Poetry Out Loud

National Recitation Contest

2011 Nevada State Final

POETRY OUT LOUD
NATIONAL RECITATION CONTEST

POETRY OUT LOUD

Dear Fellow Nevadans,

Poetry is one of the oldest art forms known to humanity. Before our ancestors could read, they could recite poems and epic tales out loud. With the advent of writing, poetry became more formal and structured, but in recent years we have seen the art form return to its original oral traditions. This richness of self expression and creativity of the human spirit is celebrated today in the Poetry Out Loud National Recitation Project.

I am happy to lend my support to the young poets who are participating in this year's program. While I am not a poet myself, I have great appreciation for both the freedom of expression it represents and the sparks of creativity that daily changes the lives of so many of our state's young people. Poetry, the arts, and literacy are important component of our lives. Brian and I enjoy reading to our own children, just as we enjoy all kinds of public performances and artistic expression, both formal and informal.

I know every Nevadan joins me in congratulating the students, teachers, parents, and poetry supporters and judges who have taken the time to share their thoughts and express their dreams in verse. Thank you for being a part of this event.

Sincere regards,

Kathleen Sandoval
First Lady of 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 Sixth Annual Poetry Out Loud National Recitation Contest

Nevada State Finals

March 19, 2011 • Noon

The Knitting Factory Reno

Featuring Students From

Carson City
Clark County
Elko County
Lander County
Lyon County
Nye County
Storey County
White Pine County
Churchill County
Douglas County
Humboldt County
Lincoln County
Mineral County
Pershing County
Washoe County

WELCOME

Master of Ceremonies - Tim Jones, Nevada Arts Council Board of Directors
Honorary Chair - Kathleen Sandoval, First Lady of Nevada

Introduction of Judges and Students - Tim Jones

Round 1

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

Round 2

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

Round 3

Top three finalists

READING

Steve Nightingale, poet

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Kathleen Sandoval, First Lady of Nevada
Justine Chiapetta, Program Assistant, The Poetry Foundation

FINAL COMMENTS

Tim Jones

RECEPTION

All are invited!

POEMS & POETS

Each student is 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 fifteen students will recite one poem in Round 1 and one poem in Round 2. Only three students will advance to Round 3.

CARSON CITY - ADRIANA AVITIA
A Fit of Rhyme against Rhyme by Ben Jonson
Famous by Naomi Shihab Nye
Revenge by Letitia Elizabeth Landon

CHURCHILL - SARAH JAMIESON
Fern Hill by Dylan Thomas
To a Mouse by Robert Burns
Crossing the Bar by Alfred, Lord Tennyson

CLARK - DANI CABOT
Sonnet XVIII: Shall I Compare Thee to a Summers Day? by William Shakespeare
Kublah Khan by Samuel Taylor Coleridge
Full Moon by Elinor Wylie

DOUGLAS - AMBER TAYLOR
My Brother, The Artist, at Seven by Philip Levine
It's the Little Towns I Like by Thomas Lux
There's Been a Death, in the Opposite House by Emily Dickinson

ELKO - GRACIELA MAYA-JOSEPH
Altruism by Molly Peacock
Her Kind by Anne Sexton
To an Athlete Dying Young by A. E. Housman

HUMBOLDT - HAILEY FAWN SAMMS
To The Ladies by Lady Mary Chudleigh
The More Loving One by W.H. Auden
Love Armed by Aphra Behn

LANDER - KIANA VANCE
Alone by Edgar Allan Poe
A Dream Within A Dream by Edgar Allen Poe
The White City by Claude McKay

LINCOLN - ARYN ANDERSON
What lips my lips have kissed and where and why by Edna St. Vincent Millay
A Fit of Rhyme against Rhyme by Ben Jonson
Scary Movie by Kim Addonizio

LYON - ELENA CAROLYN WATTS
When You Are Old by William Butler Yeats
Jabberwocky by Lewis Carroll
Ballad of Birmingham by Dudley Randall

MINERAL - CANDACE PAULSON
Richard Corey by Edwin Arlington Robinson
Thoughtless Cruelty by Charles Lamb
Ballad of Birmingham by Dudley Randall

NYE - ELIZABETH MOEN
Give All to Love by Ralph Waldo Emerson
John Lennon by Mary Jo Salter
Thou Art My Lute by Paul Laurence Dunbar

