

## Invitation

The Letters Department of Chipola College cordially invites you to participate in the Thirty-fourth Annual Throssell Literature/Language Festival to be held on February 9, 2024.

The Throssell Literature/Language Festival is an interscholastic competition consisting of eight contests: writing, speech, oral interpretation, grammar/mechanics/usage, literature, reading, humanities, and Spanish language.

Participants in the festival must be currently enrolled juniors or seniors from one of the high schools in the Chipola District (Calhoun, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty, and Washington counties).

Deadline for entry is January 25th.

Recognition will be given to first, second, and third places and to honorable mentions in each contest.

## General Requirements

1. Sponsoring teachers must accompany their students to the Festival.
2. Contestants must be juniors or seniors currently enrolled in a high school in Calhoun, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty or Washington counties. Dual enrollment students may be contestants.
3. Contestants may enter one contest per time period, for a maximum of two contests. See Festival Schedule to determine which contests will meet at the same time.
4. Each high school may enter a maximum of two students per contest, except for the President's Reading Contest which can have four. That is, a single school may have a maximum of eighteen contestants participating in the festival.
5. Time limits for each contest will be rigidly observed.
6. Time will be used as a tie breaker.
7. All contests will be administered and judged by Chipola College faculty and personnel on the day of the contest only. The decisions of the judges will be final and binding.

8. No study aids allowed.
9. The purpose of the competition is not to dictate curriculum; rather, it is to encourage widespread learning and inquiry. Therefore, specific references to prepare for the competition will not be suggested, and copies of the various contest materials will not be provided after the contest to individuals or to schools.

## Writing Contest

The contest will consist of an impromptu, expository essay written in one 90-minute period and based on a choice made from topics provided at the contest. Each essay will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

1. Substantial content
2. A clear thesis
3. An organizational plan
4. Well-developed supporting paragraphs
5. Specific, relevant details
6. Logical transitions
7. Effective word choice
8. Standard English usage

## Speech Contest

The contest will consist of a *prepared* two to two and one-half minute speech on a topic selected from previously announced topics. See enclosed letter for topics. Students may bring notes. Speeches will be evaluated on the following criteria:

1. Content
2. Organization
3. Voice
4. Language
5. Platform behavior/Appearance

## Literature Contest

The contest will consist of a multiple-choice, 55-item exam covering American and English literature. Time allotted for the exam is 60 minutes.

## Oral Interpretation Contest

The contest will consist of a two-to-three minute oral interpretation of a previously published literary work of the contestant's own choosing. Students must present alone. *The contestant should bring 5 copies of his/her reading for use by the judges.* Oral interpretations will be evaluated on the following:

1. Vocal projection, expressiveness and variety
2. Interpretation of the material
3. Eye contact
4. Body language (gesture, movements, etc.)

## Grammar/Usage Contest

The contest will consist of a multiple-choice, 50-item exam covering all aspects of grammar, mechanics and usage. Time allotted for the exam is 60 minutes.

## Humanities Contest

The contest will consist of a multiple-choice, 50-item exam covering art, art history, architecture, music, and world literature. Time allotted for the exam is 60 minutes.

## Spanish Language Contest

The contest will consist of a multiple-choice, 50-item exam on Spanish grammar and language for students with two years of high school Spanish. Time allotted for the exam is 60 minutes.

## The President's Reading Contest

Chipola's President Dr. Sarah Clemmons sponsors the President's Reading Contest. The theme of the 50-item, short-answer exam is *Founding Fathers Smackdown: Hamilton vs. Jefferson*. The contest will be based on selections from the following works: *Thomas Jefferson: Writings* and *Alexander Hamilton: Writings*. The specific selections will be sent in a future letter, and teams of up to four can compete. Time allotted for the exam is 90 minutes.

The winner will receive a \$100 cash prize and a Presidential Medallion.

# Throssell Literature/Language Festival

Please email registration information by  
January 25, 2024 to:

Dr. Rachel West  
westr@chipola.edu

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty Sponsors: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Names of Contestants:

SESSION I: 9:20 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Writing Contest

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Speech Contest

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\_\_\_\_\_

Oral Interpretation Contest

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

President's Reading Contest (4 contestants)

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\_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_

## Festival Schedule

- 8:30-8:45 Festival Registration
- 9:00-9:15 Welcome
- 9:20-11:00 Speech Contest  
Writing Contest  
Oral Interp Contest  
President's Reading Contest
- 11:05-12:05 Grammar/Usage Contest  
Literature Contest  
Humanities Contest  
Spanish Language Contest  
*(Sponsors and non-competing students attend program.)*
- 12:30-1:00 Awards

## Names of Contestants:

SESSION II: 11:05 a.m. – 12:05 p.m.

Grammar/Mechanics/Usage Contest

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Literature Contest

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Humanities Contest

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\_\_\_\_\_

Spanish Language Contest

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*\*Note: A single contestant may enter only  
one contest per time period.*

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**February 9, 2024**

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**Chipola College**  
**Literature/Language Department**

*For further information, contact*  
**Dr. Rachel West, Festival Coordinator**

VOICE: (850) 718-2317  
WEBSITE: [www.chipola.edu](http://www.chipola.edu)