POETRY OUT LOUD

Pittsburgh Center for Arts and Media invites you to participate in Pennsylvania's 2023-24 Poetry Out Loud Contest!

You are invited to join other high schools across the country for the annual Poetry Out Loud (POL) national arts education program! Your high school's champion will participate in one of the 14 regional finals from around Pennsylvania and these champions will participate in the PA state finals organized by the PA Council on the Arts, currently scheduled to be held on March 4, 2024. Please visit Pittsburgh Center for Arts and Media's POL webpage for updated information and previous regional winners. PCA&M's Arts in Education and POL service region includes Allegheny, Beaver, Greene, and Washington counties. PA's state champion will participate in the national finals, currently scheduled for April 30-May 2, 2024 in Washington, D.C.

Participation in *Poetry Out Loud* encourages students to learn about great poetry through memorization, performance, and competition. **Free, standards-based curriculum materials are available for schools, teachers, and students.** Please see and download the 2023-24 Guide for Teachers and Organizers. Studying literature, including poetry, addresses at least three Anchor Assessments as per the PA Core ELA Standards: Speaking and Listening (SL. 9-10, SL 12-11), Reading (RL. 9-10, RL 11-12), and Language (L. 9-10, L 11-12). You may refer to the Teachers and Organizers section of the POL website for more information regarding NCTE, Common Core, and National Core Arts Standards and for additional ideas and information on how to incorporate Poetry Out Loud into your curriculum.

- *POL's 2023-24 Teachers and Organizers Guide* offers suggestions so that you can **customize** the program to meet your time and schedule constraints.
- *POL's Fact Sheet* includes information regarding the positive impact of participating in the program.

Getting Involved

- Individual teachers or a group of teachers, a school club, an entire school, homeschoolers, and/or community organizations may participate.
- Teachers may determine the extent of their participation – from incorporating *POL* into a unit of study to offering *POL* as an extra credit

or after school project – or use some or all of the lesson plans offered on-line.

Whatever type of program you plan to implement, the end result should be **one winner from your school who will participate in PCA&M's regional competition currently** scheduled for *Saturday, February 3, 2024* with **February 10 as the snow date.**

What Must Students Do?
Choose three poems from the *POL* on-line anthology, mster anthology, or print anthology to read, memorize, and recite. Please go to: https://www.poetryoutloud.org/ Students may also download and use a new, free *POL* app developed by the Poetry Foundation to find, save, and practice poems for the competition on their phones or tablets: App Store (iOS) or Google Play Store (Android)

- Recitations may not include props, costumes, or music. Some gestures and minimal movement may, however, be appropriate to a given poem.
- Each school's winner is eligible to participate in the regional contest on *February 3, 2024.*
- Participants will prepare three (3) poems to recite for the regional contest.
- Each **regional winner** will participate in PA's state contest on March 4, 2024.
- The state winner will receive $200 and an all-expense paid trip (with a chaperone) to Washington, DC to compete for the national championship April 30-May 2, 2024.
- The state winner's school will receive a $500 stipend to purchase poetry books. A runner-up in each state will receive $100 with $200 for his/her school to purchase poetry books.

Questions?
Contact Mary Brenholts mbrenholts@pghartsmedia.org or 412-606-4723.

Please complete PCA&M's *2023-24 Intent to Participate Form* and return it to Mary via email by January 5, 2024 (earlier is better!) so we can register you and keep you informed!

pennsylvania
COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

Pittsburgh Center for **Arts & Media**