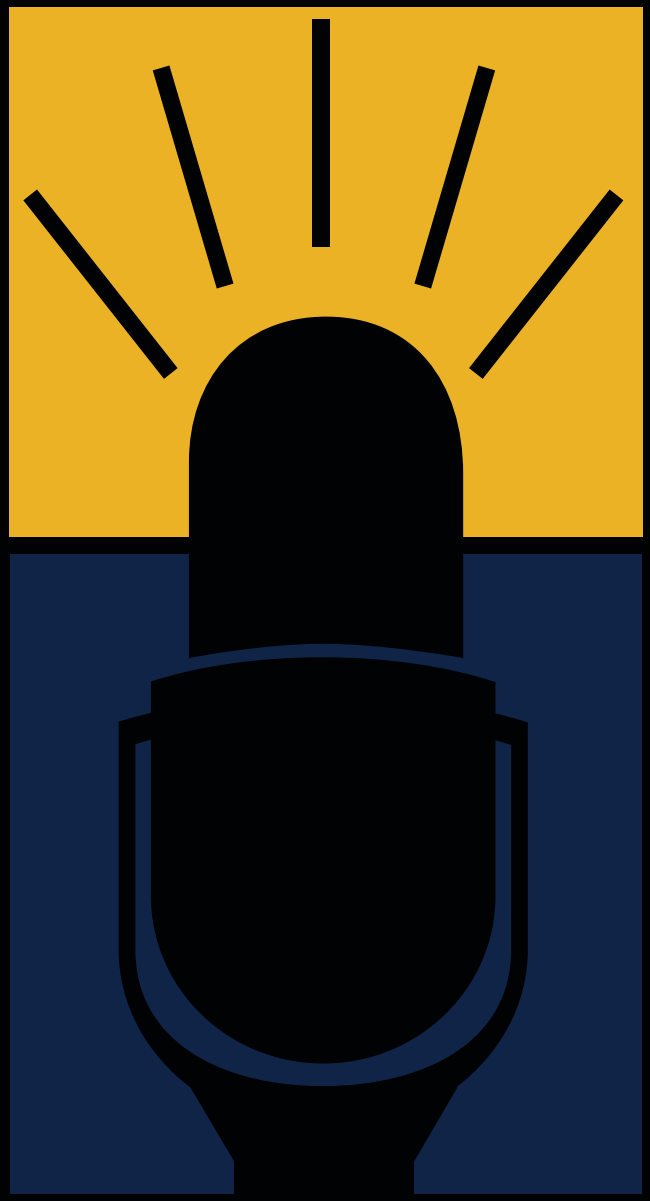

POETRY OUT LOUD

NATIONAL RECITATION CONTEST

State of Nevada Finals

Saturday, March 7, 2009

Siena Hotel Spa Casino

Reno, Nevada

POETRY OUT LOUD

Hello,

It is a pleasure and an honor to serve as Honorary Chair of the fourth annual Nevada State Poetry Out Loud competition.

Like the students competing today, I am deeply committed to the arts, and have grown as a person through my involvement with the arts. Nothing stirs the soul more than poetry, and I am excited to hear the selections that will be presented today.

I want to extend my congratulations to all of the organizations that have made this event possible: The Nevada Arts Council, the Nevada Department of Education and the Nevada Alliance for Arts Education. I believe the arts are an important part of education, and I applaud the work you are doing. Without these organizations, many of Nevada's youth would have no exposure to the arts and the self-esteem building opportunities that participation in the arts offer. Research tells us that when youth are provided with alternative activities, they can make good decisions and stay away from drugs. The Miss America and Miss Nevada Scholarship Organizations have long encouraged artistic development of America's youth, especially in young women, which makes my position as Honorary Chair especially meaningful to me.

Congratulations as well to the families, communities, schools and teachers who have obviously succeeded at instilling in these young people an appreciation for the arts, which inspire all of us to achieve our highest potential.

