



Poetry Out Loud® lifts poetry off the page, creating community and connection. Since the program began in 2005, more than 4.5 million high school students have participated in this dynamic poetry recitation competition. Poetry Out Loud can help students improve public speaking skills, build confidence, and grow their appreciation for poetry.

## Important Dates

### Local/School Competitions

- November 1 - December 15, 2025  
*(for January regionals)*
- November 1, 2025 - January 15, 2026  
*(for February regionals)*

### Student Names/Poem Selections Due

- December 15, 2025 *(for January regionals)*
- January 15, 2026 *(for February regionals)*

### Regional Competitions

- January 14 - February 10, 2026  
*(live, synchronous, virtual)*

### State Finals

- Tentatively March 3, 2026,  
in Harrisburg *(In-person)*

### National Finals

- April 27 - 29, 2026 *(Washington, DC)*

## Regional Competitions

All regional events will be held virtually, live/synchronous. Each school may advance up to two (2) students to the regional level.

January 14, 2026 | 9:00 - 11:30am | [Register](#)

February 4, 2026 | 9:00 - 11:30am | [Register](#)

January 21, 2026 | 12:00 - 2:30pm | [Register](#)

February 5, 2026 | 9:00 - 11:30am | [Register](#)

January 27, 2026 | 9:00 - 11:30am | [Register](#)

February 10, 2026 | 12:00 - 2:30pm | [Register](#)

January 29, 2026 | 12:00 - 2:30pm | [Register](#)

## Resources

### [Poetry Out Loud Website](#)

*Includes the approved anthology, teacher guide, program rules, and updates.*

### [Teacher Guide PDF](#)

*A reference with tips for preparing students, running local contests, and navigating the program.*

### [2025-26 Poetry Out Loud Flyer](#)

**Questions? Contact Jackie Ford at**  
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