

Contest Rules and Mechanics

Speak Up: A Speech Choir Competition

MMCL Cup 2025

PARTICIPANTS' ELIGIBILITY AND REGISTRATION

- Only one group per school may join the Speak Up: A Speech Choir Competition
- Each group must have a minimum of twelve (12) and a maximum of twenty (20) high school students (grade 9 - 12) enrolled in the School Year 2025 - 2026.
- Registration is REQUIRED. Registration forms can be accessed via <https://bit.ly/SpeakUpRegForm> and shall be submitted through <https://bit.ly/MapuaMCLCup2025SubBin> together with the student's school ID.
- Deadline for registration is on October 17, 2025. Incomplete or late registration is a ground for disqualification.

SPECIFIC CONTEST GUIDELINES

- The participants will be performing during the live at Mapua Malayan Colleges Laguna,
- Each group will perform the Official Contest piece "If I Were A Voice" by Charles Mackay. The piece is related to the MCL Cup 2025 theme "**Elevating the Sustainable Future**".
- The contestants may opt to add lines to the original contest piece. However, the length of the presentation should not exceed the recommended total performance time.

Live Event

- The Participants will perform during the live event at the MCL Campus on **November 13, 2025**
- The Participants are allowed to wear the uniform or preferred costume and use appropriate props.
- The same rules on duration of the performance and deduction of points apply.
- Use of vulgar, sexually explicit, or violent language is strictly prohibited.
- All props used in the performance must be cleared as each participating group exits the stage.
- As a precaution, MCL prohibits the use of props and make-up such as paint, charcoal, etc., which may cause either a delay in clearing the stage or permanent damage to the auditorium facilities.
- The decision of the board of judges is final.
- Other provisions, including policies on Raising Clarifications and Objections on the mechanics, or the conduct of the contests, and other relevant policies, are stated in the General Guidelines on Registration, Eligibility, and Other Information.
- All contestants, coaches, and advisers are required to read the General Guidelines to fully understand the mechanics of the MCL Cup 2025 events.

CONTEST PIECE

● Contest Piece: **If I Were A Voice by Charles Mackay**

I.

If I were a voice, a persuasive voice,
That could travel the wide world through,
I would fly on the beams of the morning light,
And speak to men with a gentle might,
And tell them to be true.

I'd fly, I'd fly, o'er land and sea,
Wherever a human heart might be,
Telling a tale, or singing a song,
In praise of the right – in blame of the wrong.

II.

If I were a voice, a consoling voice,
I'd fly on the wings of air,
The homes of Sorrow and Guilt I'd seek,
And calm and truthful words I'd speak
To save them from Despair.

I'd fly, I'd fly, o'er the crowded town,
And drop, like the happy sun-light, down
Into the hearts of suffering men,
And teach them to rejoice again.

III.

If I were a voice, a convincing voice,
I'd travel with the wind,
And whenever I saw the nations torn
By warfare, jealousy, or scorn,
If I were a voice, a convincing voice,
I'd travel with the wind,
And whenever I saw the nations torn
By warfare, jealousy, or scorn,
Or hatred of their kind,

I'd fly, I'd fly, on the thunder-crash,
And into their blinded bosoms flash;
And, all their evil thoughts subdued,
I'd teach them Christian Brotherhood.

IV.

If I were a voice, a pervading voice,
I'd seek the kings of Earth;
I'd find them alone on their beds at night
And whisper words that should guide them right
Lessons of priceless worth;

I'd fly more swift than the swiftest bird,
And tell them things they never heard
Truths which the ages for aye repeat
Unknown to the statesmen at their feet.

V.

If I were a voice, an immortal voice,
I'd speak in the people's ear;
And whenever they shouted 'Liberty,'
Without deserving to be free,
I'd make their error clear.

I'd fly, I'd fly, on the wings of day,
Rebuking wrong on my world-wide way,

And making all the Earth rejoice-
If I were a voice-an immortal voice.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING	
CATEGORIES	PERCENTAGE
Interpretation Manner in which the piece is internalized & presented.	30%
Delivery Quality of voice, fluency, pronunciation, blending & harmony.	30%
Stage Presence Stage poise, eye contact & audience impact	20%
Costume & Sound Effects Attire is related to the concept, sound production	10%
Mastery of the Piece	10%
Total	100%

AWARDS AND PRIZES
The Top 3 schools will get a corresponding point to vie for the Overall Winners of the MMCL Cup 2025.

CONTACT INFORMATION
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