I wish you all the best today, and in all your life's journeys.

Sincerely,

Julianna Erdesz
Miss Nevada

The Nevada Arts Council
a Division of the Nevada Department of Cultural Affairs

in partnership with

The National Endowment for the Arts
The Poetry Foundation
The Nevada Department of Education
and
The Nevada Alliance for Arts Education

proudly presents

The Fourth Annual
Poetry Out Loud National Recitation Contest
Nevada State Finals

March 7, 2009
Noon
Siena Hotel Spa Casino

Featuring Students From

Carson County
Douglas County
Mineral County
Washoe County
Pershing County

Churchill County
Elko County
Lincoln County
Nye County

Clark County
Humboldt County
Lyon County
Storey County
White Pine County

POETRY out Loud

Welcome – Tim Jones, Chair of the Nevada Arts Council Board of Directors, Master of Ceremonies, Julianna Erdesz, Miss Nevada

Introduction of Judges and Students - Tim Jones

Round 1

1. Humboldt
2. Churchill
3. Lincoln
4. Nye
5. Elko
6. Lyon
7. Washoe
8. Carson
9. Pershing
10. Douglas
11. White Pine
12. Storey
13. Mineral
14. Clark

Round 2

1. Elko
2. Washoe
3. Nye
4. Carson
5. Humboldt
6. White Pine
7. Clark
8. Pershing
9. Douglas
10. Lincoln
11. Lyon
12. Churchill
13. Mineral
14. Storey

Round 3

Top three finalists

"Reading by Poet Shaun Griffin"

Presentation of Awards ~ Julianna Erdesz, Miss Nevada;
Jill Berryman, Executive Director, Sierra Arts and President, Nevada Alliance for Arts Education

Final Comments ~ Tim Jones

Reception in the Lobby ~ all are invited!

THE POEMS & POETS

Each student was required to prepare three poems from an anthology of poems selected by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation. Each student's poems are listed below in the order in which they will recite them. Deciding on the order is a strategic decision that the students must make. All fourteen students will recite one poem in Round 1 and one poem in Round 2. Only three students will advance to Round 3.

Carson:
- *Kubla Khan* by Samual Taylor Coleridge
- *Blackberrying* by Sylvia Plath
- *For Allen Ginsberg* by X.J. Kennedy

Churchill:
- *Discrimination* by Kenneth Rexroth
- *I Am!* by John Clare
- *Domestic Violence* by Eavan Boland

Clark:
- *Phenomenal Woman* by Maya Angelou
- *The Slave Auction* by Frances Ellen Watkins Harper
- *We Wear the Mask* by Paul Laurence Dunbar

Douglas:
- *Solitude* by Ella Wheeler Wilcox
- *Phenomenal Woman* by Maya Angelou
- *The Road not Taken* by Robert Frost

Elko:
- *Phenomenal Woman* by Maya Angelou
- *It Couldn't Be Done* by Edgar Albert Guest
- *If* by Rudyard Kipling

Humboldt:
- *Broken Promises* by David Kirby
- *Phenomenal Woman* by Maya Angelou
- *Holy Sonnets: Death be not Proud* by John Donne

Lincoln:
- *The Road Not Taken* by Robert Frost
- *Annabel Lee* by Edgar Allan Poe
- *A Psalm of Life* by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Lyon:
- *Phenomenal Woman* by Maya Angelou
- *Famous* by Naiomi Shihab Nye
- *I Am!* by John Clair

Mineral:
- *Fire & Ice* by Robert Frost
- *Childhood¹s Retreat* by Robert Duncan
- *When You Are Old* by William Butler Yeats

Nye:
- *I Am!* by John Clare
- *Phenomenal Woman* by Maya Angelou
- *Revenge* by Letitia Elizabeth Landon

Pershing:
- *Love of my Flesh, Living Death* by Lorna Dee Cervantes
- *Revenge* by Leticia Elizabeth Landon
- *Annabel Lee* by Edgar Allen Poe

