



INDIAN SCHOOL BOUSHER

(Affiliated to the Central Board of Secondary Education, New Delhi)

(Affiliation No: 6630203 and School No: 90252)

Box: 2886, Postal Code: 130, Azaiba, Sultanate of Oman

Website: www.isboman.com



ACADEMIC YEAR 2026 – 2027

A celebration of minds that imagine, hearts that create, and talents that inspire.

CIRCULAR TO PARENTS (GRADES IX-XII)

ISB/CR/ADM/2026-2027/086

10/09/2026

**Dear Parents and Students,
Greetings from Indian School Bousher!**

We are pleased to inform you that **auditions for ISTF 2026** will be conducted to identify and select talented students who will have the opportunity to represent Indian School Bousher in various events under Music, Art, Dance, and Literary categories.

The auditions are intended to provide students with a platform to showcase their talent, creativity, confidence, communication skills, and artistic abilities. Students who are interested in participating are encouraged to make use of this opportunity and register for the relevant event/events.

The events are categorized as follows:

ART	DANCE	MUSIC	LITERARY
Creative Painting	Indian Folk Dance	Western Vocal Music	Stand Up Comedy- English
Visual Story Teller (Story Board)	Classical Dance (Bharatanatyam, Kuchipudi & Kathak)	Carnatic Vocal	On the Spot news Presentation-English
Metal Expressions (Wire Sculpture)	Western Dance	Folk Music	Extempore-Hindi
Digital Photography		Instrumental Music	Declamation- English
Mime		Light Music	
		Marching Band	

Registration details

Students who are interested are requested to fill and submit the Google Form given below:

<https://forms.gle/irij4WGCub499vTFA>

The last date for Registration: 17 September 2026

Maximum number of registrations per student: 2 events

**Kindly note that the auditions may take place after school hours or on Saturdays.
Parents are requested to arrange necessary transportation for auditions.**

We look forward to enthusiastic participation.

With warm regards,

Himmat S. Dhillon

**Himmat Singh Dhillon
Principal
Indian School Bousher**



SECONDARY (GRADE IX-GRADE XII)

[illegible]

recorded music, is strictly prohibited.

- Evaluation will focus on the vocal performance. While live accompaniment is permitted, it will not carry marks and should complement the performance without overshadowing the vocalist.
- Participants are responsible for bringing their own musical instrument(s), if required.
- Songs must be performed in English and should be suitable for a school-level audience.

3. FOLK MUSIC

The Folk Music Competition is designed to highlight the rich traditions of regional and cultural music, encouraging students to explore the diverse forms of folk music.

Rules & Guidelines:

- Folk Genre: Only traditional Indian folk songs are allowed; film songs are not permitted. Participants must select and perform a song that is recognized as a traditional folk song from any region, language, or culture. This can include regional folk, ethnic music, tribal songs, or folk-based melodies
- Time limit: 1:30 minutes for their performance.
- Performance Guidelines:
- Instruments and Accompaniments- Participants may perform with traditional folk instruments such as dholak, tabla, harmonium, flute, etc.
- The lyrics must be respectful and appropriate for all audiences. Lyrics should be appropriate for school standards.
- Cultural sensitivity should be maintained in both song

- ❖ Vocal Quality & Pitch Accuracy
- ❖ Rhythm & Tempo
- ❖ Folk Style & Authenticity
- ❖ Expression & Pronunciation
- ❖ Stage Presence & Overall Presentation

selection and performance.

4. INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

An instrumental solo performance is when a musician performs alone, showcasing their skill on a particular instrument without any accompanying players or vocalists.

Rules and guidelines

- Duration of performance should be maximum 1:30minutes.
- Participants should use the built-in accompaniments. Pre-programmed material such as USB drives / Floppy drives/ music / MIDI files / MP3 files/ Karaoke shall not be allowed.
- The contestants should use their own Instrument Sheet music is allowed; however, performing from memory is encouraged and will be considered in the scoring.

