

The Washington State Arts Commission Presents



POETRY OUT LOUD
Washington State Final Competition

Saturday, March 10, 2012

*Broadway Center for the Performing Arts
Rialto Theatre*

Tacoma, Washington

With the Kareem Kandi Band

Presented by the **Washington State Arts Commission**,
with support from the **National Endowment for the Arts** and **The Poetry Foundation**.
Thanks to the **Broadway Center for the Performing Arts** for their sponsorship of this event.



Poetry Out Loud ♦ Washington State Final ♦ March 10, 2012

Sixty eight schools in Washington State participated in *Poetry Out Loud* this year. After classroom-level competitions and school-wide competitions, these schools sent their top students to one of seven regional finals, held in Northwest Washington, Southwest Washington, Central Washington, Eastern Washington, Southeast Washington and the Puget Sound region, which was split into two regional finals.

Students from each of these seven regional finals have advanced to the state final. These twelve students are competing for the title of Washington State *Poetry Out Loud* Champion for 2012.

The winner of the state final will receive \$200, and the winner's school will receive a \$500 stipend for the purchase of poetry books. The second place finalist will receive \$100, with \$200 for his or her school library. The state champion will receive an all-expenses-paid trip to compete in the National Finals in Washington, DC, on May 13-15, 2012.

The *Poetry Out Loud* National Finals will award a total of \$50,000 in scholarships and school stipends, with a \$20,000 college scholarship for the National Champion.

...and the Twelve Washington State Finalists are:

<u><i>Student</i></u>	<u><i>School</i></u>	<u><i>District</i></u>	<u><i>County</i></u>
Bonnie Blanchard	West Valley High School	Yakima	Yakima
Garrett Lee Gentry	Naches Valley High School	Naches	Yakima
Sarah Gibbons	Kamiakin High School	Kennewick	Benton
Sommer Harris	South Whidbey High School	South Whidbey	Island
Meghan Mulcahy	Olympia High School	Olympia	Thurston
Dylan Nehrenberg	Kentridge High School	Kent	King
Zoe Peterson	Squalicum High School	Bellingham	Whatcom
Abigail Ridgeway	Cedar Tree Classical Christian School	Private	Clark
Vanessa Serrano	Camas High School	Vancouver	Clark
Grace Shuman	Annie Wright School	Private	Pierce
Emma Spencer	Northshore Junior High School	Northshore	King
Langston Ward	Mead High School	Spokane	Spokane

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Host: Lucas Smiraldo

Music: The Kareem Kandi Band

Program: Introductions and Program Information
Kris Tucker, Executive Director, Washington State Arts Commission
First Round of Recitations – Twelve Students
- Short Intermission -
Second Round of Recitations – Twelve Students
Announcement of Five Finalists
- Short Intermission -
Third Round of Recitations – Five Students
Announcements and Acknowledgements
Presentation of Awards
Q&A with All Student Participants



About Poetry Out Loud:

Recitation and performance are major current trends in poetry. There has been a recent resurgence of poetry as an oral art form, as seen in the slam poetry movement and the great popularity of hip-hop music. *Poetry Out Loud* builds on that momentum by inviting the dynamic aspects of slam poetry, spoken word, and theater into the English class.

The National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation have partnered with State Arts Agencies across the United States to support the expansion of *Poetry Out Loud*, a program that encourages the nation's youth to learn about great poetry through memorization and performance. This exciting program helps students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about their literary heritage.

After successful pilot programs in Washington, DC, and Chicago, *Poetry Out Loud* was launched as a nationwide program during the 2005-2006 school year. Here in Washington State, we've grown from 8 participating high schools in 2006, to 68 participating schools in the 2011-2012 school year. It is likely that next year's program will continue to expand.

Thanks to everyone who came to the state finals to enjoy great poetry and to support our twelve state finalists. Enjoy!

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Student Poem Selections

Students will recite in alphabetical order, by last name, for the first round of recitations, and in reverse alphabetical order for the second round. The five finalists who advance to the third round will recite in a randomly chosen order. All poems were selected from the *Poetry Out Loud* anthology, available at www.poetryoutloud.org.

