



OREGON ARTS  
COMMISSION

## Guidelines

### Poetry Out Loud: National Poetry Recitation Competition

*Deadline November 3, 2008*

The Oregon Arts Commission, with support from the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Poetry Foundation, announces *Poetry Out Loud*, a national program that involves students in the study and recitation of classic poetry. Recitation contests will take place at participating high schools across Oregon this fall and winter. Winners from each high school will compete in a statewide event in Spring, 2009. Oregon's winner will receive \$200 and an all-expense paid trip to Washington D.C. to participate in the National Finals. The *Poetry Out Loud* National Champion will be awarded a college scholarship of \$20,000.

*Poetry Out Loud* builds on the resurgence of poetry as an oral art form, demonstrated by the slam poetry movement and the immense popularity of rap music among American youth. The program encourages Oregon's young people to learn about great poetry through memorization and performance, which helps students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and internalize our rich literary heritage.

**Teaching materials and curriculum guides will be provided to each participating teacher free of charge.**

#### Eligibility

Schools must meet the following criteria for Poetry Out Loud participation:

- Be a public, private or parochial high school in the State of Oregon.
- Have at least 2 classrooms in the school participating in the poetry recitation competition.
- Be able to conduct a school-wide poetry recitation contest by February 25, 2009.
- Commit to providing Poetry Out Loud-related classroom instruction.
- Agree to send school winner to the State Contest on March 14, 2009. Funding assistance for travel will be available.

#### Home School Participation

Home-schools are encouraged to participate in Oregon's Poetry Out Loud competition. However, home-school students must go through a version of a school-level contest in order to be eligible for participation in the state finals. For example, home-school students might compete against other local home-school students, or participate in a contest at a neighborhood school.

#### Application for Participation

Applications for the Poetry Out Loud Competition may be downloaded from the Oregon Arts Commission website: [www.oregonartscommission.org](http://www.oregonartscommission.org).

#### Deadline

Completed applications must be received by the Oregon Arts Commission no later than 5 p.m., **November 3, 2008** via fax, email or postal mail.

**Fax:** (503) 986-0260

**Email:** [oregon.artscomm@state.or.us](mailto:oregon.artscomm@state.or.us)

**Postal mail:** 775 Summer St. NE, Ste 200  
Salem, Oregon 97301-1280

**Assistance**

Oregon Arts Commission staff are available to assist you with questions about the Poetry Out Loud program and application. Contact Deb Vaughn at (503) 986-0085, or email [Deborah.Vaughn@state.or.us](mailto:Deborah.Vaughn@state.or.us)

**Access Compliance**

Any entity that provides services to the public must be in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Arts organizations specifically must be familiar with section 504. If you have questions about Access issues, contact Shannon Planchon, Oregon Arts Commission, via phone at (503) 229-6062 or email [shannon.planchon@state.or.us](mailto:shannon.planchon@state.or.us).

### Alternate Format Application

Upon request, Arts Commission grant application materials will be made available in alternate format such as Braille, large type, or on audiotape. For applicants who are hearing-impaired and require TDD assistance, call (800)-735-2900.

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