



kentucky world language
association

World Language Showcase & Competition

Show What You Can Do With Languages!

Vision Statement

The KWLA World Language Showcase & Competition is a network of statewide events designed to certify and showcase students' communicative and intercultural competencies that are aligned with state, national and international standards. Students augment classroom knowledge with creativity and excitement. They recognize the importance of language in a 21st century world.

I. Participation Guidelines

Any Kentucky student (elementary, middle, high, post-secondary) who is learning a new language can participate in a District or Regional Showcase. All learners must participate in each of the three Proficiency Mode Assessments (PMA): e.g. Interpersonal, Presentational, and Interpretive Assessment. Learners who demonstrate a minimum of a Novice High (NH) proficiency level in at least **two** assessments will be invited to participate in the State Showcase in a Prepared Performance Competition. All teachers wishing to enter learners must participate in at least one KWLA sponsored Proficiency Workshop or have participated in an OPI workshop. Teachers must also be available to evaluate student proficiency during a Showcase. This year's Proficiency Workshop is **January 18, 2014**. (See Section IX for locations)

School Showcase

While language learning may occur at the school level (school may be defined as: *traditional K-12 classroom, university course, online learning environment, home school, social learning platform, etc.*) a learner's performance and eligibility should be determined by a formal assessment. Highly effective language teachers guide language learning opportunities, provide resources and enable learners to set goals and know if they've met them.

District or Regional Showcase & Competition

The District or Regional Showcase serves as the qualifying event that certifies participating learners' language proficiency. The District or Regional Showcase allows parents and community members to observe learners language use in real-world contexts. Local universities or large districts plan regional showcase events that are unique to the college, district or region.

State Showcase & Competition

Learners will use their language skills to participate in Prepared Performance Competitions at the State Showcase. Individual events are: Art and Project. Group events are: Chorus, Dance, Drama, Film and Project. The first place Regional winners in Chorus, Drama, Dance and Film are invited to compete at State. The top three finishers in Art and Project are invited to State.

II. Eligibility Guidelines

Student Eligibility

1. All students who are enrolled in a language class during the current academic year are eligible to participate.
2. Students must be in good standing in their schools. Students who are suspended from school may not participate in either Regional or State Showcase Events.
3. **Heritage Speakers.** A Heritage Speaker is a student who is exposed to a language other than English at home. Heritage Speakers may participate in any event appropriate to their proficiency level.
4. **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. If they are students of another language, they may participate in accordance with the guidelines.
5. Improperly enrolled students will be disqualified, and their teachers will be suspended from participation in the KWLA Showcase for one year (pending board approval).

Teacher Eligibility

1. All teachers whose students wish to participate in the Showcase & Competition must be members of the Kentucky World Language Association (KWLA). Teachers may join the association by registering online at www.kwla-online.org. All teachers must pay their KWLA membership fees prior to registering students for a Showcase Event.
2. All teachers must be trained in proper assessment procedures at a KWLA-sponsored workshop, or OPI workshop within the past two years.
3. All teachers must be willing to assess a number of students equivalent to or greater than the number of participants they bring.
4. Teachers may enter students only in a Showcase Event designated as their Regional Showcase Event. Any request for changes must be made to the Executive Director. For more information, see section entitled "Regional Showcase Events".
5. Deadlines for entering Regional Showcase Events are determined by Regional Directors.

III. Registration Guidelines

1. Students must complete the KWLA *I Can! - Assessment* to self-assess their proficiency level. Criteria are aligned with the Kentucky Standard for World Language Proficiency and ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines. Teachers then review the students' self-assessments and verify that they are accurate.
2. At the Regional Showcase level students are grouped according to proficiency levels indicated by students on the *I Can! - Assessment*.
2. Latin students must demonstrate proficiency through a written exam and an extemporaneous oral reading of a short text.
3. All students who have demonstrated NH proficiency (or above) in **two of the three** PMAs may register to compete in a Prepared Performance Competition at the Regional Showcase by the group members.
4. **Special Considerations:** Because PMA scoring will not be available immediately, students are *assumed* to exhibit a NH level while competing in Prepared Performance Competitions at the Regional level. However, if a student does not demonstrate NH on at least two of the three PMAs at the Regional, that student is disqualified, if the group is advancing to State. A maximum of ONE student may be 'replaced' for the State Competition, if the replacement student has reached NH in two of the three PMAs. Groups earning 1st place in Chorus, Drama, Dance and Film advance to the State. Individuals in Art and Project (as well as group Project) earning 1st, 2nd and 3rd advance to State.