Storey:
- *Holy Sonnets: Death be not Proud* by John Donne
- *Kubla Khan* by Samuel Taylor Colreridge
- *Vita Nova* by Louise Gluck

Washoe:
- *Song in the Front Yard* by Gwendolyn Brooks
- *The Slave Auction* by Frances Ellen Watkins Harper
- *Lunar Baedeker* by Mina Loy

White Pine:
- *A Fit of Rhyme Against Rhyme* by Ben Jonson
- *Scary Movies* by Kim Addonizio
- *Blind Curse* by Simon Joseph Ortiz

Carson County
Stephanie Kulla
Sophomore
Carson High School
Ron Beck, Principal

Stephanie was born in Vancouver Canada. At age two she moved to Carson City. Since she could talk she has been singing and acting. She began violin at six with private lessons for nine years. She took dance lessons for four years. She was home schooled by her mother until sixth grade. She is in drama and concert choir at her high school. She is in the girls barber shop and the mixed accapella group, and Capitol Stars, a musical theater group at school. The arts are central to her life, and she enjoys everything they have to offer. Stephanie would like to thank her parents, Scott & Cindy, her sister, Melissa and her drama teacher, Karen Chandler.

Churchill County
Crystal Powell
Junior
Churchill County High School
Robbin Pedrett, Principal

Crystal Anne Powell, a junior at Churchill County High School was born in Springfield, Oregon and has been to 20 of the 50 continental United States. As an aspiring artist, she enjoys reading and writing, but despises arithmetic. This is her first time participating in the Poetry Out Loud competition. She is 17 years old. Crystal would like to thank her teacher, Myke Nelson.

Clark County
Nandi Spencer
Senior
Shadow Ridge High School
Thomas Barberini, Principal

Nandi Spencer, a senior at Shadow Ridge High School, was born and raised in Western New York. She began reading at age two, and hasn't been able to stay away from books much ever since. She also has a passion for writing, and is the President of the Writing Club at the school she attends. She first heard about Poetry Out Loud from her creative writing teacher, and was immediately intrigued by the idea of reciting some of her favorite poetry and allowing others to understand and appreciate it as she does. In January of 2009 she competed in the school wide Poetry Out Loud competition and moved on to the district competition where she placed first. This will be her first time in a state-wide Poetry Out Loud Contest. She hopes to attend Spelman College in the fall and major in Law. Nandi would like to thank her mother for the unyielding support and coaching she has shown and her friends for having such confidence in her. She would also like to thank her creative writing teacher, Ben Jorgensen and school librarian, Nina Goodman.

Douglas County
Kim Lowe
Junior
Douglas High School
Marty Swisher, Principal

Kimberly Lowe is a 17 year old Junior. She has lived in Nevada her entire life but someday wishes to study in London, England and live in other various parts of the world. Kimberly has also been dancing for the past 14 years and is currently teaching dance to young girls. She would like to thank her mother & father, Jane & Keith, her teacher, Elizabeth Tully, Caitlin Pap & Alexander Sunderland.

Elko County
Mariah Reber
Senior
Spring Creek High School
Betty Fobes, Principal

Mariah Reber is currently a senior at Spring Creek High School. She is the second oldest of eight children. Mariah comes from a diverse background. She is both Native American and Hispanic. Her family was fortunate enough to adopt her and she has been a strength and joy to her family throughout her entire life. Mariah excels in the arts. She enjoys creating beauty all around her. She also enjoys music and dance. Mariah will also be the top scorer on her speech and debate team at the close of this year. However, Mariah's greatest strength is her ability to love everyone and to genuinely spread love to all those she meets. Mariah would like to thank her mother, Linda, her speech coach, Julie Lewis and elementary tutor, Cindy Shea.

