



2024 Folk Presentation Guidelines

Please note these guidelines may be subject to change based on any changes to the Government’s Covid policy in the interest of the health and safety of all participants.

NB: There are no maximum number of performers for Folk Presentation Group/Chorale Categories.

The Tables below show the Categories to be adjudicated for 2024 FOLK PRESENTATION

FOLK PRESENTATION CATEGORIES

| MUSIC | DANCE | LITERATURE |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <i>Vocal Solo</i> | <i>Group</i> | <i>Solo</i> |
| Folk Song Solo | Creative Freestyle | Poetry/ Short Story |
| Original Calypso | African Devotional Dance | |
| <i>Vocal Choral (Group)</i> | East Indian Devotional | <i>Group</i> |
| East Indian Folk Medley | Spiritual Dance | Village Chat |
| East Indian Devotional Song | Local Interpretive Dance | |
| African Devotional Song | African Influenced | DRAMATIZED LITERATURE |
| Spiritual Song | East Indian Influenced | Anansi Playlet |
| Parang | Spanish Influenced | |
| Calypso Medley | | |
| <i>Instrumental</i> | | CHILDREN 13 and Under ONLY |
| Pan Solo | CHILDREN 13 and Under ONLY | Short Story (Solo) |
| Tassa(<i>Group</i>) | National Patriotic Dance (Group) | |
| Drummology(<i>Group</i>) | | |
| CHILDREN 13 and Under ONLY | | |
| Folk Medley (Group) | | |



MUSIC:-The group categories are to have a minimum of six (6) performers in a particular item.

Tassa is the only exception with a minimum of four (4) performers.

- There is no minimum or maximum for accompaniment with the exception of Pan Solo.
- All music categories are a minimum of 3 minutes, maximum of 4 minutes
- **The Vocal Chorale categories include:**
- **African-Devotional Song** – traditional songs of prayer and devotion derived from the African experience. These songs, chants and melodies are specific and pays homage to the Heavenly Gods or the Orisha's/Deities, egs – Shango, Oshun/Yemaya, Osain, Yemoja, Obatala, Ogun, Erinle,Rada Movement et al. No reference to Christian deities are permitted in this category.
- **East Indian Folk Medley** – Any combination of at least three (3) songs (of the three songs used, each must have at least eight consecutive bars of music) from East Indian Folk Songs with a traditional/authentic Folk Melody. (egs. Chowtal)
- **Spiritual Song** –Traditional songs of prayer and devotion derived from the Christian experience. Inclusive of Liturgical, Spiritual Shouter Baptist, doptions, hymns, gospel, Negro Spirituals, Praise. Etc.
- **Parang:** Music of Spanish influence that must utilize at least one of the following; mandolin, quarto, box bass and a lead instrument other than brass or piano/keyboard. Soca Parang is not allowed in this category.
- **Calypso Medley:** Must consist of at least (3) different melodies of Calypsos from 1962 (Independence) to present.

CHILDREN 13 and Under ONLY

- **Folk Song Medley** - Any combination of at least three (3) songs (of the three songs used, each must have at least eight consecutive bars of music) from Folk Songs with a traditional/authentic Folk Melody.

Vocal solo categories under Folk Music include:

- **Original Calypso** – Original local calypso style compositions that focus on the life and experiences in Trinidad and Tobago.
- **Folk Song Solo** – Solo performance of a Folk Song with a traditional/authentic Folk Melody.
- **East Indian Devotional Song** – traditional songs of prayer and devotion derived from the East Indian experience. E.g. Bhagan, Toomree, Ghazals and Caseedas.

Instrumental Categories: Tassa and Drummology. **There is no limit on accompaniment. No maximum number of performers.** (4 minutes)

- **Tassa** – Utilizing bass, cutter, fuller and ghige to play variuous hands of rhythms for such occasions as Hosay, Weddings, Ramleela, etc. Must have a minimum of four (4) performers.



- **Drumology** – Afro Caribbean in nature, using traditional African drums with a minimum of six (6) performers. Any one or combination of these traditional rhythms must be played during the piece (beginning, middle or end), the rest of the arrangement will reflect the creativity of the tutor.
Grand Bele, Temne, Igbo, Calypso, Avaloo, Naningo, Congo, Bongo, Banda, Winti, Shovealong, Tamboo Bamboo, Koromanti, Manding, Kalenda, Congo Bele.
- **Pan Solo** – Playing a Trinidad and Tobago or Caribbean Melody. Competitors are allowed live accompaniment only (**2 person's maximum**).

