

## Program Oral Interpretation

1. Purpose: POI is a program of oral interpretation of thematically-linked selections chosen from two or three genres: prose, poetry, drama (plays). At least two pieces of literature that represent at least two separate genres must be used. All selections must be verbally identified by title and author. Competitors are encouraged to devote approximately equal times to each of the genres used in the program. This distinction pertains to these two or three genres as a whole, not types of literature within a genre (such as fiction/nonfiction).
2. Contest: The use of manuscript is required. The intact manuscript may be used by the contestant as a prop, so long as it remains in the contestant's control at all times. No costumes or props other than the manuscript are permitted. The contestant must address the script; however, introduction and transitional material may be memorized.
3. Length: The time limit is 10 minutes with a 30-second "grace period." If there are multiple judges in the round, all must agree that the student has gone beyond the grace period. Should a student go beyond the grace period, the student may not be ranked 1st. There is no other prescribed penalty for going over the grace period. The ranking is up to each individual judge's discretion. Judges who choose to time are to use accurate (stopwatch function) timing devices. No minimum time is mandated.
4. Publication Rules: All literature performed must meet the publication rules of National Catholic Forensic League.
5. Adaptations may be used only for the purpose of transition.

#### Program Oral Interpretation Event Description:

- POI is a program of oral interpretation of thematically-linked selections chosen from two or three genres: prose, poetry, drama (plays).
- A primary focus of this event should be on the development of the theme or argument through the use of narrative, story, language, and/or characterization.
- Competitors are encouraged to devote approximately equal times to each of the genres used in the program. At least two pieces of literature that represent at least two separate genres must be used. • The use of a manuscript is required.
- Time Limit: 10 minutes max with a 30-second grace period
- An introduction should set the stage, enhancing the interpretation of the literature to the audience, providing information and analysis to the chosen theme.
- All selections must be verbally identified by title and author. However, where, when, and how these are accomplished are the speaker's decisions.
- The intact manuscript may be used by the contestant as a prop so long as it remains in the contestant's control at all times.
- No costumes or props other than the manuscript are permitted. • Adaptations may be used only for the purpose of transition.
- This is a contest in oral interpretation. The contestant should be evaluated on poise, quality, and use of voice, inflection, pronunciation, and the ability to interpret characters consistently.
- The contestant should also be evaluated on how effective their argument/theme is projected in the total program.
- In developing a creative, thematic program, attention should be given to the design and organization of a cohesive and carefully conceived whole by linking authors and ideas inherent in the literature.
- There is an expectation to use at least two pieces of literature each presenting a different genre with approximately equal times devoted to each genre. This distinction pertains to these three genres as a whole, not types of literature within a genre, such as fiction/nonfiction.
- The contestant must address the script; however, introduction and transitional material may be memorized