Humboldt County
Gianesi Tarafa
Junior
Albert Lowry High School
Debbie Watts, Principal

As long as Gianesi can remember she has been performing. When she was young, she was always singing in contests and getting the attention of the room. She plays sports, sings in a choir, and recites poetry. She has always thought poetry was beautiful and would often dream of writing poems that would be so beautiful. When she heard that she had the chance to recite poetry, she jumped at the opportunity. It just seems natural that she should be involved in Poetry Out Loud where she can express herself and the poetry of great minds.

Lincoln County
Catelyn Sanders
Sophomore
Paharanagat Valley High School
Steve Hansen, Principal

Catelyn Sanders is a 15 year-old sophomore who attends Pahranagat Valley High School. She enjoys playing basketball, reading, public speaking, showing her steers, and working with her sheep. Catelyn loves the ranching lifestyle (the only life she has ever known) and plans to attend college once she graduates, majoring in an agricultural field. She would like to thank her parents, John & Liz, Mike Strong, Steven Hansen & Pete Peterson..

Lyon County
Alysha Webster
Senior
Fernley High School
Dr. Sue Segura, Principal

Alysha Webster's family moved to Fernley from San Diego, California in 2005. She enjoys singing, swimming, and the three years she has spent on the Forensics team. Alysha is the President of the Fernley High School Forensics team this year. After she graduates, she hopes to attend New Mexico State University and major in business management.

Mineral County
Grant Oberhansli
Freshman
Cedar Street Home School

Grant Oberhansli is a native Nevadan. Since the age of six Grant has worked with his older brothers making movies and has always known he wanted to make films. He enjoys acting, animating, camera operating, and editing. Grant also enjoys inline skating, playing drums and swimming with the Hawthorne Stingrays. When he graduates, he plans to attend Savannah College of Arts and Design where his older brother is now a film major.

Nye County
Jaitee Pitts
Senior
Pahrump Valley High School
Max Buffi, Principal

Jaitee Pitts was born in San Diego, California and has moved many times throughout her life due to family in the military. She has always had her nose in a book, and through her reading, has learned to appreciate all literature. Jaitee is currently 16 and a senior at Pahrump Valley High School. She has competed in Poetry Out Loud for three years in a row and went to the Nevada State competition in 2007. Jaitee is in her school's select choir and concert band. She plans to attend SUU to major in theater and minor in creative writing. Jaitee would like to thank her mother, M. Reynel Burke and her coach Deanna Stuits.

Pershing County
Erika Terry
Freshman
Pershing County High School
Russell Fecht, Principal

Erika was born in Boise, Idaho and moved to Nevada when she was about two. She is a soccer player and is in the Pershing County High School choir. This is her first Poetry Out Loud Competition, and is thrilled to be competing in the State Final. She would like to thank her drama teacher, Julie Terry who is also her mother and her drama classmates.

POETRY OUT LOUD

Storey County
Roxanne Strahan
Senior
Virginia City High School
Patrick Beckwith, Principal

Roxanne is a 16 year old senior who is ranked top of her class and is captain of the cheerleading team. Throughout her life she has had a passion for classical literature and writing so the opportunity to recite Kubla Khan in this year's competition is an exciting one. Roxanne also spends a great deal of her time devoted to her horse-back riding and has several notable awards; her poem choice Holy Sonnets: Death, be not proud is in honor of her horse whom she recently lost to old age. In college Roxanne plans to study forensic biology while still pursuing her interest in literature. As a leader to those around her, Roxanne is proud to be representing Storey County in the Nevada State Poetry Out Loud Contest.