<u>Student Name</u>	<u>Poem Titles and Authors, In Order of Recitation</u>
Bonnie Blanchard	<i>Dover Beach</i> by Matthew Arnold <i>The Greatest Grandeur</i> by Pattianne Rogers <i>The Author to Her Book</i> by Anne Bradstreet
Garrett Lee Gentry	<i>Dulce et Decorum Est</i> by Wilfred Owen <i>Analysis of Baseball</i> by May Swenson <i>Richard Cory</i> by Edwin Arlington Robinson
Sarah Gibbons	<i>Time Does Not Bring Relief: You All Have Lied</i> by Edna St. Vincent Millay <i>The Tables Turned</i> by William Wordsworth <i>It Isn't Me</i> by James Lasdun
Sommer Harris	<i>Jabberwocky</i> by Lewis Carroll <i>Chicago</i> by Carl Sandburg <i>Crossing the Bar</i> by Alfred, Lord Tennyson
Meghan Mulcahy	<i>Fern Hill</i> by Dylan Thomas <i>The Chimney Sweeper: A little black thing among the snow</i> by William Blake <i>Ode for the American Dead in Asia</i> by Thomas McGrath
Dylan Nehrenberg	<i>Strange Meeting</i> by Wilfred Owen <i>Sonnet XXIX: When in Disgrace with Fortune and Men's Eyes</i> by William Shakespeare <i>Translations from the English</i> by George Starbuck
Zoe Peterson	<i>Annabel Lee</i> by Edgar Allen Poe <i>I Am the People, the Mob</i> by Carl Sandburg <i>It Couldn't be Done</i> by Edgar Albert Guest
Abigail Ridgeway	<i>On Quitting</i> by Edgar Albert Guest <i>Ego</i> by Denise Duhamel <i>I Am</i> by John Clare
Vanessa Serrano	<i>The Heaven of Animals</i> by James L. Dickey <i>a song in the front yard</i> by Gwendolyn Brooks <i>Thoughtless Cruelty</i> by Charles Lamb
Grace Shuman	<i>The Albatross</i> by Kate Bass <i>To an Athlete Dying Young</i> by A. E. Housman <i>Ovation</i> by Carol Muske-Dukes
Emma Spencer	<i>All This and More</i> by Mary Karr <i>The Children's Hour</i> by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow <i>The Obligation to be Happy</i> by Linda Pastan
Langston Ward	<i>Dover Beach</i> by Matthew Arnold <i>The Truly Great</i> by Stephen Spender <i>Chicago</i> by Carl Sandburg

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Biographies: Judges and Host

Anne Banks is the Program Supervisor for The Arts at the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction. Anne's work at OSPI has included participating in the development of academic standards across the core subjects. Before joining OSPI, Anne worked as a classroom teacher and provider of professional development. Anne holds an M.A. in Professional Development from Heritage University and a B.A. in Education from Central Washington University.

Ramon Esquivel is a Seattle writer and teacher. His work has been seen at the Kennedy Center, Indiana Repertory Theatre, Bloomington Playwrights Project, New York University and Northwestern University. Ramon's play *Luna* premieres in April at Central Washington University, and will then tour the Pacific Northwest. Ramon has taught English, history, and drama in New Haven, Washington DC, New York City and Seattle. He currently teaches at Lakeside School and serves on the board of 826 Seattle, which offers free writing workshops and homework drop-in support for kids.

Dr. Jane Gutting's 37-year career in public education began in Wisconsin, and has included positions at the University of Wisconsin, Washington State University, and the University of Oregon. She recently concluded an appointment on the state's Quality Education Council and currently serves as a board member for the Washington State Arts Commission. Jane retired from her position as Superintendent, Educational Service District 105, in June 2010. Jane is actively involved in community activities throughout central Washington, including Planned Parenthood, United Way of Yakima County, and Allied Arts. In addition to education, Jane's passions include issues of equity and diversity and the arts.

Bill Kupinse is associate professor of English at the University of Puget Sound, where he teaches British modernism, ecocriticism, and creative writing. Selected as Tacoma's first poet laureate in 2008, Bill's poems can be found in the current issue of the Washington Poets Association journal, *Cascade*, as well as in the anthologies *Many Trails to the Summit: Poems by Forty-two Northwest Poets* and *Collecting Life*; his own collection *Fallow* was published in 2009. Bill is now working on a book-length poem series inspired by the Hardy Boys adventure series, to which he owes a debt of gratitude for first introducing him to the words *dilemma*, *crestfallen*, and *fisticuffs*.

Ben Labouve is a sophomore at the University of Puget Sound, studying foreign language and literature with an emphasis on Spanish. As a Tacoma native, Ben gives back to the community by working as a tutor at the Tacoma Community House, working with illiterate adults to gain basic literacy skills. Ben is an avid writer and recently performed in a poetry reading at Metronome Café. In his spare time, he likes to rock climb, hike and dabbles in fashion photography.

Lucas Smiraldo is the Associate Director for Education at the Broadway Center. In addition to extensive teaching experience, he is a produced playwright, with commissioned performances at the Museum of Glass, Tacoma Art Museum and the city of Seattle's Hip Hop Awards. Luke launched the performance "Voice of the Americas" as both an original CD and live theater performance at the Broadway Center's Theatre on the Square in 2008. Most recently he completed two short films as "webisodes" called *Slam Town* and is working on the third installment for debut later this spring.

Tracy Vicory-Rosenquest has written and produced her plays in Seattle and Minneapolis including *All I Ever Wanted*, *A Brewed Awakening* and *Trip Open*. She received her MFA from Goddard College and is currently a member of the Teaching Artist Training Lab with Washington State Arts Commission and Seattle Repertory Theatre. Tracy also teaches with ACT Theatre's Young Playwrights Program, Writers in the Schools and other creative writing programs in the schools.