DANCE -: All dances can have a minimum of 6 performers. There is no minimum or maximum for accompaniment. Dances are a minimum of 3 minutes, maximum of 4 minutes. **No maximum number of performers.**

- **African Devotional Dance:** Dances devoted to any African religious occasion or deity. No reference to Christian deities are permitted in this category.
- **East Indian Devotional Dance:** Dances devoted to any East Indian religious occasion or deity. Groups are expected to use traditional music as accompaniment.
- **Spiritual Dance** - Dances based on Gospels, Negro Spirituals, and other spiritual sounds that influence culture. Includes Liturgical, Evangelical and Spiritual Baptist
- **Creative Freestyle Dance** - exploring themes and ideas arising from the social and cultural context of Trinidad and Tobago. Foreign forms used must not exceed local forms. There must not be less than 50% local music and forms utilized.
- **African Influenced Dance**—Influenced and indigenous dances which originated through colonization and were traditionally practiced in Trinidad and Tobago. See full list of accepted dances in the 2024 Folk Presentation Rules.(*see link on last page*)
- **East Indian Influenced Dance** – Influenced and indigenous dances which originated through colonization and were traditionally practiced in Trinidad and Tobago. See full list of accepted dances in the 2024 Folk Presentation Rules.(*see link on last page*)
- **Spanish Influenced Dance** – Influenced and indigenous dances which originated through colonization and were traditionally practiced in Trinidad and Tobago. See full list of accepted dances in the 2024 Folk Presentation Rules.(*see link on last page*)
- **Local Interpretive Dance** – Dances done to local music utilizing traditional and local dance forms in new and creative ways. E.g Work Dances, Festivals, Folk Characters and Traditional Carnival Characters.

CHILDREN 13 and under ONLY

- **National (Patriotic) Dance** - e.g. Creative dances based on national birds, flower, sites, history, heritage and/or Nation building themes. The flag or colours of the national flag **MUST** be incorporated with the dance.



Dramatized Literature:- This will feature short plays or playlets, for the **duration of eight (8) minutes minimum to ten (10) minutes maximum** each playlet should consist of **a minimum of six (6) in the production** based on the following categories: **(There are no maximum number of performers)**

- **Folk Characters Playlet**—based on the character and distinguishing traits and features of the folk characters of Trinidad and Tobago e.g. Douen, Papa Bois, La Diabliesse, Soucouyant etc.

Literature: - This will feature short story, poetry and village chat.

- **Poetry/Spoken Word** – Original Poem/Spoken Word performance based on our Folk and Oral Traditions. Poems may be any combination of lyrical, narrative, descriptive and dramatic. This is a solo category with a presentation minimum of three (3) minutes and a maximum of four (4) minutes.
- **Village Chat**—5 Persons discuss important social issues. The objective of the chat is to deepen the understanding and knowledge of the topic and show its relevance to the community. This is a group category with a presentation minimum of 8 mins and a maximum of 10 mins.

CHILDREN 13 and Under ONLY

- **Short Story** – Original story based on our Folk and Oral Traditions. This is a solo category with a presentation minimum of six (6) minutes and a maximum of eight (8) minutes.

OVERALL PENALTIES – Applicable to MUSIC, DANCE, DRAMATIZED LITERATURE and LITERATURE

- Time: 1 average point will be deducted for every 20 seconds or part thereof over or under the stipulated time
- Going under the stipulated number of performers will lead to a 5 point deduction for each person under.
- **Individual Registration:** Please note that if an individual is performing with any group in any capacity within any of the PMBVTC Competitions they will not be able to register and compete as an individual and must instead compete with their group. Otherwise, the individual will be disqualified.
- **Children 13 and Under:** Please note that children participating in the 13 and Under categories can compete with their group in the other categories.

Important links for more information:

Link to download all rules and regulations for the 2024 Competition:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1UEo5YqeEI5SM4v1QovO3p-iOqmPcEfn?usp=sharing>

(If the link is not clicking please copy and paste into your browser)