



# WA State Poetry Out Loud 2023-24

All Students and Schools grades 9-12!

**Poetry Out Loud (POL)** is a national arts education program that builds on elements of slam poetry and spoken word to engage students with the power of literature. The National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation partner with state arts agencies to offer Poetry Out Loud programs in every state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa. The Washington State Arts Commission (ArtsWA) coordinates the Washington State program.

## POL School Registration: [August 21 – November 17](#)

- Poetry Out Loud is open to any school in Washington State grades 9-12.
- Participating schools are encouraged to identify 2-3 teachers with one POL program coordinator to manage school finals. *Exceptions may be made- Please contact us with questions.*
- Registered schools will work with a regional coordinator as school champions move on to compete in one of four regional finals. Regional champions will move on to the state final.
- **All students** are eligible for participation and advancement in this program.

## POL Virtual: [September 18 – November 17](#)

- **Individual students** may register for Washington POL Virtual if they meet one or more of the following criteria:
  - The student is homeschooled in Washington State, or
  - The student attends a high school in Washington State that is not participating/registered POL, or
  - The student is a resident of Washington State and attends an online, hybrid, or international school.
- No more than 4 students from an individual school can register for POL Virtual
- Students participating in POL Virtual will need to access to a computer and reliable internet.
- POL Virtual will hold its own online competition. The champion will go on to represent POL Virtual at the State Final in March.

## Program Timeline

- School Registration opens August 22, 2023
- POL Virtual Registration opens September 18, 2023
- Registration deadline (all): November 17, 2023
- Classroom Implementation/POL Virtual: between September 2023 and early January 2024
- School Finals deadline: January 19, 2024
- Regional Finals deadline: February 5, 2024; individual dates vary
- State Final: March 9, 2024
- National Finals: April 30 – May 2, 2024



For additional program information and online registration:

[www.arts.wa.gov/poetry-out-loud/](http://www.arts.wa.gov/poetry-out-loud/)

Judy Cullen, **Poetry Out Loud** State Coordinator: [poetry.out.loud@arts.wa.gov](mailto:poetry.out.loud@arts.wa.gov)

National **Poetry Out Loud** website: [www.poetryoutloud.org](http://www.poetryoutloud.org)