Dramatic Interpretation

**Description of the event:** This is a memorized event in which the student presents a selection of literature that is primarily serious in nature. There may be some humor in the presentation, but the overall presentation must be serious in nature. The presentation should include an introduction that cites the name of the piece and the author, and should develop the narrative and/or character(s) via vocal and physical techniques. The selection must be from a single published play, a fictional or non-fictional work, or a poem or program of poetry. The author’s words as published in the literature may not be altered for this presentation with the exception that cutting is permitted. No scripts, costumes, or props may be used in the presentation.

**Time:** 10 minute maximum, including introduction (30 second grace); no minimum

**Standards for Judging:**
- Are the characters/voices clearly defined and understandable?
- Is the intent of the author and the integrity of the text respected?
- Is the work thoroughly memorized?
- Does the literature come alive in a realistic way as a result of the performance?
- Is movement and gesture appropriate and natural to the text?
- Does the performer adequately setup and portray the mood, setting, and plot?
- Is the presentation complete (beginning, middle, end)?

**Comments:** (Include praiseworthy aspects as well as areas in need of improvement)