Washoe County
Emily Orellana
Sophomore
Rainshadow Community Charter School
Steve West, Principal

Emily is sixteen years old and was born and raised in "The Biggest Little City in the World," Reno, NV. She has always held an interest in literature, and from the time that she was young, she loves to write. Recently her mentor and coach, Pan Pantoja, helped her find her voice again. Currently, she is doing spoken word performances at open-mic nights around Reno and has just become involved with a local collective of poets called Spoken Views. Her school has started a slam poetry club that she is a part of as well. Also, she is getting prepared to be in the 6:01 AM Hip-hopera, a musical written by Pan Pantoja and Richie Panelli. Performing is a love of hers that she recently discovered, and her dreams for the future include continuing on with spoken word and poetry. Becoming published is a current goal that she is working towards. She is honored to have made it this far in the Poetry Out Loud competition, and cannot wait to represent Rainshadow Community Charter High School in the upcoming state finals. Emily would like to thank her teacher, Pan Pantoja.

White Pine County
Allison Briggs
Senior
White Pine High School
Adam Young, Principal

This is Allison's third year participating in the Poetry Out Loud State Finals. She is currently the drama club president at White Pine High School. She feels that acting has really helped her with reciting poems. She has played Antigone in Antigone; the Narrator in Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat; Irena Syncova, in I Never Saw Another Butterfly, and many other amazing roles. She is really excited to be able to do this for the third time.

Guy Lebeda (Judge) is a writer, poet and journalist who has published essays and articles about art, the environment and outdoor topics. His work has appeared in publications such as Tallahassee Magazine, Capital City, The Running Journal, the University of Wyoming's Alumnews Magazine, the Laramie Daily Boomerang, Valley Horse Journal, Crossroads Anthology, Salt Lake City Magazine, In Brief: Short Takes on the Personal (Norton), and Land That We Love. Lebeda also writes humor, and authored a radio script performed by Garrison Keillor on National Public Radio's "Prairie Home Companion." Lebeda also writes humor. He is the author of a comedy radio script that was performed on National Public Radio by Garrison Keillor on Prairie Home Companion. Lebeda lives in Salt Lake City, Utah, and is the Literature Program Coordinator for the Utah Arts Council. Previously, he was the Literature Program Director for the Wyoming Arts Council.

Geralda Miller (Judge) has been a reporter at the Reno Gazette-Journal since 2002. Geralda first worked for The Associated Press after earning a degree in journalism in 1997 from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. As a sibling in a military family, Miller lived in many U.S. cities, on the Pacific island of Guam, and attended high school in Athens, Greece. Her global explorations continued as an adult in her careers. She traveled the world while working 16 years as a fashion buyer and product developer for retail stores. In her own consulting business, Miller advised companies how to target minority consumers. She was part of a team for the World Bank who drafted a document titled "Africa Can Compete II." She also counseled Ghanaian fashion designers and manufacturers on exporting to the U.S. Miller is presently completing a master's in history at the University of Nevada, Reno.

Jeff Greb (Judge) is a graduate of UCLA with a BA in English literature and holds a MA in Education Administration and Supervision. While living in Los Angeles, Jeff worked in a variety of positions at the world famous Griffith Observatory. He moved to Nevada in the mid-1990s and became a high school teacher in Carson City, where he continues to work today. Throughout his educational teaching career, Greb has taught all levels of students from remedial English to Advanced Placement Literature, and currently teaches sophomore English and creative writing. He also holds a MA in Education Administration and Supervision. For the past ten years, he has committed his summer months to the State Department of Education developing the Nevada High School Proficiency Examination in Reading. In his spare time, Greb enjoys writing poetry, fiction and music.

Nancy Cummings (Judge) is a fourth generation Nevadan and the former Director of the Washoe County Library System. A graduate of UNLV, she received her MA in Library Science from San Jose State University and served as a Peace Corp volunteer in the Philippines. Cummings was selected as a distinguished alumnus from the San Jose School of Information Science and received a Literacy Leadership Award from the Northern Nevada Literacy Council. She serves as chairperson for the Northern Nevada Reads, "NE Big Read Project" and the Truckee Meadows Literate Community Project. With a passion to serve her community, Cummings has served as the Government Relations Chair for the Nevada Library Association and the Public Library/Trustees Division Chair of the American Library Association. She is presently a board member of the United Way and Sierra Arts and a member of Truckee Meadows Tomorrow.

