




1

Why Poetry Out Loud?

- ❖ To introduce students to great poetry, both classic and contemporary
- ❖ To address the decreasing rate of literary reading among young people
- ❖ To encourage students to explore their literary heritage
- ❖ To help students develop life skills such as poise and public speaking



POETRY OUT LOUD 



2

What do POL sponsors get?

- ❖ NCTE standards-based teacher's guide
- ❖ Website with online anthology of 1,000 + poems
- ❖ Individualized assistance with getting started and throughout program
- ❖ Free visits by poets and performing artists
- ❖ Choice! Run your program small or large



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3

Opportunities for Libraries

- ❖ Partnerships with local schools and home-school groups
- ❖ Expanded community engagement
 - Youth programming
 - Volunteer opportunities (teachers or community members as judges, program assistants)
- ❖ Enhance existing programs such as book clubs

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4

POETRY OUT LOUD®

POL Program in Libraries

- ❖ Aligned with Nebraska English Language Arts and Theatre Standards
- ❖ Can be carried out in libraries as weekly sessions over one month or more.
- ❖ Can take place anytime September through January
- ❖ 2025 Qualifier competition will be held online, and State Finals will take place on a Sunday to avoid conflicts with school Speech or Sports programs



5

POETRY OUT LOUD®

What's the appeal for students?

- ❖ Cash awards
- ❖ Participation builds confidence
- ❖ Students enjoy competition
- ❖ Students learn from one another
- ❖ They discover a love of poetry



6

POETRY OUT LOUD®

More about prizes...

- ❖ Students compete for over \$50,000 in prizes and scholarships!
- ❖ Prizes include cash awards for schools/libraries to purchase poetry materials.



7

POETRY OUT LOUD®

More Information and signup form

Nebraska Arts Council website

<https://www.artsCouncil.nebraska.gov/arts-education/poetry-out-loud/>



8