5. LIGHT MUSIC

A melodious and easy-listening style of music featuring simple tunes, expressive singing, and varied musical accompaniment.

Rules & Guidelines

- Time Limit: 5 Minutes
- A shruti box or tanpura, either electronic or manual, may be used. In addition, a maximum of two accompanying instruments may be used.
- Pre-programmed accompaniments using electronic keyboards or similar devices, as well as MIDI, MP3, or karaoke tracks, may be used, subject to the rules of the

- ❖ Technical Skill
- ❖ Expressiveness
- ❖ Tone Quality
- ❖ Rhythmic Precision & Timing
- ❖ Overall Presentation

- ❖ Choice of Song
- ❖ Pitch & Dynamics
- ❖ Voice Texture & Clarity
- ❖ Melody & Rhythm
- ❖ Presentation

event.

- Participants are responsible for arranging and operating all accompanying materials or equipment required for their performance.
- Only the vocal performance will be evaluated. Background music or instrumental accompaniment will not be assessed as a separate criterion. However, the accompaniment must complement the vocal performance and must not adversely affect the overall presentation.
- Participants must bring their own musical instruments and any other equipment required for the performance.
- The lyrics must be in one Indian language only. Film songs are strictly prohibited.
- The selected song must be appropriate for a school-level competition in its theme, language, and content.

6. MARCHING BAND

A coordinated musical performance combining brass and percussion instruments with synchronized marching, formations, and disciplined movements.

Rules and Guidelines

Time Limit: 7 Minutes.

- Participants may use only the approved percussion instruments. All instruments must be handled carefully and safely throughout the auditions
- Performance Guidelines:
- The performance should demonstrate rhythmic accuracy, synchronization, coordination, and musicality.

- ❖ Rhythmic Accuracy
- ❖ Synchronization & Coordination
- ❖ Musicality & Dynamics
- ❖ Costume & Presentation
- ❖ Overall Impact

	➤ Performers must maintain proper formation, spacing, and discipline throughout the performance. ➤ The performance should incorporate coordinated movement and percussion playing. ➤ Pre-recorded percussion tracks or backing tracks are not permitted.		
LITERARY	7. <u>ENGLISH DECLAMATION</u> Declamation in English refers to a formal speech that is delivered with strong emotion and expressive style, often to persuade, inspire, or demonstrate public speaking skills. It can also mean speaking in a loud, dramatic, or forceful way, especially when expressing strong opinions. Rules and guidelines ➤ Time Limit: 4 minutes ➤ Language: English ➤ Participants may choose topics or speeches from the given list that inspire positive change, leadership, empathy, innovation, or social responsibility. ➤ Participants should deliver the speech from memory. Reading from paper, cue cards, props, background music, or electronic devices is not permitted. ➤ Participants are encouraged to present the speech with their own style and understanding while preserving its intended message. Reference Speeches: ➤ Martin Luther King Jr. – I Have a Dream • Theme: Equality, justice, and hope ➤ Nelson Mandela – Inauguration Speech (1994) • Theme: Freedom, reconciliation, equality ➤ Mark Antony – Funeral Speech from Julius Caesar • Theme: Persuasion, rhetoric, oratory	❖ Content & Relevance ❖ Clarity of Speech & Pronunciation ❖ Voice Modulation & Expression ❖ Confidence & Stage Presence ❖ Overall Impact & Audience Engagement	

**8. BREAKING NEWS! ON-THE-SPOT NEWS PRESENTATION
[ENGLISH]**

An impromptu news presentation where participants present a given news topic with clarity, confidence, fluency, and appropriate expression.

Rules and guidelines

- Time Limit:
Preparation: 1 Minute
Presentation: 3 Minutes
- Event Instructions:
Each participant will be given a news topic or situation on the spot through a draw of lots.
- Participants will be given limited preparation time to organize their thoughts and structure their presentation.
- The presentation must be delivered in English.
- Participants should present the assigned topic in the style of a news reporter.
- The presentation should include:
An appropriate introduction to the news
- Relevant details and key information
- Logical sequencing of information
A suitable conclusion or sign-off
Participants may use appropriate reporting techniques, expressions, voice modulation, and gestures to enhance their presentation.
- The content should be factual, relevant, appropriate, and respectful.
- Participants are expected to maintain professional standards of language, presentation, and sensitivity.
- The use of electronic devices, reference materials, or external assistance will not be permitted during the preparation or presentation.

