WORLD LANGUAGE DECLAMATION

ALL CLASSIFICATIONS

A.SEASON

2026-2027 SEASON
Seasonal activity without limitation.

B.ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility Deadline - February 13, 2027
Participants must meet ASAA eligibility requirements. A Physical Examination, Concussion Information Form and Sudden Cardiac Arrest Form are not required. Participants names must be entered in the School Activities Reporting System (SARS).

C. STATE COMPETITION

1. DATE
March 6, 2027

2. SITE & HOST
Dimond High School, Anchorage
Hosted by ASAA & ASD

3. REGISTRATION AND CATEGORIES
Students must be currently enrolled in a high school World Language course to participate; specifically a language class corresponding to the same language and level of competition.

Participation Fee: $10 per participant (each school will be invoiced after the competition)

Schools in Regions 3, 4, and 6 may register the top five contestants in Poetry and Impromptu per level, per language from regional competition, schools not in Regions 3, 4, and 6 may register up to five students per level, per language.

The levels for Poetry are 1-5, AP, immersion(Japanese, Spanish, German and Russian) and Native Speaker. The levels for Impromptu speaking are 1,2,3, 4/5/AP, 9/10 Immersion and 11/12 Immersion. There is no Native Speaker category for Impromptu. Immersion students enrolled in an AP course of that language must compete in the Immersion category, not AP.

Schools in Regions 3, 4, and 6 may register the top five pairs of contestants from regional competition in the Dialogues category per language in the following levels: 1,2,3 and 4/5/AP, Immersion 9/10 and Immersion 11/12. Schools not in Regions 3, 4, and 6 may register up to five (5) pairs per level and language. There is no Native Speaker category for the Dialogues category. Immersion students enrolled in an AP course of that language must compete in the Immersion category, not AP.

The top five contestants from Regions 3, 4, and 6 in Chinese, French, German, Russian and Spanish Cultural Trivia may register to compete at the state competition in the following levels: 1, 2, 3, 4, AP, and Immersion/Native Speaker. There is no level 5/Native Speaker (except for Spanish) category for Cultural Trivia. Schools not in Regions 3, 4, and 6 may register five per language and level as previously described.

Native Speaker category: Students who do not speak English as a first language must compete at the native speaker level in Poetry. Such students are typically exchange students. “Heritage Speakers” (defined as students who grow up in a home where another language other than English is spoken but are not native speakers) are allowed to compete in non-native speaker categories if they are enrolled in a language class corresponding to level of competition. Teachers are responsible for the appropriate placement of students (including foreign exchange students and those who have studied abroad).

4. LANGUAGE CATEGORIES

- Chinese
- French
- German
- Japanese
- Russian
- Spanish

5. EVENT CATEGORIES
Please note that not all categories are available in every language. Detailed rules and guidelines for all events are available online at the ASAA website.

a. Cultural Trivia: Contest is available to levels 1-4 and AP in French and Chinese; immersion levels 9, 10, 11, and 12 in Russian; BS kk levels in 1-4, AP, and Immersion?Native Speaker in German and Spanish. There is no level 5 for this category. Students take a 50-question scantron test. Many, but not all of the questions are taken from the Teacher’s Discovery cultural trivia card sets. The tests in levels 1 and 2 are in English, while the tests in levels 3, 4, AP, and Spanish Immersion/Spanish Native Speaker are in the target language.

b. Impromptu: Students select a topic and after two (2) minutes preparation time without books, dictionaries, or notes, they speak in the target language about that topic before a panel of judges. The specific topics are provided in advance available online at the ASAA website, for levels 1 and 2 only, while several examples of topics, but not all topics, are provided for levels 3, 4/5/AP and Immersion. A panel of judges (native or near-native when possible) will rate the students based on pronunciation, range of vocabulary, grammatical correctness, comprehensibility, fluency/ delivery and staying on topic. There are specific minimum/maximum times for each level (See information posted on ASAA website). Also, judges are allowed to ask questions if a competitor pauses. This is to encourage continued speaking.

c. Dialogue: The procedure and criteria for Dialogues are identical to impromptu speaking, except that there is a pair of speakers instead of one individual speaker. A panel of judges rates each student in the pair separately.

d. Poetry: Students will recite two poems in a world language, one required and one alternate (in two different rounds). Copies of the poems are available online prior to the contest. A panel of judges (native or near-native speakers when possible, in the language) is selected to rate the students based on delivery, expression, memorization and pronunciation. Students are disqualified if only one poem is presented. Singing, costumes and props are not allowed. Minor gestures are allowed, but not excessive moving around.

6. AWARDS

a. Medals are awarded to first, second, and third place winners in each level of each language category.

b. Academic award will be presented to the school with the highest overall GPA. (The school must have a minimum of five (5) students participating to be eligible.)