

2021-2022 POETRY OUT LOUD - HAWAI'I PROGRAM DETAILS

We are excited to share plans for the 2021-2022 Poetry Out Loud (POL) program! While we are hopeful and planning for an in-person Hawai'i State Finals, we are also prepared to pivot to virtual if needed.

We hope you will consider participating in the format that works best for your school or organization. Below is more information on format options.

NEW this year, **for individual students whose school or youth organization is NOT participating**, we will offer a video submission contest, with the winner advancing to the Hawai'i State finals. To learn more about this option, [CLICK HERE](#).

Please feel free to share this email with anyone who works with high school students and may be interested. Thank you for your time and please contact Tamara with Honolulu Theatre for Youth at edadmin@htyweb.org with any questions, we are here to help!

Q: What is Poetry Out Loud (POL)?

POL is a FREE national arts education program for high school students designed to fit a busy schedule, and can be done via distance learning. Students gain public speaking skills, build-self confidence, and learn about classic and contemporary poetry.

Participating teachers/staff receive a toolkit to teach poetry recitation and run class/school/organization level contests. Winners advance to the Hawai'i State Finals and ultimately the National Finals.

To learn more, view this year's Teacher's Guide by [CLICKING HERE](#).

Q: What are my options for holding school or organizational level contests?

Poetry Out Loud (POL) contests may be held virtually or in-person. All contests, whether in-person or virtual, must abide by the evaluation criteria and rules specified in the Teacher's Guide, [CLICK HERE](#).

If you elect to hold an in-person contest, please follow any federal, state, and local guidelines with regard to slowing the spread of COVID-19.

Ideas to administer a virtual POL contest are outlined below.

- Video submission contest: Each student records and saves each recitation as a separate video file. Students send video(s) via email or a file sharing platform (i.e. Dropbox, WeTransfer, etc.) to the POL organizer. The organizer reviews submissions to ensure the videos meet film requirements and then forward to the judges for their review. Contest judges and the accuracy judge must provide scores for each criteria and review independently—the same as is done for live competitions. Organizers set a deadline for judges to submit scores and then tally the scores. For video submission contests, videos must not be edited, but students may record their recitations more than once and send their best recording for each recitation.
- Recording one-on-one on video platform: The organizer meets with each student competitor individually over a video platform (i.e. Zoom, Skype, etc.) with the accuracy judge and prompter. The student recites their poem(s) live for the organizer while each recitation is being recorded. Recordings of recitations are sent to contest judges to review and provide scores. Judges must provide scores for each criteria and review independently.
- Live contest on video platform: The organizer holds a live POL contest over a video platform (i.e. Zoom, Skype, etc.) The contest follows as an in-person contest would. Judges submit scores for each criteria to the contest organizer to be tallied; winners and runners-up announced at the end of contest.

Q: What will the format be for the Hawai'i State Finals?

We are planning to hold an in-person Hawai'i State Finals on Sunday, February 27, 2022 at Tenney Theatre in downtown Honolulu. **If it is not safe to hold an in-person event at that time, we will pivot to a video submission contest for the Hawai'i State Finals.**

Q: What will the format be for the National Finals?

Presently the National Finals are scheduled to be held in-person, in Washington D.C. from April 25 - 27, 2022.

Q: If my school or organization holds a virtual contest, where can I find information on how to film a POL recitation?

[Please click here for filming instructions.](#)

Q: How do we register our school or organization?

Please identify a lead teacher/staff to serve as the main contact and complete the [REGISTRATION FORM](#). Registration forms are due by January 10, 2022.

Q: What if we need help with technology in order for students to participate in POL?

Please send questions to Tamara at Honolulu Theatre for Youth at edadmin@htyweb.org

Q: What is the program timeline?

- Jan 10, 2022 - Deadline to register your school/organization
- Feb 4, 2022 - Deadline to hold school/organizational final and register your winner
- Feb 27, 2022 - Hawai'i State Finals at Tenney Theatre in Honolulu
- April 25 - 27, 2022 - National Finals in Washington D.C.