



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.
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Gage Gramlick, 2018 & 2019 SD state champion
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How do I get my students involved?

In order to compete, reach out to rebecca.cruse@state.sd.us to let her know you have students who will be participating. All materials and resources are available online. This year, the state and national finals will be held virtually and no local competitions are required! Videos for the preliminary round are due Feb. 28. The state finals competition will be held virtually on March 15 to determine the state winner representing South Dakota at the National Finals.

Each winner at the state level will receive:

- A \$200 cash prize;
- \$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 top prize!

For more information or to register your school, please contact Rebecca Cruse at Rebecca.cruse@state.sd.us or 605.295.4052 or visit www.poetryoutloud.org.

