Maryland 2020-2021

Info Webinar

October 1, 3-4pm

Host: Precious Blake
Arts in Education Program
Director and Accessibility Coordinator

2020 Maryland Poetry Out Loud top three. From L to R: Katie Spencer 3rd Place Winner, State Champion Randolph Smith, 2nd Place Winner Maylis Quesnel
Poetry Out Loud Overview

Poetry Out Loud is a national arts education program that encourages the study of great poetry by offering free educational materials and a dynamic recitation competition to high schools across the country.

- Created by National Endowment for the Arts and Poetry Foundation
- Poetry Out Loud Anthology of Poems
- POL’s reach is expansive!
- Student Stipends/Awards

Learn more at poetryoutloud.org
School (Public or Private)
- Host classroom & school level competitions for 9-12 graders
- Host chooses top 2 students to submits video for pre-regionals

Community Organization
- Host organization level competition for 9-12 graders
- Host chooses top 2 students to submits video for pre-regionals

Independent Student
- No host or competition needed
- 9-12 grade student submits video for pre-regionals

Maryland Poetry Out Loud Virtual Competition: Avenues to Access
2020-2021 Maryland Poetry Out Loud

August 26 - November 2
REGISTRATION
- All organizations, schools, and independent students register with their intent to submit poetry recitation videos

November 15 - January 1
VIRTUAL PRE-REGIONALS
- All registrants submit videos reciting two poems from the POL Anthology.
- Pre-regional judges choose top 12 students per region (3 regions) to move to a live-streamed Regional competition

January & February 2021 (exact dates TBD)
VIRTUAL REGIONALS
- Top 12 students per region (36 total) compete
- Submit a homemade video or set up a recording appt
- Regional judges choose top 3 students to move to a live-streamed State competition

March 9, 2021
VIRTUAL STATE
- Top 3 students per region (9 total) compete at state
- Submit a homemade video or set up a recording appt
- State judges choose 2021 champion to moves to Nationals

Spring 2021
VIRTUAL NATIONALS
- Maryland State Champion competes at Virtual National competition

*Regional and state competitions will be livestreamed in real time.
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Student and Educator Extended Learning + Support

- November Poetry Masterclasses by MSAC and MSDE
- Winter Rehearsal Hours + coaching opportunities for Regional and State competitors
- Tech Stipend or professional videotaping appointments for Regional and State Competitors

2020 State Competitor and Poetry Ourselves Winner Joy Campbell
NEA Filming Requirements

- Film with a horizontal orientation.
- Face the camera so it captures your head to mid-torso (medium shot).
- Each recitation should be filmed in one single shot from one static angle.
- The sound and picture must be clear.
- Videos cannot be edited.
- Do not add music, graphics, titles, virtual backgrounds, or computer animation.
- Use of professional recording studios is prohibited.
- For video submission contests, each recitation requires its own separate video.
- Students must begin by stating the title of the poem and the poet’s name, and the translator, if applicable.
- A student’s own editorial comments before or after the poem are not allowed.
- Poems must be recited from memory.
Tips for making a GREAT poetry recitation video:

- All you need is a camera! Laptop, phone, digital camera, camcorder.
- Do not shoot handheld. Use books/chairs/tripod.
- Student should be standing.
- Use a plugged in microphone if you have it. Or place the camera as close to the student as possible.
- Listen to the recording after recording.
- No school insignia or clues to the school’s identity.
- Students may look directly into the camera, at a fixed spot, or at an imagined audience.
- Make sure the student the only visible and audible person in the video.
Tips for making a GREAT poetry recitation video:

- Start recording a few seconds before the recitation and stop recording a few seconds after the end.
- Film yourself in front of a blank/neutral wall, not in front of a window or with any distracting backgrounds.
- Try to avoid wearing clothing in similar colors to the background.
- Camera should not pan or zoom in.
- If a student forgets a line or makes a mistake, start the recitation again.
- For submission: large video files may take a long time to upload on SmartSimple (submission upload platform.) We encourage you to upload your videos to a personal Youtube Page as a back up.
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Go to Poetry Out Loud’s Youtube Page for examples of recitation videos!
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Interested in hosting a local competition or submitting a video for pre-regionals? Next Steps:

1. All: **REGISTER NOW!** This is your intent to submit a video for pre-regionals.
2. Want to host a competition? Read the teacher organizer guide and **POL Anthology**!
3. Independent student? Read the POL Anthology and practice!
4. All: Look out for masterclasses and rehearsal hours registration!
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Interested in being a coach or Judge? Next Steps:

1. Read the 2020-2021 POL Judges Guide
2. Watch at least one recitation video
3. Make a SmartSimple Account
4. Under Funding Opportunities, select "Public Call."
5. Select "Poetry Out Loud Judge/Coach" from the drop-down options and click "Save Draft" to populate the application.
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Questions?

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