9. STAND-UP COMEDY(ENGLISH)

- ❖ Content & Organization
- ❖ Language & Fluency
- ❖ News Presentation Skills
- ❖ Spontaneity & Creativity
- ❖ Overall Impact

- ❖ Clarity of Speech

Guidelines and Rules

Time Limit: 4 Minutes

Language:

- The performance must be delivered primarily in English.
- Another language may be used sparingly to add regional flavor or for relevant regional references.

Originality:

- All jokes, anecdotes, references, dialogues, and presentation must be original and personal.
- Participants are expected to present original material rather than content sourced from professional comedians, social media platforms, films, television programmes, or other sources.

Content Guidelines:

Participants are expected to maintain appropriate standards of language, content, and presentation. The performance should:

Be suitable for a school-level competition.

- Maintain appropriate language and humor throughout.
- Respect religious sentiments, cultural values, and national sentiments.
- Avoid vulgar, obscene, offensive, discriminatory, or inappropriate content.
- Avoid inappropriate puns, double entendres, or suggestive references.
- Refrain from personal attacks, insults, or derogatory remarks directed at individuals, communities, institutions, or cultures.
- No background music is permitted.

10. EXTEMPORE [HINDI]

- Time Limit:
 - Preparation Time: 2 Minutes

- ❖ Comic Delivery & Humor
- ❖ Confidence & Attitude
- ❖ Stage Presence
- ❖ Content

- ❖ Content & Relevance

	● Presentation: 2 Minutes ➤ Each participant will be given a topic on the spot. ➤ The speech must be delivered in Hindi. ➤ Participants must speak without reading from books or electronic devices. ➤ Participants may make brief points or notes during the allotted preparation time; however, these notes may not be referred to during the presentation. ➤ The speech must remain relevant to the given topic and maintain a clear focus throughout. ➤ All performances must be strictly appropriate for a school-level cultural and literary festival. Participants shall not include religious preaching, sectarian or faith-based controversy, political or controversial subjects, violence, abusive or offensive language, negative or harmful influences, or discriminatory content that may hurt the sentiments of any individual or community.	❖ Fluency & Language ❖ Organization & Structure ❖ Confidence & Presentation ❖ Time Management and Voice Modulation	
ART	<u>11.CREATIVE PAINTNG</u> Creative Painting is an open-ended painting competition designed to provide senior secondary students with a platform to express ideas, emotions, imagination, and contemporary perspectives through the medium of acrylic painting. Participants are encouraged to explore their individual artistic style and develop an original composition that demonstrates creative thinking, visual communication, technical skill, and aesthetic sensitivity. ➤ The event will be conducted as an individual competition.	❖ Theme Interpretation & Concept ❖ Creativity & Originality ❖ Composition & Visual Organization ❖ Technical Skill & Acrylic Handling ❖ color, Aesthetic Appeal & Overall Impact	

- Each participant must create one original painting.
- The artwork must be completed independently by the participant.

THEME: "Where the Sea Unites Us"

Illustrate the historic maritime connection between India and Oman and the cultural relationships carried across the Arabian Sea.

DURATION: 2 hours

- Acrylic colors shall be the principal painting medium.
- Artwork must be created on B4-size 300 gsm paper or Canvas Pad.

Participants should bring their own:

- Acrylic colors
- B4-size 300 gsm paper or Canvas Pad.
- Paint brushes of different sizes
- Palette
- Water container
- Mixing tools
- Pencil and eraser for initial planning
- Ruler, if required
- Cloth/tissue for cleaning brushes
- Other basic and safe painting accessories

ORIGINALITY & PREPARATION

- The complete painting must be created during the competition.
- No part of the final artwork may be prepared beforehand.
- Pre-painted surfaces, prepared backgrounds, tracing sheets, templates, or stencils are not permitted.

