



# CANADIAN PARENTS FOR FRENCH BRITISH COLUMBIA & YUKON

**Presents:**

## CANADIAN PARENTS FOR FRENCH **CONCOURS** d'art oratoire Canada's French Public Speaking Contest



Spring 2021

**Concours d'art oratoire -  
Information Package**

**Canadian Parents for French**  
<https://bc-yk.cpf.ca/activities/youth-activities/concours-dart-oratoire/>

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## Overview

The purpose of this package is to help students take part in *Concours d'art oratoire*. It can also provide information to parents, guardians, teachers, administrators, and anyone else who may be interested in encouraging students to participate in *Concours d'art oratoire*.

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## Introduction

Our longstanding public speaking competition for youth who are learning French in school is a great way to honor their many hours of hard work and to celebrate official language bilingualism in Canada! The contest is open to students in every province and territory and in a wide range of age/grade categories and French abilities. Thousands of students participate every year in communities big and small, for the opportunity to win prizes or scholarships to postsecondary institutions.

### Reality 2020-2021 ... and how about a virtual Concours?

As COVID-19 spread across Canada in 2020, Canadian Parents for French cancelled the traditional in-person *Concours d'art oratoire* competition. A fun video contest for cash prizes proved a terrific success with students. To this end, we have decided to offer this opportunity again in 2021! To find out more about *Concours virtuel*, visit [ConcoursVirtuel.ca](https://ConcoursVirtuel.ca)

### Spring 2021 ... Videos are the next best thing!

Students, parents, teachers and schools asked us to consider an alternative method of delivering the traditional *Concours d'art oratoire* speeches this year - and offer an opportunity for students to earn scholarships once again!

CPF Branches and National, working collaboratively, are hosting an adapted *Concours d'art oratoire* where students will record and submit their speech presentations. These videos will be judged in a semi-final competition within their own province / territory.

For Grade 11 & 12 students, those who place 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each of the categories will be recommended to move on to the virtual National Final. Students advancing to the virtual National Final competition may submit the same video or they may re-record their speech for submission.

[Click here to find out more about the Concours d'art oratoire National Finals.](#)

## Important Dates

**March 1st, 2021**

- Submission open for Provincial Semi-Finals

**April 15th, 2021**

- Submissions close for Provincial Semi-Finals

**May 4th, 2021**

- Winners announced for Provincial Semi-Finals

**May 25th, 2021**

- Deadline for Provincial Semi-Final winners to register for National Finals

**June 15th, 2021**

- Winners announced for National Finals

## Who is Eligible

Up to three students per school district may enter in each contest category.

Eligible students must:

- Be residents of British Columbia or the Yukon.
- Be enrolled in Grade 11 or 12 in the 2020-2021 school year
- All participants require the approval of a representative from their school district, such as a modern language coordinator.
- Meet one of the following criteria:
  - Have placed 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> in their district-level *Concours d'art oratoire*
  - **If no district-level Concours d'art oratoire was held:** Have placed 1<sup>st</sup> in a school-level *Concours d'art oratoire*
  - **If no district or school-level Concours d'art oratoire was held:** Have placed 1<sup>st</sup> in a classroom-level *Concours d'art oratoire*.
  - Students who have not had the opportunity to compete in any *Concours d'art oratoire* in 2021 must obtain support from a French-speaking teacher, in addition to the approval of a district representative

**District Coordinators:** Please send a list of the names of the eligible students from your district (up to three in each category) to [concours@cpf.bc.ca](mailto:concours@cpf.bc.ca)

## OFFICIAL RULES OF ENTRY

1. Speeches must be an original work by the student. Where research is used, sources should be identified using appropriate citation practices.\*
2. Students must deliver the same speech that won them first prize at the school, regional, and/or provincial/ territorial levels in the 2021 competition.
3. Speeches must have been written specifically for delivery at the 2021 edition of the CPF Concours d'art oratoire. Recycled speeches from previous years or other public speaking events are not permitted.
4. The presentation should be committed to memory. No props or cue cards are permitted. A speech written in its entirety is not allowed in any form under a penalty of up to three points.
5. Students must not identify themselves in any way, by name, school, school board or city/ township under penalty of disqualification.
6. No display materials or costumes (this includes school uniforms) are allowed under penalty of disqualification.
7. This is a speech arts competition as opposed to dramatic arts. Poems, songs and dramatic pieces are not appropriate.
8. Gestures must be kept to a minimum. It is not necessary for the head and hands to remain completely motionless, but gestures must be natural and spontaneous, as opposed to dramatic. Examples of unacceptable gesturing: wild arm movements (flapping wings), pirouettes, kneeling, turning one's back to the audience. Excessive gestures will result in a penalty of up to three points.
9. Students will speak for 3-5 minutes. The time is clocked from when the student begins to speak. A penalty of one point for each 30s that speeches are over or under the allotted time will be incurred: one point for 1-30 seconds, two points for 31-60 seconds, etc.
10. Participants must be Canadian citizens or permanent residents in order to qualify for winning scholarships.

\*Plagiarism is generally defined as presenting someone else's work or ideas as one's own. CPF suggests that Concours participants receive and review instruction in appropriate research and citation practices to underline the importance placed on academic honesty. When a participant has been deemed to have not met the expectation of academic honesty, CPF Concours judges will apply an appropriate consequence based on the severity of the violation, which may include a penalty of a limit to the eligibility of any CPF awards or disqualification.

## **Appendix i: Judging Rubric**

Please see the included document [i.Traditional\\_Judging-Rubric.pdf](#)

## **Appendix ii: Categories**

Please see the included document [ii.Traditional-Categories.pdf](#)

## **Still Have Questions?**

Please contact Robin at [concours@cpf.bc.ca](mailto:concours@cpf.bc.ca) with your specific inquiry.