Charlie Walsh is pleased to be an accuracy judge once again for the Poetry Out Loud competition. As a teacher of eighteen years, he values the written word and appreciates the deliberate choices made by poets and writers. As a former actor, he understands the joy of performing and its significance in keeping the written word a vital part of lives. He would like to thank all of the student performers for bringing these poems to life.

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***Poetry Out Loud* Event Staff:**

Judges: Anne Banks, Ramon Esquivel, Jane Gutting, Bill Kupinse,
Tracy Vicory-Rosenquest, Charlie Walsh

Host: Lucas Smiraldo

Musicians: Kareem Kandi and Rob Hutchinson from the Kareem Kandi Band

Prompter: Ben Labouve

Washington State Arts Commission (WSAC) and Poetry Out Loud (POL) Staff:

Kris Tucker, WSAC Executive Director
Lisa Jaret, WSAC Arts in Education Program Manager; POL Project Director
Mary Lane, POL State Coordinator and Regional Coordinator for Puget Sound
Christel Ratliff, WSAC Arts in Education Assistant
Cathy Cochrane, WSAC Communications Manager

Special Thanks to our Regional Partners:

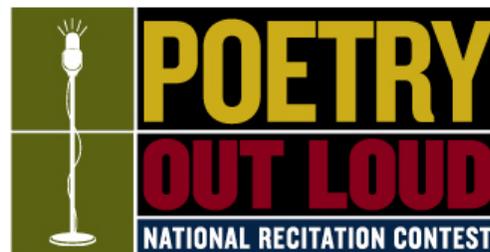
Central Washington: Allied Arts of Yakima Valley & ESD 105
Linda Brown, Coordinator

Southeast Washington: Columbia Basin College
Gwen James, Coordinator

Eastern Washington: Eastern Washington University & ESD 101
Melissa Huggins, Coordinator

Southwest Washington: Educational Service District 112
Casey Coleman, Coordinator

Northwest Washington: Educational Service District 189
Nancy Menard & Kathy Shoop, Coordinators



Many thanks to the Lead Teachers who coordinated *Poetry Out Loud* in their schools:

A.C. Davis-Doug Johnson; Anacortes-Brian Backman; Annie Wright-Joe Romano; Battleground – Heather Smithline; Burlington Edison-Jeremy Voigt; Camas-Terry Nyquist; Capitol-Liz Shine; Cedar Tree Classical Christian School-Diana Meadowcroft; Coram Deo Academy-Karen Nyman; Crosspoint Academy-Ruthanne Beddoe; Darrington-Joe Eckerson; Deer Park-Jeffrey Dunn; DeSales-Christine Richard; East Valley (Yakima)-Lynda Matthews; East Valley (Spokane)-Donald Krueger; Eatonville High School-Margie Hoffman; Eisenhower-Andi Manion; Emerald Ridge-Rachel Parks; Graham Kapowsin-Anne Bennett; Hayes Freedom-Stephanie Spencer; Highland Christian School-Wendy Tavenner; Hillside Student Community School-Kael Sherrard; Hockinson-Sally Drendel; Inglemoor-Joanna Walker; Kamiakin-Dan Clark; Kennewick-Cody Booth; Kentlake-Jane Burns-Peterson; Kentridge-Brynne Garman; Kingston-Erin Landvatter; Kiona Benton-Linda Newby; Leota Junior High-Yvonne McCord; Liberty Bell-Jane Orme; Mabton-Judy Simerl; Mead-Dori Robertson; Morton-Patti Pattison; Naches Valley-Vance Jennings; North River-Rita Bodwell; Northshore-Jon VandeMoortel; Okanogan-Dennis O'Connor; Olympia-Carolyn Gilman; Peninsula-Kimberly Marinelli; Puyallup-Sarah Sherry; Rainier-Ed Kenney; Saint Paul's Academy-Stefanie Allen; Sehome-Laura Pitts; Selah-Jeff Weeks; Shorewood-Nate Stearns; South Whidbey-Jaryl Cave; Squalicum-Amy Cushman; Stadium-Connie Wyma; Stanwood-Ella Blackwood; Stevenson-Becky Harmening; Sunnyside-Laura Jean Duncanson; The Delta-Sarah Pack; The Oaks Classical Christian-Amy Kim; Trout Lake-Ellen Simonis; Vancouver School of Arts and Academics-Judy Goff; Wahluke-Holly Urness; West Valley-Valerie Bennett; Woodrow Wilson-Kimberly Van Ry; Woodinville-Yvonne McCord

For More Information:

The National *Poetry Out Loud* program: www.poetryoutloud.org

Washington State Arts Commission: www.arts.wa.gov

Contact person for *Poetry Out Loud* in Washington State: Lisa Jaret, lisa.jaret@arts.wa.gov