Regional Showcase Entry Guidelines

1. Students may also choose to participate in any of the Cultural Events. (Regional Directors may limit the number of entries per teacher according to the size of their Event. Please refer to information sent by your Regional Director.) With the exception of Latin, all students must participate in three PMAs- one from each mode of communication: interpersonal, presentational, and interpretive.
5. Groups may have no more than **TWO (2)** Intermediate High students for any given competition. Each group must have a minimum of **one (1)** NH.

State Showcase Entry Guidelines

1. Only students who are assessed at Novice High or above in two out of three PMAs at the Regional Showcase may attend.
2. All members of a Group must meet the above proficiency standard. Groups may have no more than **TWO (2)** Intermediate High students for any given competition. Each group must have a minimum of **one (1)** NH.
3. ONE student of a group may be replaced by another, should the student not demonstrate appropriate proficiency standard, should the student be sick or absent for any other reason. The replacement student is subject to rule no. 1.
4. Alternate means of assessment may be available for students whose regions do not support their language or who do not have a Regional Showcase to attend. Contact the Showcase Executive Director at KWLAShowcaseDirector@gmail.com.
5. All teachers must register their own students online no later than two weeks preceding the State Showcase.

KWLA is actively seeking additional regional sites. Interested teachers are encouraged to speak with other teachers in the area to gauge interest in a new region before contacting the KWLA. Regional showcases may be as small as two schools or as large as several counties.

If there is no Showcase Event in your area for your Chinese, German, Japanese, Latin or Russian students, alternate means of assessment may be accepted, as determined by KWLA.

IV. District & Regional Showcase Events

The following District & Regional Showcase Events have been identified as of January 2014. Not all Regional Showcase sites are able offer all events, please contact the Regional Director for your showcase for registration information.

Central Kentucky Regional Showcase at George Rogers Clark High School

Saturday, March 15

Contact: Lydia Kohler

lydia.kohler@clark.kyschools.us

Big Sandy Regional Showcase at University of Pikeville

Saturday, March 29

Contact: David Roby or Ella Smith

davidroby@upike.edu

ellasmith@upike.edu

Harlan County High School Regional Showcase

Saturday, March 15

Contact: Emmanuel Anama or Benjamin Duncan

emmanuel.anama@harlan.kyschools.us

benjamin.duncan@harlan.kyschools.us

Northern Kentucky University Regional Showcase

Date TBD

Contact: Andrea Fieler

fielera1@nky.edu

V. Proficiency Mode Assessments: Regionals Only

All students of modern languages must participate in proficiency assessment modes at the regional level, one from each mode: interpersonal, presentational, and interpretive. Information for students of Classical Languages can be found in section VIII.

INTERPERSONAL Task

Students demonstrate ability to meaningfully communicate with a partner on familiar topics.

Dialogue

- Students will be given situation cards or pictures to facilitate a conversation with the judge
- Students will have a few minutes to collect their thoughts before the conversation begins.
- The conversation will be started by the judge, but should be led by the student.
- This dialogue should last between **three (3)** and **five (5)** minutes.
- Students are evaluated according to the PMA rubric.

PRESENTATIONAL Task

Students demonstrate ability to meaningfully communicate in writing or using the spoken language.

Presentational Writing

- Students will be presented with of a choice of two real-world writing prompts.
- Students will need to complete one of the prompts in the time allotted.
- The assessment will take approximately 30 minutes.
- Students may not use a dictionary, a text/grammar book, or any notes.
- Students are evaluated according to the PMA rubric.

