



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.



Maddie Lukomski, 2017 SD state champ
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Shivalo Soldier Wolf, 2015 SD state champ
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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. State finalists will compete March 12 in Sioux Falls to determine which student will represent South Dakota at the National Finals in Washington, DC.

Each winner at the state level will receive:

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



For more information or to register your school, contact DJ Steckelberg:

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or visit www.poetryoutloud.org.