Shaun T. Griffin (Judge) is the co-founder and director of Community Chest, a non-profit organization serving children and families in Northwestern Nevada. He is the author of four books of poetry (most recently, Woodsmoke, Wind, and the Peregrine, Black Rock Press, 2008), a book of translations (poetry), and the editor of three volumes of Nevada poetry and prose. He received the Governor's Arts Award for Excellence in the Arts in 1996, and the Rosemary McMillan Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Arts from Sierra Arts in 2006. For two decades he has led a poetry workshop at Northern Nevada Correctional Center. He is currently editing a volume of articles on the late poet and critic, Hayden Carruth.

Kim Russell (Judge) is the author of the Tuskegee Love Letters, a stage play about the Tuskegee Airmen; and Asheba's Story, a play for children about African American History. A recipients of a Nevada Arts Council Artist Fellowship in Performing Arts, Russell has toured the United States performing her original single woman play, Sojourner Truth: I Sell The Shadow. She is the owner of Speakers on Tour.com, an agency that promotes touring artists.

Tim Jones (Master of Ceremonies) is the Associate Director of the School of the Arts at the University of Nevada, Reno, where he has worked more than 27 years. One of the co-founders of Artown (Reno's summer arts festival which began in 1996), he developed a number of that festival's programming concepts—including the award-winning "Discover the Arts" arts education/participation series for children. Tim currently serves as chairman of the Nevada Arts Council, a nine-member board appointed by the Governor. He a BA in broadcasting and an MA in speech/communication from Washington State University.

Dr. Karin Ekanger (Prompter) has been a Nevada resident since 1992. She attended the University of Montana, earning a BA in English, and Montana State University, receiving an Masters of Education in Language Arts Education. She earned her Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Nova Southeastern University. Ekanger has taught secondary English and reading in Montana, Philippines and Germany, Southern California, and Nevada where she helped open the Las Vegas Academy. While pursuing her administrative license at UNLV, Karin worked in Clark County School District's curriculum and new teacher orientation programs before becoming an administrator at Valley High School. In November 2001, she left her long and varied career in public education to join the educational publishing industry and currently is Sales Representative for Nevada at McGraw-Hill Glencoe.

What is Poetry Out Loud?

The Poetry Out Loud National Recitation Contest, created by the National Endowment for the Arts and The Poetry Foundation seeks to foster the next generation of literary readers by capitalizing on the latest trends in poetry - recitation and performance. The program builds on the resurgence of poetry as an oral art form, as seen in the slam poetry movement and the immense popularity of rap music among youth. Poetry Out Loud invites the dynamic aspects of slam poetry, spoken word, and theater into English, theater, humanities and social studies classrooms. Through Poetry Out Loud, students can master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about their literary heritage.

This year, across the nation, thousands of high school students will participate in Poetry Out Loud. State finalists advance to the National Finals where $50,000 in scholarships and school prizes will be awarded. Finalists will attend a welcome banquet at the J.W. Marriott Hotel on Sunday, April 27, with the National Semifinals to be held on April 28 and the Finals on April 29 on the George Washington University Campus. Students will also have an opportunity to meet their members of Congress at a special luncheon in their honor in the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

For Nevada's Poetry Out Loud Program, the Nevada Arts Council, the Nevada Alliance for Arts Education and the Nevada Department of Education invite all high schools across the state to participate – public, charter and private. In our first year (2006), ten of Nevada's school districts participated. This year,14 of the 16 school districts in Nevada with a high school participated - engaging 34 schools, 53 teachers and more than 1,200 students, family members, friends and coaches. The Nevada State Finals champion is awarded $1,000 and his/her school receives $2,000 to support literary arts programs and the purchase of poetry books. First and second runners-up each receive $500; their schools receive $1,000 each to support literary arts programs and the purchase of poetry books.

