



## ABOUT THE COMPETITION

The National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation have once again partnered with the South Dakota Arts Council to support **Poetry Out Loud**, a **FREE** high school program which encourages the nation's youth to learn about great poetry through memorization and recitation. This dynamic program helps high school students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, learn about their literary heritage, and compete for more than \$100,000 in awards.



POL National Finalists enjoy some fun before the 2020 event in D.C.  
© James Kegley



Gage Gramlick, 2018 & 2019 SD state champion  
© James Kegley



## How do I get my students involved?

In order to compete, schools must register through the South Dakota Arts Council. All materials and resources will be provided. Poetry Out Loud begins NOW in the classroom! Later in the school year, schools will hold local competitions to identify one student winner to represent their school in the preliminary round of competition. The state finals competition will be held on March 16 to determine the state winner representing South Dakota at the National Finals in Washington, DC.

## Each winner at the state level will receive:

- A \$200 cash prize and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, DC
- \$500 for their school to purchase poetry books
- An opportunity to compete at the National Finals for the title of National Champion and a \$20,000 award

For more information or to register your school, please contact  
DJ Steckelberg at [djsteck@gmail.com](mailto:djsteck@gmail.com) or  
605-660-3641 or visit [www.poetryoutloud.org](http://www.poetryoutloud.org).

