

2026 Taree & District Eisteddfod Society

2026 STARBURST SYLLABUS

Celebrating Neurodiversity and All Abilities in Our Community through Inclusion in Music, Theatre, speech, drama and instrumental Performance.

“STARBURST” is a wonderful event within our eisteddfod syllabus to encourage participation in the performing arts by members of the community who require additional assistance, help or technology. Performers are celebrated for their participation and performance both as individuals and groups in vocal, instrumental, speech and drama and dance sections.

Our mission:

To include performers in our community of all abilities and encourage participation in the performing arts to build self-esteem, confidence and health.

SAVE THE DATES!!

STARBURSTS WILL BE HELD ON THE TUESDAY 2nd June 2026, BERYL FLETT STUDIO THEATRE, MANNING ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE.

Entries Open on the 1st of January 2026, via COMPS ONLINE

<https://www.comps-online.com.au>

Entries Close on the 1st of March 2026.

EXCITING NEW CHANGES!!

1. Repeats from any OTHER Eisteddfod sections are allowed.
2. A FINALE! This year we will be introducing a finale inviting everyone back to the stage for one last celebration at the end of the day. This is not compulsory but is encouraged. More information will be sent out once entries are finalised.
4. NO AJUDICATIONS! Following feedback, we have decided to make all section non-competitive, all participants will receive medals in each section.

IMPORTANT: Existing COMPETITIVE Starburst dance sections will continue as they have in previous years and will be held during the weeks of the Dance Eisteddfod, please see DANCE on the TDES for more information.

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ALL starburst sections are open to:

Performers who are visually impaired.

Performers who are hearing impaired.

Performers who have communication challenges.

Performers with a learning or cognitive disability or challenges.

Performers with mental health or emotional challenge.

Performers with limited mobility.

Performers who are students from areas of disadvantage.

SOLO SECTIONS

SB01 – Vocal or Instrumental SOLO performance OPEN AGE

ENTRY FEE: \$12.50 TIME LIMIT 3 mins

Solo performance on any instrument or vocal. Backing tracks or live accompaniment may be used. Performers may receive any assistance on stage needed.

SB02 – Vocal or Instrumental SOLO performance 16 years and under

ENTRY FEE: \$12.50 TIME LIMIT 3 mins.

Solo performance on any instrument or vocal. Backing tracks or live accompaniment may be used. Performers may receive any assistance on stage needed.

SB03 – FREE EXPRESSIVE SECTION OWN CHOREOGRAPHY OR IMPROVISATION OF CHOICE (ANY GENRE) – OPEN AGE

ENTRY FEE: \$12.50 TIME LIMIT 3 mins.

Performances may include vocal, dance/movement action, instrumental, speech & drama. Performers may receive any assistance on stage needed.

Backing tracks or live accompaniment may be used.

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SB04 – TABLE TOPICS SECTION (ANY GENRE) – OPEN AGE

ENTRY FEE: \$12.50 TIME LIMIT 1 – 2 MINUTES

Impromptu speaking Hosted and coordinated by Colin Steber.

A question or statement will be given to the participant on the spot, Participants will be given a few seconds to come up with a short discussion or speech based on the topic provided.

SB05 – VARIETY SPEECH SECTION ANY TYPE OF SPEECH DIALOGUE OF CHOICE EXCLUDING IMPROVISATION – OPEN AGE REPORT/FEEDBACK OPTIONAL

ENTRY FEE: \$12.50 TIME LIMIT 5 -7 mins.

Performances must storytelling, poetry or speech & drama.

Performers may receive any assistance on stage needed.

GROUP SECTIONS

Please try to have numbers finalised, to the best of your ability for your online entries via Comps Online. Tip: It is better to have one too many in your entry than not enough. This ensures everyone is accounted for under ONE MUSIC and every participant will receive a medal.

SB06 – GROUP PERFORMANCE – PRIMARY SCHOOL PARTICIPATION ONLY

ENTRY FEE: \$18.00 TIME LIMIT 5 mins

Performances may include vocal, dance action, instrumental, speech & drama.

Age limited to Primary aged students. No LIMIT to numbers. Backing tracks or live accompaniment may be used. Performers may receive any assistance on stage needed.

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SB07– GROUP PERFORMANCE – SECONDARY SCHOOL

PARTICIPATION ONLY

ENTRY FEE: \$18.00 TIME LIMIT 5 mins

Performances may include vocal, dance action, instrumental, speech & drama. No LIMIT to numbers. Backing tracks or live accompaniment may be used.

Performers may receive any assistance on stage needed.

SB08 – GROUP PERFORMANCE – OPEN AGE

PARTICIPATION ONLY

ENTRY FEE: \$18.00 TIME LIMIT 5 mins

Performances may include vocal, dance action, instrumental, speech & drama. No LIMIT to numbers. Backing tracks or live accompaniment may be used.

Performers may receive any assistance on stage needed.