

## **2024 GLSC Reading Contest Terms and Conditions**

**In school, not only reading, but also reading aloud is important and needs to be practiced. It will bring joy to the reader and the audience alike! Sharing a text in this way is a communal experience bringing the participants closer together. What's more, reading aloud contributes to language development as well as communication and expression skills. When students read aloud, they strengthen their vocabulary and their ability to concentrate. They practice creative language skills. They also learn how to speak publicly, a skill that will be beneficial later in life.**

**Here are the Terms and Conditions for the 2024 GLSC Reading Contest.**

### **Who can participate?**

There are two student categories and three age groups.

Category 1: German as a Foreign Language                      Age groups: 7-8, 9-11 and 12-16 years

Category 2: German as a Heritage Language                      Age groups: 7-8, 9-11 and 12-16 years

### **Who is considered a German as a Foreign Language Speaker? Who is considered a Heritage Language Speaker?**

Heritage Language Speakers have prior language knowledge on approximately the A1 level in terms of auditory and oral communication skills. A German as a Foreign Language Learner has no or very little previous knowledge and starts the language course as a beginner, well below level A1, as a Novice or as a Novice Mid based on the ACTFL Guidelines.

### **When is the submission deadline?**

The submission deadline is September 30, 2024 at 11:59 pm.

### **What texts can be chosen?**

Students can read prose texts from books of their own choosing which are identifiable and unaltered excerpts from the book they selected. A reading from photocopies or a reading of self-written texts is not allowed.

### **How long should the student read?**

The student should spend between 1.5 minutes and 2 minutes on reading the text.

### **What are the introduction guidelines?**

The introduction (read in German) should consist of:

- Age
- Category (1 or 2)
- Title of Book
- Author

**For privacy reasons, the reader should not state his or her name.**

**How does the contest work?**

Member Schools decide whether to participate in the GLSC Contest. Teachers together with their students determine who wants to participate.

**How do you register a student for the contest?**

Parents sign-up their child via a designated link on our website: [www.germanschools.org](http://www.germanschools.org)  
After submitting the form, they will receive an e-mail with a link for uploading the video recording. Acceptable formats are webm, mp3 and mp4.

**Who chooses the winners?**

The winners will be chosen by the GLSC Reading Contest Jury. The jury's decision cannot be appealed. For each category/age group, there will be a 1st, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3rd place winner.

**What are the rewards for participation in the contest?**

All participants registered with the GLSC will receive a certificate via e-mail. Six 1st prize winners (one in each category/age group) will be invited to present their winning text virtually or in person at the GLSC Conference in November.

**How can teachers support their students?****Teachers can:**

- Advise students on the selection of texts.
- Help students to mark up the text - for shorter pauses with a slash (/) and for longer pauses with two slashes (//) - and to underline important words.
- Coach students on how to use their voice as a public speaker.
- Demonstrate use of non-verbal cues to match the text, i.e. voice variation in a loud or quiet, threatening, friendly, sad or happy manner and appropriate gestures according to the action.
- Offer performance style tips, i.e. don't read too fast or too slow, take breaks, pay attention to the punctuation marks and emphasize important sentences, don't hide behind your text, make eye contact and engage with the audience.

**What are the Criteria of the GLSC Jury for the assessment of the readings?**

Introduction	1 – 4 Points
Choice of Text	1 – 4 Points
Tempo/Volume	
German Pronunciation	1 – 4 Points
Clarity of Speech	1 – 4 Points
Expressiveness of Speech/Relation to Audience	1 – 4 Points
Compliance with Reading Time Requirement	1 – 4 Points

Good luck to all the contestants!  
Your GLSC Board