

# POETRY OUT LOUD



**NEW YORK**  
National Recitation Contest  
*managed by*  
TEACHERS & WRITERS COLLABORATIVE

## WELCOME TO POL!

Poetry Out Loud (POL) is a national contest that encourages high school students to learn about great poetry through memorization and recitation. Through POL, students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about their literary heritage. POL helps students achieve New York State standards in ELA and can generate positive visibility for your school.

## GET STARTED

To participate in the regional, state, and national competitions, register your school by sending an email to [POL@twc.org](mailto:POL@twc.org) or go to [www.twc.org/programs](http://www.twc.org/programs). Participating teachers receive a Teacher's Guide and can download everything they need to run a successful competition.

Resources include guides for teachers and judges, a searchable anthology of more than 900 poems, and more!

*Deadline to register is 12/1/2018.*

## VARIOUS WAYS TO PARTICIPATE

POL can be a boost in your community and a great addition to your current curriculum or programs. Here are examples of ways you can start a local program:

- **English teachers** can implement the POL curriculum in their classrooms by setting aside two weeks to analyze and recite poems from the anthology. Each classroom can run its own contest and send the class winner to the school-wide competition.
- The **drama or theater teacher** uses POL to help students strengthen public speaking and performance skills. After participating in open-mic poetry recitations and mock contests, a school contest is held in the library during lunch.
- A **school administrator** organizes an after-school POL group for students to practice memorizing and performing their poems. The contest can be held in the school cafeteria or library and judged by administrators and teachers.
- A **parent volunteer** convenes a weekend poetry group outside of school. Students have the opportunity to receive peer feedback. The contest is held in a classroom after school, judged by a local poet and the school's writer-in-residence.
- In a **home school** group, small groups of families recite poetry together. Competing students are scored by at least two non-biased (not family members) judges at a local library or community center.
- A **community-based organization** or **literary center** can build POL lesson plans into their existing programming. The culminating contest could be held on a Saturday at their local center or meeting room with a public audience including parents, teachers, and friends.

*If you have questions about Poetry Out Loud, please email us at [POL@twc.org](mailto:POL@twc.org).*

### SPONSORS:

National Endowment for the Arts  
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New York State Council on the Arts  
Teachers & Writers Collaborative