PERSHING - ERIKA MARCHESINI
Amor Mundi by Christian Rossetti
The Empty Dance Shoes by Cornelius Eady
Peach by Jennifer Tonge

STOREY - JAMIE POSTON
The Road Not Taken by Robert Frost
The Charge of the Light Brigade by Alfred, Lord Tennyson
Numbers by Mary Cornish

WASHOE - EMILY ORELLANA
Epilogue by Robert Browning
Domestic Violence by Eavan Boland
Who Understands Me but Me by Jimmy Santiago Baca

WHITE PINE - ALYSSA WHITLOCK
To Helen by Edgar Allen Poe
Snowflake by William Baer
Fairytale Logic by A. E. Stallings

FINALISTS

CARSON CITY

Adriana Avitia – Junior

Carson High School - Ron Beck, Principal

I am 17 years old. I was born in Honolulu, HI. I'm the youngest of four girls. I love musical theatre and have starred as Mulan in Mulan, and Gertrude McFuzz as Seussical, as well as many other roles. I enjoy writing poetry as much as reading and reciting it. I hope to translate my poetry into songs. Poetry means a lot to me, simply because I feel like it's the best way to get out all your emotions without expressing to a certain person or many people how you feel about situations you're in. I'd like to thank my parents, Tina and Tony Avitia; my sister, Veronika; and my Drama Teacher, Karen Chandler.

CHURCHILL COUNTY

Sarah Jamieson – Senior

Churchill County High School – Kevin Lords, Principal

I am Sarah LeiNani Jamieson, the oldest child of Gary and Kathy Jamieson, a senior at Churchill County High School, and a true-blue Fallonite. This is my third time participating in the Poetry Out Loud Competition, and my second time representing Churchill County at the state level. I am involved in my high school's Performance Choir, Reading Club, and Young Republicans and love to play the piano. After finishing high school, I plan to attend Brigham Young University and major in Mathematics Education. I would like to thank my parents for all their support and my AP English teacher Mr. Myke Nelsen.

CLARK COUNTY

Dani Cabot – Senior

College of Southern Nevada High School West – Dennis Birr, Principal

Dani Cabot is a senior at College of Southern Nevada High School in Las Vegas, Nevada. A strong believer in the power of words, she enjoys sharing in her love of language through poetry recitation. Dani's hobbies include watching films, writing, reading, and engaging in conversation. She is delighted to represent Clark County in the 2011 Poetry Out Loud Recitation Contest. Dani would like to thank her parents, Linda and Anthony Cabot; and her English Teacher, Serrin Anderson

DOUGLAS COUNTY

Amber Taylor - Freshman

Carson Valley Middle School – Robert Been, Principal

Amber was born in Grand Junction, Colorado on April 6th, 1996. She is 14 years old and attends Carson Valley Middle School as a 9th grader. After school, she just recently became a member of the diving team. She participates in many extra-curricular activities at school; one of which is speech and debate. She attends Life Point Church every Wednesday and Sunday. She is happy to say that she is a junior leader for the children's ministry and is also on the Worship Team. When she is older, she would like to become a counselor in one of the Douglas County schools. She would like to thank her parents, Alice and Brandon Taylor; her English Teacher, Susan Van Doren; and her Debate Coach, Brian McNulty.

ELKO COUNTY

Graciela Maya-Joseph – Freshman

Owyhee Combined Schools – Joseph Mirich, Principal

15 year old Graciela Maya-Joseph is honored to be a freshman at Owyhee Combined Schools. In her free time she enjoys creating music, singing, and reading books. She would like to thank her classmates for their undying support. Her goal for tonight is to make her mother, Dana Joseph, and her English teacher, Kathy Olson, proud. But mostly she would like to thank God, for all the blessings He's put in her life.

HUMBOLDT COUNTY

Hailey Fawn Samms – Junior

Albert M. Lowry High School – Debbie Watts, Principal

I was born in Coeur D'Alene Idaho on June 10, 1994. I have to sisters and two loving parents. I sang and acted for many years until I moved to Winnemucca Nevada when I was 13. I have been in choir for all three years of high school, and enjoy taking more challenging classes. I love English, both reading and writing, and have always enjoyed poetry. I'd like to thank my mother, Bonnie Samms; my boyfriend, Phillip Sauers; my fellow POL competitors, Wendy Kemp and Rachel French; my Poetry Out Loud coach, Mrs. Vicki Meissner; and my Youth Group Leader, Shannon Dill.

