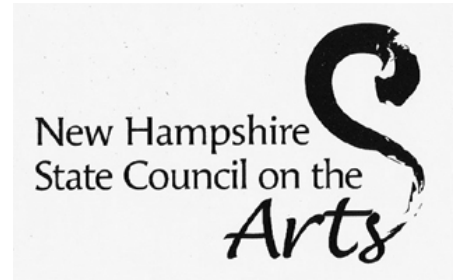




**NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE ARTS**



The 2011-2012 New Hampshire Poetry Out Loud Competition

Poetry Out Loud is a national arts education program that encourages the study of great poetry by offering educational materials and a dynamic recitation competition to high schools across the country.

Sponsored by...

*The NH State Council on the Arts
The National Endowment for the Arts The Poetry Foundation*

With support from...

*The New Hampshire Writers Project
The Poetry Society of New Hampshire
Arts Alliance of Northern New Hampshire
The Frost Place in Franconia*

Join us for our seventh annual program, where high school students from around New Hampshire will bring great poetry to life and compete for recognition, prizes and college scholarships !

New Hampshire Poetry Out Loud 2010-2011 Participating Schools included:

*Belmont High School
Bishop Brady High School
Bow High School
Cocheco Arts & Technology
Academy*

*Coe Brown Northwood Academy
Concord High School
CONVAL High School
Derryfield School
Exeter High School
Goffstown High School
Good Shepherd School*

*Holderness School
Hollis-Brookline High School
Hopkinton Middle/High School
John Stark Regional High School
Keene Public Library
Kingswood Regional High School
LinWood Public School
Milford High School
Newfound Regional High School
Newmarket High School
Oyster River High School
Parker Academy*

*Pittsfield Middle/High School
Plymouth Regional High School
Portsmouth High School
Salem High School
Souhegan High School
Spaulding High School
St. Thomas Aquinas High
School
Windham High School
Winnacunnet High School
Woodsville High School*

New Hampshire Poetry Out Loud 2011-2012 Guidelines to remember:

- New Hampshire Poetry Out Loud 2011-2012 is a free program, open to all public, private and home-schooled high school students in New Hampshire.
- The National Endowment for the Arts' guidelines require multi-classroom participation in individual school competitions. A minimum of 2 classes in grades 9-12 is required.
- Students must choose poems from the National Endowment for the Arts' Poetry Out Loud website. www.poetryoutloud.org
- Each school must have at least one contact person to coordinate that school's competition. The contact person must be a school employee. Each school is required to send a representative to a one-day professional development orientation and planning session.
- In addition to the competing student, at least one adult representative of the school must attend the regional semi-finals competition and, if applicable, the state-wide final competition.
- **Home school applicants:** please contact the POL Coordinator (see below) for specific information.
- **Access Needs:** If a student has a disability and requires accommodation to fully participate in semi-final events, please indicate accommodations required prior to February 20, 2012.

NH Poetry Out Loud 2011-2012 Important Dates:

- **September 14, 2011**, 4-5 pm: Information Meeting at the NH State Council on the Arts, 19 Pillsbury St., Concord for those who desire further information.

ORIENTATION DAYS: Required for all participating schools

CHOOSE ONE : 9/21 at Bow High School, Bow OR 9/28 at LinWood Public School, Lincoln

- **September 21, 2011**, 9 am-3 pm: Professional Development Orientation Day: Bow
- **September 28, 2011**, 9 am-3 pm: Professional Development Orientation Day: LinWood
RSVP by September 18 to Cynthia Robinson. Contact information below.
- **October 14, 2011:** Registration Postmark Deadline for application form.
- **October, 2011 - February, 2012:** New Hampshire Poetry Out Loud 2011-2012 curriculum and competitions.
- **March 1, 2012:** Deadline for completing School Championships.
- **March 1, 2012:** Deadline for submitting school champion/alternate champions' semi finals information forms.
- **March 9-16, 2012:** Regional Semi Finals Competitions; dates/sites TBA .
- **March 22, 2012:** NH State Finals Championship (tentative date)
- **March 23, 2012:** Snow date NH State Finals Championship (tentative date)
- **April 5, 2012:** Deadline for submitting names of NH POL State Champion & Alternate
- **May 13-15, 2012:** National Championship in Washington, DC.

Contact Info for Questions:

- ☐ Elizabeth Farish, NH Poetry Out Loud 2011-2012 Coordinator:
Elizabeth.farish@dcr.nh.gov 271-2789, 271-0791 or home office/cell: 438-6666.
- ☐ Cynthia Robinson, Poetry Out Loud 2011-2012 Assistant:
cynthiarobinson@roadrunner.com 253-7967.
- ☐ Catherine O'Brian, Arts Education Coordinator, NH State Council on the Arts:
Catherine.R.OBrian@dcr.nh.gov, 271-0795.

More details about the program, plus many valuable resources may be found at the national Poetry Out Loud website at: www.poetryoutloud.org .



An Invitation to Participate in New Hampshire Poetry Out Loud 2011-2012

Dear Principal, Teacher, and/or Language Arts Coordinator,

We invite your high school to participate in New Hampshire Poetry Out Loud 2011-2012!

Poetry Out Loud is an exciting and **free** program that allows New Hampshire's students to experience the thrill of public speaking and to be part of a growing interest in performing poetry. This national competition and its accompanying curriculum, aim to encourage the nation's youth to learn about great poetry through memorization and performance. Poetry Out Loud is a dynamic and flexible program that helps students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence and learn about their literary heritage. It builds on the current resurgence of the spoken word as an art form, inviting the dynamic aspects of slam poetry, spoken word and theater into the classroom.

How does it work?

New Hampshire Poetry Out Loud 2011-2012 consists of a three-week curriculum, provided by the National Endowment for the Arts that can be varied to fit a school's needs. Poetry Out Loud uses a pyramid structure. Beginning at the classroom level, winners advance to a school-wide level, then on to our New Hampshire Semi Finals level, then to our New Hampshire State Finals level, and ultimately to the National Competition held in Washington, DC.

The winner of the New Hampshire State Final competition receives \$200 and all-expenses paid trip for the student and one chaperone to participate in the national competition in Washington, DC, in May, 2012. Additionally his/her school receives \$500 for the purchase of poetry books. The individual state runner-up receives \$100, with an additional \$200 award to his/her school for poetry books.

New Hampshire Poetry Out Loud provides support and materials for teachers as well as two group meetings: an information meeting for schools new to the program and the required Teacher Orientation Day. See attached information sheet for details. **NEW !! This year a second Teacher Orientation Day will be offered for North Country high schools!**

More details about the national Poetry Out Loud program plus many valuable resources may be found at the Poetry Out Loud website at: www.poetryoutloud.org. For information on New Hampshire Poetry Out Loud visit: www.nh.gov/nharts. Look in the "What's New" box on the home page!

This year the NH Poetry Out Loud program is open to the first 40 NH high schools that register. So complete your registration form right away, to secure your school's spot!

We look forward to welcoming your school to this important statewide program!

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Farish, New Hampshire Poetry Out Loud 2011-2012 Coordinator
elizabeth.farish@dcn.nh.gov; 271-2789 or home office/cell: 756-3038

Cynthia Robinson, New Hampshire Poetry Out Loud 2011-2012 Assistant
cynthiarobinson@roadrunner.com, 253-7967

Catherine O'Brian, Arts in Education Coordinator, NH State Council on Arts
Catherine.R.OBrian@dcn.nh.gov, 271-0795

New Hampshire State Council on the Arts, 19 Pillsbury Street 1st Floor, Concord, NH 03301-4974