

MONA POETRY TANA OUT LOUD



POETRY OUT **LOUD**

Created by the National Endowment for the Arts in 2004, Poetry Out Loud engages high school students in the art of poetry through the performance of celebrated poets' works, past and present. The Montana Arts Council (MAC) invites students in grades 9 – 12 to participate individually with support from MAC, or together with classmates through educator-led activities and events.

Poetry Out Loud is easy to implement and is supported through access to resources, an online anthology of poems, and virtual workshop opportunities.

Program activities culminate in schoolwide or local recitation events and regional competitions through which top finishers advance to the annual Montana State Finals in Helena. From there, one student will go on to represent our state at the National Poetry Out Loud Finals in Washington D.C.

Why participate in Poetry Out Loud?

Through participation in Poetry Out Loud, students:

- Develop and hone public speaking skills while discovering their unique voices
- Gain fluency in poetry recitation and spoken word performance
- Build their self confidence
- Meet and celebrate peers from around the state and potentially nationwide
- Compete to win monetary prizes and poetry books for their school

COVER: NORA SLOVARP RECITING AT 2024 STATE FINALS. PHOTO BY ERIC HEIDLE

PROGRAM RESOURCES: art.mt.gov/pol

CONTACT

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IMPORTANT 2025-26 DATES

OCTOBER 1

25-26 POL Anthology LIVE

OCTOBER 1-31

School and participant
recruitment period

NOVEMBER 1-30

Students engaged with poetry

DECEMBER 1-12

Classroom (or club)
competitions held

DECEMBER 15

Schools register to
participate in Regionals

JANUARY 22

All students registered
for Regionals

FEBRUARY 5-12

Regional events held (TBD)

MARCH 7

Montana State Finals
in Helena

APRIL 27-29

National Finals in DC

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