FINALISTS

LANDER COUNTY

Kiana Vance – Freshman

Battle Mountain High School – Susan Baldwin, Principal

Kiana was born in Salt Lake City Utah and moved shortly after to Battle Mountain and is still living in the current spot. She loves candy, cute things and flowers. She also loves the spring and the water. She would like to thank her parents, Jewel Vance and Joe Holley; her sister, Tejah Holley; and her friend James Redmoon.

LINCOLN COUNTY

Aryn Anderson – Senior

Lincoln County High School – Marty Soderborg, Principal

Aryn Anderson, from Panaca stays busy running track, being the yearbook editor, singing in the school show choir, participating in student government, and playing the piano. Her favorite activity however is drama. In addition to being the drama president and being involved in all of the productions, she directed the fall musical, "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown" and is preparing for the state drama competition. She would like to thank her family, especially her mother, Mindy and cousins and best friends, Whitney and Allie Schimbeck; Pete Peterson, her Drama Advisor and Poetry Coach; and Sherrin McHenry, her English Teacher.

LYON COUNTY

Elena Carolyn Watts – Sophomore

Dayton High School – Wayne Workman, Principal

My life is built around words. From my youth, I've been transfixed by their beauty. My mother read to me until I could do it myself; and from then on, it was rare to find me without a book. My father, a Spanish teacher, instilled a love of the Spanish language in me from an early age. That love was greatly multiplied when I had the opportunity to live for a year in Mexico, a land of emerald valleys, ancient legends, and magnificent volcanoes. This love of words and language has helped me appreciate experiencing poetry out loud. I'd like to thank my parents, Krista and Karl Watts; my grandparents, Marilyn and Walt Johnson; my friend Alexander Hill; and my friend and co-competitor Ethan Galloway.

MINERAL COUNTY

Candace Paulson - Senior

Mineral County High School – Walt Hackford, Principal

My name is Candace Paulson. I am 17 years old and a senior at Mineral County High school. I love writing poetry and being around my friends. Many people call me a hippie and sometimes I feel I should have been born in the '60s. I love classic rock and tie-dye. I also have a '74 Volkswagen Bug. Among other things, I am involved in FCCLA and National Honor Society. I am also the Yearbook editor and mascot at my school. I would like to thank my parents, Valerie and Stacey Paulson; and my POL coach, Bea Whitney.

NYE COUNTY

Elizabeth Moen – Senior

Beatty High School – Gary Flood, Principal

My name is Elizabeth Moen and I am a senior at Beatty High School. I love being involved in a wide variety of activities at school, including FCCLA, Band, Drama and Cheerleading! This is my second year competing at the state level of Poetry Out Loud, and I am looking forward to the experience once again. There are so many people who have supported and inspired me on this journey and they all deserve thanks and praise. I would like to thank my parents, Bruce and Julie Moen; my brothers, Erik and Kevin Moen; my English teacher, Mary Beth Aragon; my Methodologies director, Francie Winters; and my friends, family members, classmates and teachers.

PERSHING COUNTY

Erika Marchesini – Junior

Pershing County High School – Russell Fecht, Principal

Erika is returning to the Nevada Poetry Out Loud State Competition for the 3rd consecutive year. Erika is a junior in high school and served her first semester of this school year as a Senate Page in Washington, DC, working under Senator Harry Reid. Erika is also involved in cheerleading, choir, piano, and drama class. She has a love of literature and history. Erika was born in Boise, Idaho and has lived in Lovelock, Nevada for most of her life. She would like to thank her mother, who is also her drama teacher, Julie Terry; and her father, Shaun Terry.

FINALISTS

STOREY COUNTY

Jamie Poston – Freshman

Homeschooled

Jamie Poston is a 14-year-old home-schooled student and was born and raised in Nevada. She is an assistant coach for Virginia City Volleyball Club as well as a player in the Silver State Volleyball Club and Reno Fast pitch Softball League. A lot of her time is also devoted to the TRONN Robotics club, which feeds her interest to become a robotic engineer when she graduates college. On the rare occasion when she has an open spot in her schedule, she loves to curl up with a good book, surf the web, or go on a hike with her two dogs. Jamie would like to thank her parents, Patti and Jim Poston; her brother, Price Poston; and her - VCHS Teacher/ Poetry Coach, Christine Prater.

