



2018

Murray State University



Global Languages Showcase

~ Guidelines ~

The MSU Global Languages Showcase is an annual, regional festival for language students of all levels to participate in events that demonstrate their linguistic and cultural skills in a fun, competitive manner. Student projects and performances are evaluated by upper-level language students and Murray State faculty, with winners being recognized at the conclusion of the day's activities.

A. Student Eligibility

1. All middle and high school students enrolled in a language class during the current academic year are eligible to participate at or above the level of their class.
2. Students will compete at one of three linguistic levels: Novice, Intermediate or Advanced.
3. Teachers are responsible for evaluating their students' linguistic proficiency and placing them in the appropriate levels according to the [2012 ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines](#). In the case of group projects, teachers are asked to assign the group to the 'average' level of the participants. Students collaborating on group projects should have similar levels of linguistic ability.
4. **Heritage Speakers:** A heritage speaker is a student who is regularly exposed to a language other than English at home. Heritage speakers may compete in Showcase events.
5. **Exchange Students:** Exchange students are defined as students from another country temporarily attending school in the United States. Exchange students may not enter any assessment in the language of which they are native speakers. However, if they are students of a different language, they may participate in their language of study.

B. Teacher Eligibility

All middle and high school teachers are eligible to enter their students. Participation is not dependent on any kind of professional membership or organizational affiliation.

C. Registration

- Registration deadline is **March 1**. Late registrations **cannot and will not** be accepted.
- Registration fee is \$10 per student, **to be paid by March 15**. Make checks payable to *Murray State University* and send them to *Department of Global Languages, 4A Faculty Hall, Murray State University, Murray KY 42071*.
- If payment is not made by March 15, **a late fee will be applied**.
- The fee for high school and middle school observers (non-participants) is \$5 per student, also to be paid by March 15. Elementary school students are welcome to observe free of charge; please let us know how many students will be attending.
- Students registered by the initial deadline **may not cancel and must be paid for**.

D. Projects and Performances are the two areas of competition.

Projects: may be **art, models, costumes or videos** and are open to **Individuals** or **Groups** (up to 4 students) and must be inspired by study of the target culture.

- Projects will be judged primarily on knowledge of the **target language and culture**, but also on originality, creativity, and overall quality and workmanship.
- Projects must include a brief **written description** describing the historical context and/or cultural relevance of the project in the **target language**, at the **appropriate proficiency level**.
- Students will give a brief oral description of their project at the appropriate proficiency level.
- All students will be asked questions in the **target language** related to their project and its description.
- All projects must be completed by the student(s) during the current school year.
- All projects must be original work by the student(s), but may be inspired by famous works.
- No kits are allowed.
- Videos must not exceed three minutes in length.
- Students with videos must bring their own equipment, including external speakers for laptops. Check all equipment carefully to ensure everything works properly beforehand.
- For projects related to cuisine/cooking, **no actual food is allowed** due to potential health/safety concerns

Performance - Group: may be **chorus, drama, or dance** (open to groups of 5-20 students)

Performance - Individual: will be a **recitation of a literary passage**. Performances must be inspired by study of the target culture.

- Performances will be judged primarily on knowledge of the **target language and culture**, as well as poise, expression, creativity, and overall quality.
- Performances must be accompanied by a **brief written description** describing the historical context and/or cultural relevance in the **target language**, at the **appropriate proficiency level**.
- One student will give a brief introduction to the performance **in the target language**.
- All students should be prepared to answer questions **in the target language** related to their performance and its description.
- Performances may be accompanied by live or recorded instrumental music. Chorus recordings may not contain any lyrics.
- Chorus and Dance performances must not exceed five minutes in length, while Drama performances must not exceed ten minutes. These time limits include entering and exiting the performance area.
- For individual performances, the recited passage must be at least 14 lines long and appropriate to the student's proficiency level. Recitations must not exceed two minutes.
- **All performances must be memorized.** Notecards will not be allowed.

- A copy of the lyrics/text (including any stage directions) must be provided to the judges prior to the start of the performance.
- In group performances, no single student should dominate.
- A school may not repeat a group performance more than once every three years.
- Murray State University does not provide equipment, including laptops, external speakers, power strips, or extension cords. Bring all your own equipment and test it beforehand to ensure that everything works properly.

E. Preparing for the Judges' Interview

All interviews between judges and participants will be conducted in the **target language**. They will begin with a simple greeting and these questions from the judge(s):

1. How are you today?
2. What is your name?
3. What is the title of your project/performance?
4. Please describe your project/performance.

Additional interaction will depend on responses to these questions. Intermediate and advanced students will be expected to engage in continued interaction with the judges and to help guide the conversation. The interaction will conclude with the exchange of appropriate leave-taking phrases.

To enhance the objectivity and efficiency of the evaluation process, judges will not know the linguistic proficiency of the participants. Judges will evaluate speaking skills on a 10 point scale where a score of 0-3.5 corresponds with a novice rating on the ACTFL scale, 3.5-7 corresponds with an intermediate rating, and 7-9 corresponds to an advanced rating (with 9-10 being reserved for Superior levels).

F. Varsity Projects Competition

The Varsity-level project competition offers an additional level of competition for your most talented students. Varsity students compete in a separate category in which projects will be evaluated exclusively by MSU faculty. Varsity entrants will be eligible for special awards and recognition.

- Varsity designation is only allowed for the individual projects competition.
- Each teacher is allotted a maximum of **three varsity roster spots per class taught**. These roster spots can be distributed among the teacher's students however they see fit (i.e., a teacher who teaches four classes could choose to use all 12 of their spots on students in their first class).
- Varsity participants must be classified as either **Intermediate** or **Advanced** competitors.
- Students who will compete in the varsity competition **must be designated as such** on the Registration Form.

G. Miscellaneous

Culture/Language Activity Tables

- When not actively competing or observing performances, students are encouraged to participate in the **Culture Table** activities set up on the main Concourse. Please encourage and remind students to participate in these activities and to complete their Language Passports.

- Students may turn in their completed passports for the prize drawings that will be held during a brief **Closing Ceremony** in the Theater at the conclusion of the Showcase.
- All are invited to enjoy live classical guitar music and other cultural/language presentations that may be offered in the Crow's Nest from time to time.

Judging & Awards

- Teachers are expected to avoid speaking to or otherwise contacting judges about any assessment and to avoid any appearance of unprofessional or unsportsmanlike conduct.
- Any teacher wishing to express an official complaint must submit it in writing to the Showcase director.
- Judging will be based on set, universal criteria, and all scores will be based on a 100 point scale. Electronic copies of the performance/project rubrics to be used will be posted on the Showcase website.
- Judges will not judge students related to them.
- Participants displaying unprofessional conduct during their performance may not be eligible for placing at the discretion of the judges.
- Completed evaluation forms will be made available to teachers at the discretion of the Showcase director.
- Every effort will be made to ensure that students and teachers are informed of their results in a timely and efficient manner.

Audiences

Chorus, dance, drama, art and recitations are open to all participants and the public at large. Projects will be on display and accessible to the public, as long as they are not actively being judged.

KWLA

The Kentucky World Language Association's World Language Showcase will be held on March 24, 2018 at the University of Kentucky in Lexington. While participation in a regional language showcase is not a prerequisite to compete at the KWLA event, it can help students fine tune their projects and performances for state competition. Note that while rules for the MSU and KWLA events are similar, they are not the same. More information about the KWLA event can be found at www.kwla.org