Congratulations to all of today's competitors!

Acknowledgements

Superintendents: Richard Stokes, Carson City School District; Dr. Carolyn Ross, Churchill County School District; Walt Rulffes, Clark County School District; Carol Lark, Douglas County School District; Antoinette Cavanaugh; Elko County School District; Ben Zunino, Eureka County School District, Mike Bumgartner, Humboldt County School District; Curtis Jordan, Lander County School District; Nykki Holton, Lincoln County School District; Caroline McIntosh, Lyon County School District; Paul Kirk, Mineral County School District; Rob Roberts, Nye County School District; Daniel Fox, Pershing County School District; Robert Slaby, Storey County School District; Paul Dugan, Washoe County School District; Robert Dolezal, White Pine County School District

The State of Nevada: Jim Gibbons, Governor

Nevada Department of Cultural Affairs: Michael E. Fischer, Director

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National Endowment for the Arts: Dana Gioia, Past Chairman and Patrice Walker Powell,Chairman, Maryrose Flanigan, Poetry Foundation: John Barr, President and Stephen Young: Sierra Arts Foundation: Jill Berryman, Executive Director; SmartBrand, Larry DeVincenzi, Siena Hotel Spa Casino, Gerhard, McGraw-Hill Glencoe: Dr. Karin Ekanger, Jim Gerhard, and Tim Jones.

Carson County
Coordinator: Karen Chandler
School: Carson High School
Principal: Ron Beck
Teachers: Karen Chandler, Suzanne Barulich

Churchill County
Coordinator: Jaime Holladay
School: Churchill County High School
Principal: Robbin Pedrett
Teacher: Jaime Holladay
Others: Mrs. Sue Van Patten, Mr. Glen Perazzo, Ms. Amy Weldon, Joanne Tanner, Dr. Carolyn Ross, Mr. Myke Nelsen, Vicki Kieckbusch, Grace Ernst, Jeanne Stone, Jane Anderson, Mary Kroll, Newell Mills

Clark County
Coordinator: Judy Myers, Clark County School-Community Partnership Program
Schools: CSN High School West, Coronado High School, Del Sol High School, Green Valley High School, Palo Verde High School, SECTA, Shadow Ridge High School
Teachers: Serrin Anderson, Linda Larson, Michelle Barbee, Lori Jorgensen, Kara Fenity, Amy Furmanek, Jason Kern, James Lippitt, Shaun Ingalls, Ben Jorgensen
Principals: Dennis Birr, Lee Koelliker, Betsy Angelcor, Jeffery Horn, Dan Phillips, Richard Arguello, Thomas Barberini
Others: Sharon Heyman, Angela Phillips, Sally Ahlstedt, Tamaria Anderson, Kurt Arnold, Firouzeh Forouzmand, EMBARQ, Carol Edwards (Tallier)

Douglas County
Coordinator: Elizabeth Mannino-Tully
School: Douglas High School
Principal: Marty Swisher
Teacher: Elizabeth Mannino-Tully

Elko County
Coordinator: Linell Bollacker
Schools: Spring Creek High School, Independence High
Principals: Betty Fobes, Clark A. Davidson, Teachers: Julie Lewis, Patrick Lysons, Meggin Albitre, Linell Bollacker, Don Millen, Sandy Baker, Hugh & Vicki Rossolo and Robin James

Humboldt County
Coordinator: Vicki Meissner
School: Albert Lowry
Principal: Debbie Watts
Teachers: Vicki Meissner

Lincoln County
Coordinator: Pete Peterson
School: Lincoln County High School, Pahranagat Valley High School
Principal: Becky Barden, Steve Hanson
Others: Steven Hanson, Mike Strong

Lyon County
Coordinator: Lecia Curtis
Schools Yerington High School, Fernley High School
Principal: Sue Segura
Teachers: Gary Stone, Lecia Curtis, Tara Ferguson, Lynne Gervais