WASHOE COUNTY

Emily Orellana – Senior

Rainshadow Community Charter High School – Steve West, Principal

Emily Orellana is 18 years old and currently a senior at Rainshadow Community Charter High School. With a passion for reading and writing, a love of poetry has always come naturally to her. A writer herself, she finds it challenging and intriguing to perform the works of other poets. Although Emily has put in much work to compete in Poetry Out Loud, she firmly believes she would not have made it this far without the help and guidance of her mentor PAN Pantoja.

WHITE PINE COUNTY

Alyssa Whitlock – Junior

White Pine High School – Adam Young, Principal

My name is Alyssa Whitlock, and I am a seventeen-year-old junior at White Pine High School. My passions in life all revolve around the theater. I first entered the Poetry Out Loud contest at my school last year, and was awarded third place, so I continued this year, where I placed first. My teacher, Mrs. Tucker, encouraged my class to enter the contest, and she helped me when I had a question about my chosen poems. I've been inspired by my family to follow my dreams, because they believe in me and in what I can do with my life. I would like to thank my parents, Anna and Curtis Gibson; my sister, Breanna Gibson; and my theater teacher, Kathy Tucker.

JUDGES

Anthony Brady hails from the "Windy City" as a distinguished actor, play-write and director. Within the last fifteen years he has been associated with numerous production companies such as MPAACT, ETA Theatre and The Ira Aldridge Theatre Company in Las Vegas. With a passion for directing stage plays, Brady was well received in Chicago for his directorial talent for "Judges" and "Pushkin Forever: The Life and Times of Alexander Pushkin." With his company Co-Vision Productions now located in Las Vegas NV, his aim is to push multicultural theatre further into mainstream consciousness.

Dr. Karin Ekanger has been a Nevada resident since 1992. She holds a BA in English from the University of Montana and a Masters in Language Arts Education from Montana State University. She earned her Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Nova Southeastern University. Karin has taught secondary English and reading in Montana, the Philippines, Germany, Southern California, and Nevada. Karin has worked in Clark County School District's curriculum and new teacher orientation programs before becoming an administrator at Valley High School. She currently is the Voyager Learning Sales Executive for Nevada, representing Reading and Math intervention solutions for the Cambium Learning Group (sponsor of Poetry Out Loud).

Stacy Kies Endres is a long-time writer, publications coordinator and teacher in Nevada. As a freelancer, she has contributed to numerous publications. During her wide-ranging career, Stacy taught English and journalism at the secondary and university levels. With a Master of Arts in Speech Communication and Bachelor's in Journalism from the University of Nevada, Reno, she has served in a variety of positions, including publications coordinator at Renown Health System; vice president for communications, Nevada Hospital Association; development officer, University of Nevada School of Medicine; fine arts publicist, University of Nevada, Las Vegas; and reporter for several newspapers. Her newest career path is in voiceover work, and she currently volunteers with the Nevada State Library Talking Books program. Her website is www.stacyendres.com. She has served as a board member of Nevada Arts Council since 2007.

Steven Nightingale is the author of two novels, *The Lost Coast* and *Thirteenth Daughter of the Moon*; and four books of sonnets - *Cartwheels*, *The Planetary Tambourine*, *Cinnamon Theologies*, and *The Light in Them Is Permanent*. He has also written a column for the Reno Gazette-Journal on his favorite books of various centuries, taught by invitation in public schools and a juvenile prison, and has given talks on Emily Dickinson, Idries Shah, Boccaccio, and Medieval Spain, in addition to the wild, digressive readings of his own work. A native Nevadan, Steven lived until recently in southern Spain, in a 1000-year old barrio in Granada. Now he is back on the loose in his home state and in Northern California, and writing sonnets uncontrollably. His newest collection of sonnets will, with any luck, be released by Black Rock Press in 2011.