OR

Presentational Speaking

- Students will be given a real-world prompt through situation cards or pictures to facilitate a presentation to a judge.
- Students will have no more than **three (3)** minutes to collect their thoughts before the presentation begins. They may sketch a written outline before starting.

- The student should speak between **two (2)** and **four (4)** minutes
- Students are evaluated according to the PMA rubric.

INTERPRETIVE Task

Students demonstrate ability to comprehend written or spoken language.

Listening Proficiency

Students demonstrate ability to comprehend spoken language

- Students will hear one or more of the following real-world passages: song, weather report, voice message, airport announcement, dialogue, etc.
- The passage will be played / read three times.
- Students will respond to oral questions about the passage. (Judges will read questions aloud)
- The assessment will take approximately 30 minutes.
- Students are evaluated according to the PMA rubric.

OR

Reading Proficiency

Students demonstrate ability to comprehend written language

- Students will be presented with a series of authentic reading materials (for example: street sign, calendar, menu, e-mail, note, newspaper article, etc) and will have to answer questions about the reading.
- The assessment will take approximately 30 minutes.
- Students are evaluated according to the PMA rubric.

**** In order to enter the Prepared Performance Competitions, students must demonstrate NH on two of the three PMAs.**

Prompts for the PMAs are submitted to Regional Directors by the State Director. If you are interested in serving on the committee prompt vetting, please contact Molly King Anderson at KWLAShowcaseDirector@gmail.com.

VI. Prepared Performance Competitions

Prepared Performance Competitions are presentations in the target language based on cultural relevance by individuals or groups. Any participant must have demonstrated NH in at least two PMAs at Regionals.

General Guidelines

1. Students may participate individually or in groups.
2. Groups consist of a minimum of **two (2)** and a maximum of **ten (10)** students.
3. Students present the project in an effective and creative way before a panel of evaluators and an audience. Students are rated by independent judges.
4. Projects are assessed according to cultural relevance, **comprehensibility** of the target language, **creativity** of the project itself, and **effectiveness** of the presentation.
5. Any student, whether competing as an individual or as part of a group, presenting at the State Showcase must have demonstrated Novice High proficiency or above in two out of three PMAs.
6. Groups may have no more than **TWO (2)** Intermediate High students for any given competition. Each group must have a minimum of **one (1)** NH.
7. Regional winners in Chorus, Dance, Drama and Film are invited to State; Top three winners in Art and Project are invited to State.

INDIVIDUAL CATEGORIES

Art

Students demonstrate knowledge of the target culture through presentation of artwork inspired by study of target culture.

1. Students may enter any artwork that is frame-able. Entries may not include needlepoint, macramé, embroidery, crewel, crochet or knitting.
2. All artwork must demonstrate knowledge of specific forms of expression particular to the target culture (e.g. expressionism, impressionism, modernism, surrealism, etc.)
3. Artwork **MUST** be an original idea but may be inspired by a masterpiece. The student will submit the masterpiece that inspired his/her own work. The work must be executed by one student and not from a kit or model.
4. Artwork must be identified by a 5" x 7" card stating name of student, teacher and school. The teacher must sign the

card certifying that the artwork was the work of the student during the current school year.

5. A written description must accompany the artwork and must be in the target language. Descriptions may be appropriate to levels.
6. The student must be present on the day of the showcase to make a brief oral presentation about the piece. Questions and answers will last no less than **one (1)** minute and no more than **three (3)** minutes.
7. Art specific scoring criteria: a) effective use of chosen medium, b) originality (or likeness in the case of a copy) and design, c) overall quality of presentation.

Project

Students demonstrate knowledge of the target culture through costumes, presentation of models, images, texts, graphics and/or interactive technology.