- Participants must not reproduce an existing artwork directly.
- Photographs or artworks downloaded from the internet must not be incorporated into the painting.

he following are not permitted during the competition:

- Printed reference images
- Prepared sketches of the final composition
- Painting books or magazines
- Pre-designed templates
- Tracing materials
- Prepared color/design charts
- Digital devices used as visual references

12.VISUAL STORY TELLER **(Story Board)**

A short paragraph or story prompt will be provided on the spot.

Participants must interpret the given story creatively and transform it into a visual narrative through original character designs and a storyboard painting.

Participants are expected to imagine the characters, develop their appearance, expressions, actions and emotions, and arrange key moments of the story into a sequence of visually connected frames. The final artwork should communicate the story clearly without relying heavily on written explanations.

STORY PROMPT: A short paragraph will be provided at the venue.

- ❖ Interpretation of Story & Theme
- ❖ Character Design & Creativity
- ❖ Storyboard Composition & Visual Sequence
- ❖ Artistic Skill & Use of color
- ❖ Expression, Originality & Overall Visual Impact

- Character Design – Develop the main character(s) based on the given story.
- Storyboard – Illustrate the important events/scenes of the story in a logical visual sequence.

DURATION -2 HOUR

Participants should demonstrate:

- Imagination and originality in character creation
- Understanding of the given story
- Effective visual storytelling
- Clear sequence and continuity between scenes
- Expressive poses, gestures and facial expressions
- Creative use of composition, color and space
- Ability to convey mood, action and emotion visually

MEDIUM: Drawing and painting

- Printed images, tracing sheets, stencils, ready-made character designs, reference books, prepared storyboard layouts, and digital devices for reference are not permitted.

Participants should bring their own:

- B4-size 300 gsm paper
- Pencil set
- Sketch book
- Paint, acrylic markers, Fine liner etc.
- Paint -poster color, or acrylic
- Brushes
- Palette

Artwork must be created on B4-size 300 gsm paper

13.METAL EXPRESSION (Wire Sculpture)

Metal Expressions is a collaborative three-dimensional sculpture challenge that invites participants to transform

- ❖ Theme Interpretation & Concept
- ❖ Creativity & Originality

flexible wire into expressive representations of life. Participants are encouraged to explore **human, animal, botanical, avian, insect, or imaginative life forms**, using wire as the primary medium to communicate movement, character, structure, and creativity

- Theme: FORMS OF LIFE"
- **Time:** 2 hours

Participants are encouraged to move beyond literal representation and explore **movement, gesture, rhythm, texture, balance, and expression** through wire.

Permitted Materials

- The required materials including plywood or hard board base (12x12 inch) must bring by the participants.
- Craft or metal wire of different gauges
- aluminum wire
- Copper wire
- Other suitable sculpture wire approved by the organisers
- Binding or twisting materials

Recommended Tools

- Wire cutters
- Long-nose pliers
- Round-nose pliers
- Measuring scale
- Safety gloves

Other standard hand tools required for wire manipulation must bring by the participants.

14.DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

The **Digital Photography Spot Event** is a practical photography challenge that tests participants' ability to observe, compose, and capture compelling images within a limited time

Participants will work on two photographic genres:

Event Theme: "Seeing Beyond the Frame"

- Still Life Photography

- ❖ Three-Dimensional Form, Structure & Balance
- ❖ Technical Skill & Craftsmanship
- ❖ Overall Visual Impact & Presentation

- ❖ Creative Concept & Originality
- ❖ Composition & Visual Organization
- ❖ Technical Camera Skills & Lens Usage
- ❖ Lighting, Focus & Exposure
- ❖ Overall Impact & Storytelling

- Portrait Photography

The event is designed to encourage students to experiment with **different focal lengths and lenses**, while demonstrating their understanding of composition, perspective, lighting, focus, depth of field, and camera control.