Mineral County
Coordinator: Bea Whitney
School: Cedar Street Home School, Mineral County High School
Principals: Margaret Ruybalid, Courtney Oberhansli
Teachers: Courtney Oberhansli

Nye County
Coordinator: Deanna Stuits
Schools: Pahrump Valley High School
Principal: Max Buffi
Teacher: Deanna Stuits

Pershing County
Coordinator: Julie Terry
School: Pershing County High School
Principal: Russell Fecht
Teacher: Julie Terry

Storey County
Coordinator: Karen Kreyeski
School: Virginia City High School
Principal: Patrick Beckwith
Teacher: Karen Kreyeski

Washoe County
Coordinator: Nicholas- Martin Kearney
Schools: Nevada Christian Home School, Jan Evans Detention Facility, Rainshadow, McQueen High School, Eagle Home School Co-op, Home School, Ambleside Academy, Spanish Springs High School, Damonte Ranch High School, Galena High School, Hug High School, Reed High School
Principals: Steve West, John Carlson, Ross Gregory, Denise Hausauer, Thomas C. Brown, Tamara West, Sara Russell, Andrew Kelly, Mary Vesco
Teachers: Brenda Tobey, Alee Behymer, PAN Pantoja, Kira Smith, Dawn Callahan, Carolyn Hodges, Cindy Harris, Karen Foster, Brenda Kiriluk, Rod Hearn, Francine Gray, Dawn Adams, Carolyn S. Valle
Others: Nancy Cummings, Stacey Spain, Todd Felts, Rick Southerland, Julie Auer, Colin Robertson, Lucy Guilles

White Pine County
Coordinator: Kelly Sturgeon
Schools: White Pine High School
Principal: Adam Young
Teachers: Kelly Sturgeon

Poetry Out Loud National Recitation Competition
State of Nevada Planning Committee

Jill Berryman
Executive Director, Sierra Arts
President, Nevada Alliance for Arts Education

Susan Boskoff
Executive Director, Nevada Arts Council

MaryJane Dorofachuk
Arts Education Program Coordinator
Nevada Arts Council

Lynn Bistany
Arts Education Program Assistant
Nevada Arts Council

Tracy Gruber
English Language Arts / Fine Arts Consultant
Nevada Department of Education

Tim Jones
Associate Director, University of Nevada, Reno School of the Arts
Chair, Nevada Arts Council

Larry DeVincenzi
SmartBrand

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Nevada Arts Council
The Nevada Arts Council (NAC) was established as a state agency in 1967 with a mission "to enrich the cultural life of the state through leadership that preserves, supports, strengthens and makes accessible excellence in the arts for all Nevadans." NAC programs stimulate artistic and cultural activity throughout the state and encourage public and private support for the arts. A division of the Nevada Department of Cultural Affairs, NAC is funded by the Nevada State Legislature, the National Endowment for the Arts and other private sources.

Nevada Alliance for Arts Education
The Nevada Alliance for Arts Education (NAAE) promotes arts education as an essential component of a quality education. A member of the Kennedy Center Alliance for Arts Education Network, NAAE partners with the Nevada Arts Council and other institutions and organizations to promote arts education and implement professional development for educators throughout the State of Nevada.

National Endowment for the Arts
The National Endowment for the Arts is a public agency dedicated to supporting excellence in the arts – both new and established – bringing the arts to all Americans, and providing leadership in arts education. Established by Congress in 1965 as an independent agency of the federal government, the Endowment is the nation's largest annual funder of the arts, bringing great art to all 50 states, including rural areas, inner cities and military bases.

The Poetry Foundation
The Poetry Foundation, publisher of Poetry Magazine, is an independent literary organization committed to a vigorous presence for poetry in our culture. It has embarked on an ambitious plan to bring the best poetry before the largest possible audiences.

POETRY OUT LOUD