceed to prepare their presentations which **MUST** be submitted directly to brightfuture@school.edu.bb or via **WeTransfer** on or before **Monday, October 9, 2023**.

Judges: Official judging will commence between from Tuesday, **October 10**, 2023 and will be facilitated by a panel of experienced judges in public speaking and poetry.

Promotion of the event to the public will be reinforced on **October 4, 2023** via a Media Briefing in the MRD Auditorium (METVT) at **9.30 a.m.**

FORMAT REQUIREMENTS

Landscape (1920 x 1080) or 16:9, high quality video submissions must be in .mov or .mp4 format, 2GB or smaller, and the resolution at least 1080.

MARKETING & PROMOTIONS

The event can be promoted on the schools', and government social media platforms as well as media houses.

POETRY FINALS

The **top fifteen (15) participants** will proceed to the final round where they will present an ORIGINAL poem (extended version used for preliminary round or new creation) on any aspect/issue relating to the selected theme for Education month – **A Bright Future for Every Child**. It may be humorous/informative/persuasive/narrative/descriptive or a combination of any and **MUST** have a title.

It **MUST be 2 – 3 minutes in duration** and delivered before a studio audience, with or without a script.

However, contestants should avoid slavish reliance on the script.

NB: There will be a PENALTY of 5 points to be deducted for presentations over 3.30 mins and under 2.00 min.

Participants may use props, visual aids, music or any paraphernalia that may enhance the message. The focus must be on the contestant; hence, the props must not overpower the contestant.

Finals Date: Thursday, **November 9, 2023**

Venue/Location: CBC Studios

Time: 1.00 p.m.

Timing Rules

Duration of Poetry: 2 - 3 minutes

Green light – 2 minutes

Amber light – 2.30 minutes

Red light – 3 minutes and will remain until the speaker completes the presentation.

There will be a penalty of 5 points to be deducted for presentations under 2:00 or over 3:30.

SPEECH FINALS

The top **5 Juniors and top 5 Seniors** (10 participants) will proceed to the finals, where they will present an ORIGINAL speech (extended version used for preliminary round or new creation) on any aspect/issue relating to the selected theme for Education month – **A Bright Future for Every Child**. It may be humorous/informative/persuasive/narrative/descriptive or a combination of any and **MUST** have a title.

It **MUST be 4 – 5 minutes in duration** and delivered before a studio audience, with or without a script.

However, contestants should avoid slavish reliance on the script.

NB: There will be a PENALTY of 5 points to be deducted for presentations over 5.30 mins and under 3.30 mins.

Participants may use props, visual aids, music or any paraphernalia that may enhance the message. The focus must be on the contestant; hence the props must not overpower the contestant.

Finals Date: Friday, **November 10, 2023**

Location: CBC Studios

Time: 1.00 p.m.

Timing Rules

Duration of Prepared Speech: 4 - 5 minutes

Green light – 4 minutes

Amber light – 4.30 minutes

Red light – 5 minutes and will remain until the speaker completes the presentation.

There will be a penalty of 5 points to be deducted for presentations under 3:30 or over 5:30.

TRAINING/BRIEFING

A workshop for the finalists and their teachers/focal points/parents will be held on **Saturday, October 14, 2023 at Erdiston Teachers' Training College (ETTC) at 4.00 p.m - 5.00 p.m.** This interactive session will provide the participants and teachers with the necessary tools to assist the students as they prepare for the finals.

CRITICAL TIMELINES 2023

EVENT	DATE	TIME	VENUE
Registration Opens	Monday, September 18	N/A	Online
Media Briefing	Wednesday, October 4	9:30 a.m.	MRD Auditorium
Registration Closes	Friday, October 6	11:59 p.m.	Online
Video Upload	Monday, October 9	11:59 p.m.	Online
Pre-Judging	Commencing Tuesday, October 10	CBC	TBC
Training/Briefing of Finalists	Saturday, October 14	4:00 p.m.	Erdiston
Finals	Thursday, November 9 Friday, November 10	1:00 p.m.	CBC

Please note Judging criteria below:

PONTIFICATIONS & POETRY COMPETITION 2023

JUDGING SHEET POETRY

JUDGING ITEMS		SUGGESTED POINT VALUES				CONTESTANT	
		EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	GOOD	FAIR	1	2
RELEVANCE Appropriateness of the subject Interest	C O N T E N T	20	14 - 19	9 - 13	0 - 8		
POETRY DEVELOPMENT Structure, organisation, support material, ideas, logic		15	11 - 14	6 - 10	0 - 5		
POETRY VALUE Elements of genre original thought/creativity		15	11 - 14	6 - 10	0 - 5		
PHYSICAL Appearance, body language	D E L I V E R Y	10	7 - 9	4 - 6	0 - 3		
VOICE Flexibility (vocal variety) Volume		10	7 - 9	4 - 6	0 - 3		
MANNER Directness, assurance Enthusiasm		10	7 - 9	4 - 6	0 - 3		
APPROPRIATENESS Achievement of purpose, word selection Audience	L A N G	10	7 - 9	4 - 6	0 - 3		
CORRECTNESS Grammar, punctuation,		10	7 - 9	4 - 6	0 - 3		
TOTAL SCORE (100 POINTS POSSIBLE)							

PONTIFICATIONS AND POETRY 2023

JUDGING SHEET SPEECH

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RELEVANCE Appropriateness of the subject Interest	C O N T E N T	20	14 - 19	9 - 13	0 - 8		
SPEECH/POETRY DEVELOPMENT Structure, organisation, support material, ideas, logic		15	11 - 14	6 - 10	0 - 5		
SPEECH/POETRY VALUE Elements of genre original thought/creativity		15	11 - 14	6 - 10	0 - 5		
PHYSICAL Appearance, body language	D E L I V E R Y	10	7 - 9	4 - 6	0 - 3		
VOICE Flexibility (vocal variety) Volume		10	7 - 9	4 - 6	0 - 3		
MANNER Directness, assurance Enthusiasm		10	7 - 9	4 - 6	0 - 3		
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CORRECTNESS Grammar, punctuation,		10	7 - 9	4 - 6	0 - 3		
TOTAL SCORE (100 POINTS POSSIBLE)							