

*52nd Cal Poly Pomona
John A. Lesser Invitational High School Shakespeare
Festival*

Saturday, April 11, 2026

Program begins at 9:00 a.m.



Rules

- A. Schools are limited to three entries per school in any one category.
- B. Each student may participate in *one* of four divisions:
- 1) *Monologue from Tragedy or History*
Memorized text, including brief introduction. Time limit: 5 minutes
 - 2) *Monologue from Comedy or Romance*
Memorized text, including brief introduction. Time limit: 5 minutes
 - 3) *Group Event - Single Excerpt* (2 to 8 students)
Memorized text, including brief introduction. Time limit: 10 minutes
 - 4) *Group Event - Composite* (2 to 8 students)
Memorized text, including brief introduction. Time limit: 10 minutes
- A. Clothing: No elaborate costuming. Participants may make simple modifications to street clothes. Simple props may be used.



Judging

Judging will be done by a panel composed of drama critics, members of professional theatre, Shakespeare scholars and the Cal Poly Pomona English and Modern Languages Department.



Awards

- First Place:** Trophy engraved with the name of the winner(s) and school. This trophy will remain at the winning high school for one year and then be returned to Cal Poly for the next year's festival. Any school winning in one division for three consecutive years will be awarded the trophy permanently. First-place winners will also receive individual trophies.
- Second Place:** Individual trophy
- Third Place:** Individual trophy
- Honorable Mention:** Individual trophy

Prizes will be awarded in each category.