JUDGES

Mary O. Simmons has been with NV Energy for over 25 years and has held a number of management positions including her current position as VP, External Af airs, Controller, and Assistant Treasurer of Shareholder Relations. Mary is a Certified Public Accountant and a Certified Internal Auditor. She is a graduate of the University of Nevada, Reno and has held many board positions in the community including Chairman of the Reno-Sparks Chamber of Commerce, Vice President and Treasurer of the Reno –Tahoe Airport Authority, the Nevada Women's Fund and the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority.

Christine Taylor received her B.A. and M.A. in English from Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas. She taught English at Sam Houston where she was also an Academic Judge for UIL and Drama. After retiring, she and her husband, Bill, returned to Nevada. Taylor taught English for Western Nevada College and is currently a substitute teacher for Smith Valley Schools. In 2002, she was honored by being included in the *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*. She enjoys reading, writing and taking long walks with her dog, Gus.

Tim Jones (Master of Ceremonies) serves as chairman of the Nevada Arts Council, a nine-member board appointed by the Governor. During his 29-year career at the University of Nevada, Reno, Tim served as the Director of University Arts and an Associate Director of the School of the Arts. 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" education/participation series for children. Tim has served as a member of a number of non-profit boards and advisory boards in Reno and at Lake Tahoe, and received the 2010 Arts Advocacy Award from the National Association of Counties. He received his B.A. in broadcasting and an M .A. in speech/communication from Washington State University.

ACKNOWLEGEMENTS

CARSON COUNTY

Coordinator: Karen Chandler

Schools: Carson High School, Silver State Charter High School

Principals: Ron Beck, Alan Staggs

Teachers: Karen Chandler, Abbey Gardner, Kristen Scott

CHURCHILL COUNTY

Coordinator: Myke Nelsen

School: Churchill County High School

Principal: Kevin Lords

Teacher: Myke Nelsen

CLARK COUNTY

Coordinator: Judy Myers, Clark County School-Community Partnership Program

Schools: Advanced Technologies Academy, Arbor View High School, Basic High School, Bishop Gorman High School, Cheyenne High School, College of Southern Nevada High School South, College of Southern Nevada High School West, Coronado High School, East Career & Technical Academy, Green Valley High School, Las Vegas High School, Mojave High School, Palo Verde High School, SECTA, Shadow Ridge High School, Sunrise Mountain High School, Virgin Valley High School, Western High School, West Prep

Principals: Karen Diamond, Pat Hayden, David Bechtel, Aggie Evert, April Key, Dennis Birr, Lee Koelliker, Glenda Goetting, Jef ery Horn, Debbie Brockett, Charity Varnado, Daniel Phillips, Richard Arguello, Thomas Barberini, John Barlow, David Wilson, Neddy Alvarez, Dr. Barton

Teachers: Mary Ziegler, Danella Tobler-Hanief, Kristin Pohl, Christine Ramos, Sandra Edwards, Rachel Burke, Serrin Anderson, Viviana De Armas, Daren Stewart, Amy Furmanek, Kim Sicam, Greta Johnson, James Lippitt, Shaun Ingalls, Ben Jorgensen, Lori Jorgensen, Steve White, Sarah Calvo, Davette Williams, Lisa Teruya, Kim Tascano

DOUGLAS COUNTY

Coordinator: Elizabeth Mannino-Tully

Schools: Douglas County High School, Carson Valley Middle School, Pau-Wa-Lu Middle School

Principals: Marty Swisher, Robert Been, Keith Lewis

Teachers: Elizabeth Mannino-Tully, Susan Van Doren, Callie Parr, Kristina Erb, Lorna Doerr, Jamie Nerska, Zoe Shorten

ELKO COUNTY

Coordinator: Emily Nielson

Schools: Carlin High School, Elko High School, Owyhee High School, Spring Creek High School

Principals: Janice Alexander, Michael Altenburg, Joseph Mirich, Keith Walz

Teachers: Kari Baker, Kelly Moon, Emily Nielson, Kathy Olson, Katie Pongrekun, Amy Isaman, Julie Lewis

