

**2022 HONG KONG PERSUADE-ATHON  
INFORMATION PACKET**

HONG KONG PERSUADE-ATHON 2022

# SIGN UP FORM!

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**FORM DEADLINE: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH, 2022**

**COMPETITION: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2ND, 2022**

**AFTER 4PM (SPECIFIC TO BE CONFIRMED TO PARTICIPANTS)**

**WHERE: ZOOM (LIVE SPEAKING)**

## Hong Kong Persuade-athon Signups!

PERSUADE-ATHON is back, and it's bigger than ever. Sign up now to speak on the 11th of November, live on zoom!

From Greta Thunberg to Martin Luther King, speeches hold tremendous power. And if history has taught us anything, it's that anyone could give a life-changing speech, regardless of where you're from or who you are. All that matters is that that you've got something to say.

Enter Persuade-athon, an inter-school persuasive speaking competition, with the unique opportunity for YOU to demonstrate the power you hold through the art of public speaking.

This is an amazing opportunity to receive constructive feedback on your public speaking and to develop essential 21st-century soft skills like rhetoric and research. Furthermore, you will get to advocate for causes you're passionate about and engage with the wider ESF student community.

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## EVENT DETAILS

- This is a **persuasive speech** competition. Participants will be delivering self-written speeches live on a topic of their choice
- **ALL Year 6 to 11 (Grade 5- 10) students are welcome!**
  - Year 6 to 7 (Grade 5 to 6) students will compete in the **junior** category
  - Year 8 to 9 (Grade 7 to 8) students will complete in the **intermediate** category
  - Year 10 to 11 (Grade 9 to 10) students will compete in the **senior** category
- The event will take place live over zoom on **Friday, December 2nd**.
  - Top 10 speakers will also be invited to make the speech in the Grand Finals on Saturday, December 3rd.

**More information will be sent to confirmed participants later.**

# SPEECH REQUIREMENTS

- **Speech must be between 3.5 to 6 minutes long**
  - 15 second grace period — judges will not listen to anything past 6 minutes 15 seconds. Judges may stop speeches after the grace period.
  - There will be score penalties for every 30 seconds someone is over/under the specified speech length.
- **Your speech should be live and presentable**
  - No pre-recorded video allowed
  - No props or other materials allowed
  - Notecards and scripts are allowed, but maintain appropriate eye contact, tone of voice, and posture in the video

# SPEECH REQUIREMENTS

- **The speech should have a serious tone.**
  - Though you are welcome to add bits of comedy or lightheartedness, your speech should not be a comedy sketch or satirical piece. Try to offer real problems and effective solutions
- **Your speech must outline a problem and a solution**
  - Choose a relevant and important problem. This can be political, cultural, etc. Educate your audience on what the issue is and why it's so significant
  - Offer one or more solutions to your problem. These must be **realistic** and **effective** solutions (e.g. you can't use a magic wand to wave it away)
  - Pretend that your judge is an average person with average knowledge regarding real-world events. Make sure you explain where necessary.

# SPEECH REQUIREMENTS

- **Have an original topic!**
  - The more original your topic, the better. Avoid cliché, repetitive topics and choose to highlight issues that are important but underrepresented/ignored
- **Your speech must be written by YOU.**
  - It cannot be an existing speech or a speech written by someone else. It must be an original speech you wrote by yourself.
  - If judges have reason to believe that your speech is plagiarised or copied from someone else, you may be disqualified.

# JUDGING CRITERIA

- **Content**

- Did you present an original and realistic problem + solution?
- Is your speech well-researched and backed up with sufficient evidence and justification?
- Does your speech demonstrate strong knowledge and analysis?

- **Style**

- Are you dressed and maintaining eye contact, posture, and body language appropriately?
- Are you speaking in a clear, persuasive, and well-paced tone?
- Are you using appropriate rhetoric and persuasive techniques?

- **Organisation**

- Does your speech fit within the time frame?
- Is your speech well-structured? Does it flow well?

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# AWARDS

## Juniors, Intermediates, and Seniors

- Best overall speaker
- First Runner Up
- Second Runner Up

**Top ten speakers** from all three categories will also receive a certificate certifying their top ten placement.

All participants will receive a certificate of participation.

All participants will receive their score sheets and judge feedback.



# RESOURCES

## **TOPIC IDEAS (keep in mind you have to choose a problem-solution topic):**

[105 Interesting Persuasive Speech Topics for Any Project](#)

[110 Interesting Persuasive Speech Topics to Impress Your Audience](#)

[434 Good Persuasive Speech Topics](#)

## **WRITING A GOOD PERSUASIVE SPEECH**

[6 Steps for Writing a Persuasive Speech](#)

[6 Tips for Writing a Persuasive Speech \(On Any Topic\)](#)

[PEEL Paragraph Writing](#)

[Tips on Writing a Persuasive Essay](#)

## **DELIVERING A GOOD PERSUASIVE SPEECH**

[Speak for Success!](#)

[4 Things Highly Persuasive Speakers Do](#)

[Top ten style tips for persuasive speaking](#)

## GOT ANY QUESTIONS?

Email [srinis1@rchk.edu.hk](mailto:srinis1@rchk.edu.hk) with any questions you have.

Frequently asked questions will appear in the FAQ slide following this page. Stay tuned and please check there first if you have any questions!

# FAQ

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# FAQ

## IS IT POSSIBLE TO GET DISQUALIFIED?

You may be disqualified due to any of the following:

- Misdemeanor, bullying, or harassment of any sort
- Plagiarising or copying a speech written by someone else
- Editing your video

Disqualifications are highly unlikely, but if participants are reported for any of the above, there will be some investigation.

# FAQ

## **DO WE NEED DIFFERENT SPEECHES FOR PRELIMINARY ROUNDS AND GRAND FINALS?**

Your speeches for both categories should be the same!

# FAQ

## CAN WE GET OUR SPEECHES REVIEWED?

The PERSUADE-ATHON team will not be reviewing any speeches, though we are willing to offer advice upon contact. Judges (teachers included) will **not** be allowed to review or offer feedback/advice for any speeches.

Please feel free to get feedback from your friends, parents, etc. However, everything in the speech should still be written by **you**.