- Participants must bring their own camera, lenses and accessories.
- Participants must use the camera equipment assigned or permitted for the event.
- Each participant/team must complete the assigned photographic tasks within the stipulated time.
- All photographs submitted must be captured during the competition.

STILL LIFE

Participants will be provided with a set of objects or a still-life arrangement.

- Arrangement of objects
- Camera angle
- Framing
- Light and shadow
- color and tonal relationships
- Depth of field
- Background
- Lens selection

PORTRAIT

Participants will photograph a designated subject/model provided or approved by the organisers.

The portrait should demonstrate an understanding of:

- Facial expression and pose
- Composition
- Lighting
- Background
- Focus
- Depth of field

- ❖ Facial Expressions & Emotions
- ❖ Body Language & Gestures
- ❖ Creativity & Originality
- ❖ Clarity of Message
- ❖ Stage Presence & Confidence

- Perspective
 - Subject–camera relationship
 - Appropriate lens selection
- ORIGINALITY & AUTHENTICITY**
- All photographs must be captured **on the day of the competition.**
 - Previously captured photographs must not be submitted.
 - Participants may not use stock photographs or downloaded images.
 - Photographs taken outside the competition period will not be considered.
 - Each submitted image must be the participant's own work.
- Participants must submit the required number of photographs as specified by the organizers.
- 5 Still Life photograph
- 5 Portrait photograph

15.MIME

- Duration: 2–3 minutes.
- No dialogue: Only gestures, expressions and body movements.
- Theme: Suitable and meaningful for a school audience.
 - Save the Environment
 - Importance of Education
 - Digital Addiction& Responsible Use of Social Media
 - Kindness & Helping Others
 - Say No to Bullying
 - Respect Teachers & Parents
- Music: Background music/sound effects

- ❖ Facial Expressions & Emotions
- ❖ Body Language & Gestures
- ❖ Creativity & Originality
- ❖ Clarity of Message
- ❖ Stage Presence & Confidence

DANCE

permitted; no recorded dialogue.

- Props: Simple props allowed.
- Costume: Appropriate and simple.
- Selection: Based on expression, creativity, body language, confidence and stage presence.

16.WESTERN DANCE: HIP-HOP

Hip-hop dance is a fusion dance genre with influences from older street dance styles.

Rules and Guidelines

- **Time limit:** Max 2 mins.
- The music can be **instrumental or with lyrics.** The choice of song should be appropriate for school competition. Film songs are not permitted.
- **Language:** Only English songs are allowed.
- **Prop** should be used that compliments well with the dance.

17.FOLK DANCE

Folk Dance: A traditional dance that represents the culture, customs, and lifestyle of a particular region or community.

Rules and guidelines

- Solo performance.
- Performance duration: 2 minutes.
The performance must present any style of Indian folk dance
- Submit the performance audio (MP3) on a USB drive
- Props are permitted according to the theme.

18.INDIAN CLASSICAL DANCE (BHARATHANATYAM, KUCHIPUDI&KATHAK)

- ❖ Elements of Dance
- ❖ Rhythm & Synchronization
- ❖ Entry, Exit & Choreography
- ❖ Presentation & Audience Appeal
- ❖ Creativity & Innovation

- ❖ Expressions &
- ❖ Stage presence
- ❖ Coordination
- ❖ Choreography & flow
- ❖ Prop integration & Technical Execution
- ❖ Overall presentation & Audience appeal

- ❖ Elements of Dance Style

	➤ Time Limit: 2 Minutes ➤ Participants may present either Bharatanatyam, Kuchipudi Kathak. ➤ The choreography, music, expressions, movements, and presentation must reflect the distinctive characteristics and traditional aesthetics of the chosen dance form. ➤ Props are not permitted during the performance.	❖ Costumes & Accessories ❖ Expression ❖ Angashudhi ❖ Presentation & Audience Appeal	
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For further details:

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