



NATIONAL ART AND TALENT OLYMPIAD

An initiative to Identify, Nurture & Celebrate Student's Excellence Beyond Academics

6. MUSIC & DANCE EVENTS COMPETITIONS GUIDELINES

General Rules & Instructions

(Applicable to all events)

- Eligibility: Open to students from Class 1 to 12.
- Time Limit: * Solo Performances: Maximum 3 minutes.
– Group Performances: Maximum 4 minutes (Minimum 2, Maximum 12 Participants per group).
- Decency: Lyrics, costumes, and dance moves must be school-appropriate. No vulgarity, political themes, or offensive language allowed.
- Judging Criteria: Performance will be judged on Creativity, Rhythm/Talent, Confidence, Expression/Presentation, and Overall Impact.

Part 1: Dance Competitions

Note: For all group dances, synchronization (dancing together in time) is highly important.

1. Freestyle / Film Dance (Solo & Group)

- What it is: Any style goes! You can dance to Bollywood, Hollywood, or pop songs.
- Rule: Focus on energy, fun expressions, and smooth transitions. Costumes should match the vibe of the song.

2. Indian Classical Dance (Solo & Group)

- What it is: Traditional forms like Kathak, Bharatanatyam, Odissi, Kathakali, etc.
- Rule: Classical attire, makeup, and ghungroos (if applicable) are mandatory. Songs must be purely classical or traditional compositions.

3. Indian Folk Dance (Solo & Group)

- What it is: Regional dances of India (e.g., Bhangra, Garba, Bihu, Ghoomar).
- Rule: Must represent a specific Indian state or culture. Traditional regional costumes are highly encouraged.

4. Fusion Dance (Solo & Group)

- What it is: A mix of two or more dance styles (e.g., Kathak mixed with Hip-Hop, or Classical mixed with Contemporary).
- Rule: The transition between the two styles should be smooth. Both styles should get fair representation in the performance.





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Part 2: Instrumental Music Competitions

7. Indian Instrumental Music (Solo & Group)

- What it is: Playing Indian instruments like Tabla, Flute, Sitar, Harmonium, or Violin (Indian style).
- Rule: No backing tracks allowed. Electronic Tanpura or Lehra apps can be used for rhythm support.

8. Western Instrumental Music (Solo only)

- What it is: Playing Western instruments like Keyboard, Guitar, Drums, or Violin (Western style).
- Rule: Students can play a classical piece, a pop tune, or a rock melody. Simple backing tracks (without the main instrument playing) are allowed.

Part 3: Vocal & Singing Competitions

Note: For all singing events, students can use a basic karaoke track or 1-2 live acoustic instruments (like a guitar or harmonium) for support.

5. Bhajan (Free Language)

- What it is: Devotional singing dedicated to any deity, sung in any language.
- Rule: Focus should be on devotion, purity of voice, and melody.

6. Patriotic Song (Free Language)

- What it is: Songs that celebrate India or love for the nation, sung in any language.
- Rule: Energetic or soul-stirring delivery. School uniforms or patriotic colors (Saffron, White, Green) can be worn.

10. Singing – Open Genre

- What it is: Anything goes! If your song doesn't fit a specific box below, sing it here.
- Rule: Choose a song that suits your vocal range.

11. Singing (Classical)

- What it is: Pure Hindustani or Carnatic classical music (Bandish, Thumri, etc.).
- Rule: Must include a short introduction of the Raag and Taal. No karaoke tracks allowed; use a Tanpura/Tabla.





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12. Singing (Semi-Classical)

- What it is: Songs based on classical raags but sung in a lighter, more melodic style (Ghazals, Thumris, Nattiyasangeet).
- Rule: Easier than pure classical, but must maintain the soulful essence of the raag.

13. Singing (Light Vocal)

- What it is: Easy-listening melodies, soft music, or unplugged tracks.
- Rule: Focus on clarity of words and smooth vocal control.

14. Singing (Bollywood)

- What it is: Any popular Hindi movie song from old retro classics to current hits.
- Rule: Recreate the magic of the song! Marks are awarded for melody, not just mimicking the original singer.

15. Singing (Western)

- What it is: English songs (Pop, Rock, Country, Jazz, or Disney classics).
- Rule: Pronunciation needs to be clear. **Avoid songs with explicit or inappropriate lyrics.**

16. Singing (Folk)

- What it is: Regional traditional songs (e.g., Sufi, Baul, Rajasthani, Bihu,).
- Rule: Should represent the true flavor of the region. Regional language accuracy is important.

17. Singing (Devotional)

- What it is: Spiritual songs, hymns, shlokas, or spiritual compositions (distinct from Bhajans, can include choir/church music or Qawwalis).
- Rule: Focus on clarity, rhythm, and a peaceful presentation.

18. Singing (Indie / Contemporary)

- What it is: Non-film independent music or modern pop songs.
- Rule: Originality and a fresh presentation style are highly encouraged.

19. RAP

- What it is: Rhythmic speech and chanting over a beat.
- Rule: Cover tracks or original compositions are allowed. Strict Rule: **Absolutely no bad words, Insults, or offensive language.** Focus on rhythm, flow, speed, and lyric clarity.





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Part 4: Special Category

9. Parent-Child Musical Performance

- What it is: One student and one parent performing together.
- Options: They can both sing, both play instruments, or one can sing while the other plays an instrument.
- Rule: The focus is on coordination and teamwork between parent and child. It should be a fun, collaborative performance!