1. Students may enter individually or as a group. Individual and group projects will be judged separately.
2. Projects may include but are not limited to costumes, models of buildings, landscapes, and/or monuments; advertisements, cookbooks, and/or other print media; presentations on history, literature and/or other forms of cultural expression. All projects must demonstrate an understanding of the target culture.
3. The project must be displayed on a table, may not be larger than 3' x 3' x 3' and may not be hung on a wall or stood on the floor.
4. All projects must be identified by a 5" x 7" card stating name of student, teacher and school. The teacher must sign the card certifying that the project was the work of the student during the current school year.
5. A written description in the target language must accompany the project, detailing how and why it is culturally relevant.
6. The student, or in the case of group projects, the entire group, must be present on the day of the Showcase to make a brief oral presentation about the project.
7. Presentation time will last no less than **one (1)** minute and no more than **three (3)** minutes. ALL students in the group should be prepared to answer questions about their project.
8. Project specific scoring criteria: a) effective use of chosen medium, b) originality (or likeness in the case of a copy) and design, c) overall quality of presentation.

GROUP CATEGORIES

Chorus

Students demonstrate understanding of target culture through presentation of a song.

1. Students will present a song representing the target culture.
2. Students must either sing in unison or in harmony at all times. The composition may be a round in which one group of 3 or more students starts and is followed by other similar groups.
3. No individual performances, solos or duets, are allowed at any point in the performance.
4. The song must be in its original form from the target culture. The song should consist solely of target-language text.
5. Accompanying music may be live instrumental or recorded instrumental. Recordings may not contain any spoken or sung words.
6. Showcase sites will not provide any musical instruments or other equipment.
7. All songs must be memorized. No one may prompt from either the front of the group or from the sidelines. However, a conductor keeping time is permitted.
8. Singing time is not to exceed three minutes.
9. Group must submit a one-page description of the song and its cultural significance in the target language to the judge prior to the performance.
10. At least one student must introduce the performance in the target language.
11. Judge may ask any member of the group follow up questions about learning the song and its significance for the target culture.
12. A school may not repeat a song more than once every three years.
13. Chorus specific scoring criteria: a) pronunciation and intonation, b) enunciation, fluency and expression, c) musical quality (singing in key, good harmony), d) poise and overall performance.

Drama

Students demonstrate understanding of the target culture through presentation of a play.

1. Students will present a scene or selection of scenes involving two or more speaking parts.
2. The selection must be a published play by a recognized author in the target language. *Adaptations for classroom use may be used at the Middle School level.
3. All scripts must be memorized.
4. Students should provide a copy of the scene/work being performed to judges. The copy should also include stage and costume directions, if any are indicated.
5. Song or dance may not be added to the original script.

6. Total time limit for preparation, performance, and stage clearance is **10** minutes. Performances exceeding the time limit will be penalized.
7. No one student may dominate the performance. Teachers may edit the scene to ensure each student has equal speaking time.
8. The first place winner at the Regional Showcase must present the same play at the State.
9. The same performance may not be repeated by a school more than once every three years.
10. Heritage speakers and exchange students may not perform the lead part.
11. Teachers may prompt from the side.
12. Drama specific scoring criteria: a) pronunciation and intonation, b) enunciation, fluency and expression, c) dramatic quality (gestures, costumes, use of props), d) poise and overall performance.

Dance

Students demonstrate understanding of target culture through presentation of a dance.

1. Students will present a dance that represents the target culture.
2. Dance presentations must last a minimum of **five (5)** minutes and a maximum of **10** minutes. At a minimum, half of the time must be dedicated to a presentation about the dance in the target language.
3. There must be at least 3 speaking parts of approximately equal length during the presentation. Heritage speakers may dance, but may not be involved in the presentations.
4. All members of the group should be prepared to answer follow-up questions about learning the dance and its cultural significance.
5. The dance may not include individual performances, solos, duets or trios, unless the group consists of two or three members.
6. Accompanying music may be live or recorded instrumental. Showcase sites will not provide any musical instruments or equipment.
7. A school may not repeat a dance more than once every three years.
8. Dance specific scoring criteria: a) group formation, b) accuracy of performance (rhythm), c) dance quality (sequence of steps), d) poise and overall performance.

Film

Students demonstrate cultural understanding through the writing, producing and shooting of a short film. Films must be original and may not be a retelling of a known film.