HUMBOLDT COUNTY

Coordinator: Vicky Meissner

School: Albert Lowry High School

Principal: Debbie Watts

Teachers: Vicki Meissner

LANDER COUNTY

Coordinator: Jacqueline Lindsey

Schools: Battle Mountain High School

Principal: Susan Baldwin

Teacher: Jacqueline Lindsey

LINCOLN COUNTY

Coordinator: Pete Peterson

Schools: Lincoln County High School

Principals: Marty Soderborg

Teacher: Pete Peterson

LYON COUNTY

Coordinator: Debbie Arrighi, Yerington Theater of the Arts

Schools: Dayton High School, Fernley High School, Yerington High School

Principals: Wayne Workman, Robert Kent Jones, Jerry Ogolin

Teachers: Karl Watts, Lynne Gervais, Amanda Aldridge, Royce Aldridge, Gary Stone

MINERAL COUNTY

Coordinator: Bea Whitney

School: Mineral County High School

Principal: Walt Hackford

NYE COUNTY

Coordinator: MaryBeth Aragon

Schools: Beatty High School, Pahrump Valley High School

Principal: Gary Flood, Max Buf

Teachers: MaryBeth Arbor, Bonnie Chenevert

PERSHING COUNTY

Coordinator: Julie Terry

School: Pershing County High School

Principal: Russell Fecht

Teacher: Julie Terry

STOREY COUNTY

Coordinator: Christine Prater

School: Virginia City High School

Principal: Patrick Beckwith

Teacher: Christine Prater, Greta Gard, Jacqueline Petrosky

WASHOE COUNTY

Coordinator: Stacey Spain, Sierra ArtsFoundation

Schools: Coral Academy of Science - Reno, Damonte Ranch High School, Galena High School, McQueen High School, Rainshadow Charter High School, Truckee Meadows Community College High School

Principals: Yilmaz AK, Denise Hauser, Tom Brown, John Carlson, Steve West, Susan Mayes-Smith

Teachers: Thomas A. Smith, Rod Hearn, Francine Gray, Tamera West, Dawn Callahan, Kira Temple, Stacy Allinson, Jillian Merson, Pan Pantoja, Laurie Gardner

WHITE PINE COUNTY

Coordinator: Kelly Sturgeon

Schools: White Pine High School

Principal: Adam Young

Teacher: Kelly Sturgeon

ACKNOWLEGEMENTS

Superintendents:
Richard Stokes, Carson City School District; Dr. Carolyn Ross, Churchill County School District; Dwight D. Jones, Clark County School District; Dr. Lisa Noonan, Douglas County School District; Jef Zander; Elko County School District; Robert Aumaugher, Esmerelda County School District; Ben Zunino, Eureka County School District, Mike Bumgartner, Humboldt County School District; Steve Larsgaard (acting), Lander County School District; Nykki Holton, Lincoln County School District; Caroline McIntosh, Lyon County School District; Terry White, Mineral County School District; Dr. William (Rob) Roberts, Nye County School District; Daniel Fox, Pershing County School District; Dr. Robert Slaby, Storey County School District; Dr. Heath Morrison, Washoe County School District; Robert Dolezal, White Pine County School District; and Keith Rheault, Superintendent of Public Instruction

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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 fund raiser 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.

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 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.

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 Af airs, NAC is funded by the Nevada State Legislature, the National Endowment for the Arts and other private sources.

SPONSORS

Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation is honored to provide travel support for regional and state finals of Poetry Out Loud in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts.

Nevada Planning Committee

Tim Jones –Chair, Nevada Arts Council

MaryJane Dorofachuk – Arts Education Program Coordinator Nevada Arts Council

Susan Boskoff – Executive Director, Nevada Arts Council

Catherine Borg – Arts Education Program Assistant, Nevada Arts Council

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

Joe Serpic – Executive Director, Nevada Alliance for Arts Education

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What Is Poetry Out Loud?

For this sixth year of the Nevada Poetry Out Loud Recitation Competition (POL), once again, all high schooled-aged students across the state were invited and encouraged to participate. This year, POL engaged more than 2,500 students, family members,friends and coaches; and 64 teachers — representing 47 schools (public, charter, private and homeschools) in 15 of Nevada's 17 counties and school districts. 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

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 Renaissance DC Dupont Circle Hotel on Wednesday, April 27, with the National Semifinals to be held on April 28 and the Finals on April 29 at the Lincoln Theatre.

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.

The Nevada Arts Council, Nevada Alliance for Arts Education and Nevada Department of Education, proud sponsors of the Nevada Poetry Out Loud Program, congratulate all of this year's competitors!

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CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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POETRY
OUT LOUD
NATIONAL RECITATION CONTEST

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