

Dear Educators,

We are delighted to share plans for the 2022-2023 Poetry Out Loud (POL) program, including an IN-PERSON Hawai'i State Finals scheduled for Sunday, February 26, 2023 at Tenney Theatre in Honolulu.

For YOUR school or organization level competition, you can still opt to do in-person or virtual events. We hope you will consider participating in the format that works best for you.

Please help us spread the word and share about POL 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 (HTY) at edadmin@htyweb.org with any questions, we are here to help!

Q: What is Poetry Out Loud?

A partnership of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), the Poetry Foundation, and state and jurisdictional arts agencies, Poetry Out Loud (POL) encourages high school students to learn about great poetry by offering FREE educational materials and a dynamic recitation competition. Students select, memorize, and recite classic and contemporary poems, helping them to master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about literary history and contemporary life.

[Click here to check out a short video and learn more about POL!](#)

Q: What is the timeline for Hawai'i schools or organizations to participate?

- Friday, Jan 6, 2023 - Deadline to register your school/organization [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)
- Friday, Jan 27, 2023 - Deadline to hold school/organizational final and register your winner
- Sunday, Feb 26, 2023 - Hawai'i State Finals at Tenney Theatre in Honolulu

Q: How do we register our school or organization?

Please identify a lead teacher/staff to serve as the main contact and [CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE REGISTRATION FORM](#). Registration forms are due by January 6, 2023.

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 26, 2023 at Tenney Theatre in downtown Honolulu. Neighbor island winners will receive

airfare for themselves and one chaperone, along with reimbursement for ground transportation to and from the theatre.

Q: Where can I get more information on how to organize a competition?

- [Click here to view the POL Teacher & Organizer webpage](#)
- Attached please find a PDF copy of this year's Teacher Guide
- Reach out to Tamara with HTY at edadmin@htyweb.org

Q: How many students do we need to hold a school or organization competition?

There are many ways you can organize your local competition, and you only need 2+ students to hold a competition.

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

[Please click here to view a NEA/POL example from previous years.](#)

Q: If we aren't able to organize a competition this year, is there a way for individual students to participate?

Yes! For the second year, Honolulu Theatre for Youth (HTY) will offer a video submission competition for individual students whose school or youth organization is NOT participating. The winner of this competition will have the opportunity to advance to the Hawai'i State Finals. To learn more about this option, please have interested students email Tamara with HTY at edadmin@htyweb.org

Thank you for your time and supporting the arts!