1. Students will write, direct, film and star in a short film between **seven (7)** and **10** minutes long.
2. Entries will be presented at the State Showcase via YouTube. Each student participating in the creation of the film must also appear in person at the State

3. Each group must a) introduce and situate the film for the audience b) all students should be prepared to answer questions from the judges c) a written description as to how and why the film is culturally relevant must be submitted at the time of judging.
4. Video specific scoring criteria: a) story board, b) framing, c) audio (overall quality, music choice), d) overall quality of video presentation.

VII. Cultural Enrichment Events*

All cultural enrichment events are optional at the Regional Showcase Level.

**some events are subject to change*

Take your “passport” to each cultural enrichment event you attend, and get it stamped. Students with the most passport stamps are eligible for door prizes.

- Foreign Films
- Mini-Language Lessons
- Speakers from Study Abroad Programs
- Tai Chi Lessons
- Japanese Calligraphy Displays from local elementary schools
- French Pastries and Cheese
- Chinese Calligraphy and Tea Ceremony
- Performances from local area elementary Schools
- Artwork from local area elementary schools

VIII. CLASSICAL LANGUAGES

Guidelines for Classical Languages are currently under review by the Kentucky Classical Association.

Contact KCA President, Andrew Gollan (andrew.gollan@fayette.kyschools.us) with comments and questions.

PMA's

1. Students in Classical languages must demonstrate proficiency through a written test and an oral reading.
Written test – Students answer questions in the following areas: (1) translation & reading comprehension, (2) derivatives & vocabulary, (3) culture/history.
Oral proficiency – Students perform an extemporaneous reading of a short text.
2. Students must be assessed at Novice High or above in both events in order to attend the State Showcase.
3. Latin should be used whenever possible (e.g. short oral introduction, Powerpoint slides, handouts, etc.).

Projects

1. Projects are assessed according to the use of Latin when appropriate, creativity of the project itself, and effectiveness of the presentation.
2. All projects that are recognized as “distinguished” are invited to compete at the State Showcase for Best in State. Individuals attending the State Showcase have demonstrated Novice High proficiency in presentational writing and interpretive reading.

Cultural Events Competitions

1. Students may participate individually or in groups.
2. Students present the project in English in an effective and creative way before a panel of evaluators and an audience. Students are scored by the judges.

IX. Proficiency Training Workshops: January 18, 2014

George Rogers Clark High School

Contact: Lydia Kohler

lydia.kohler@clark.kyschools.us

Harlan County High School

Contact: Emmanuel Anama or Benjamin Duncan

Emmanuel.anama@harlan.kyschools.us

Benjamin.duncan@harlan.kyschools.us

Prestonburg High School

Contact: Gina Newsome

Gloria.newsome@floyd.kyschools.us

Meade County High School

Contact: Christine Wilson

Christine.newsome@meade.kyschools.us

St. Francis School of Louisville

Contact: Sarah Moran

smoran@stfrancisschool.org

Northern Kentucky University

Contact: Andrea Fieler

Fielera1@nky.edu

A Note from the Director:

The KWLA State Showcase & Competition is designed for students to show what they can do with language. We invite and encourage teachers, administrators, family, siblings and friends to support one another in this endeavor. Everyone is invited to attend the cultural enrichment events, to cheer on the performers, to visit our make-shift art gallery, and to view our students' films, as space permits. We simply ask that audiences respect the time, integrity, dignity and effort of other performers. Please note that when judging takes place, we ask that only students be present. This means we will close the art gallery for a period of time.

The KWLA Showcase Committee also supports the open dialogue and exchange of ideas. If you would like to submit an idea for cultural enrichment events, please do so! Further, if you have an exchange student, a heritage speaker, a maternal English student with significant cultural experience, perhaps they would like to participate in a cultural enrichment event. At any rate, we want to hear from you.

Finally, we want to thank our teachers and our wonderful and brave students. It is only because of you that we have this event, which is the longest running event of its kind in the country. We look forward to celebrating world languages with you this April.

Best regards,

Molly King Anderson

For additional information contact the Executive Director,
Molly King Anderson at KWLAShowcaseDirector@gmail.com.
Like us on FaceBook at KWLA State Showcase and Competition