



Pittsburgh Center for Arts and Media invites you to participate in Pennsylvania's 2020-21 Poetry Out Loud Contest!

You are invited to join other high schools across the country for the annual [Poetry Out Loud National Recitation Contest \(POL\)](#). Your high school's champion will participate in one of the 15 regional finals from around PA and these 15 champions will participate in the virtual state finals tentatively scheduled for March 8, 2021. [Pittsburgh Center for Arts and Media's](#) Arts in Education/POL service region includes Allegheny, Beaver, Greene, and Washington counties. The state champion will participate in the virtual national finals scheduled for Spring 2021. Please view and download the [POL Virtual Competitions and Filming Requirements document](#).

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 [2020-21 Poetry Out Loud Teacher's Guide](#).

- 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 & Organizers](#) section of the POL website for more information regarding [NCTE and Common Core Standards](#) and for additional ideas and information on how to incorporate Poetry Out Loud into your curriculum.
- The Teacher's Guide offers suggestions so that you can **customize** the program to meet your time and schedule constraints.
- Teachers and students both may access POL website support resources that include more than 600 poems, media guides and more.

Getting Involved

- Individual teachers or a group of teachers, a school club, an entire school, homeschoolers, and 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 submit video recitations to PCA&M**. Virtual judging is scheduled for **February 6-13, 2021**.

What Must Students Do?

Choose three poems from the POL on-line anthology to memorize and recite. GO TO:

<https://www.poetryoutloud.org/search/?type=>

- 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 submit three video recitations (one of each poem) to PCA&M by February 1, 2021.
- Review and follow the [POL Virtual Competition and Filming Requirements 2020-21](#). *Please note that use of professional recording studios is prohibited.*
- Each **regional winner** will participate in PA's virtual state contest tentatively scheduled for March 8, 2021
- The state winner will receive \$200 and participate in the virtual national championship in Spring 2021.
- 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@pfpca.org or 412-361-0455, ex 404

Please complete PCA&M's 2020-21 Intent to Participate Form and return it to Mary by January 8, 2021 (sooner is better!) so we can register you and keep you informed!