



OUT LOUD



2026-2027 COMPETITION

WHAT IS POETRY OUT LOUD?

Poetry Out Loud (POL) is a free national program that helps high school students master public speaking, build self-confidence, and connect with their literary heritage—all while competing for recognition and scholarship opportunities.

HOW IT WORKS:

Modeled after a spelling bee, Poetry Out Loud begins each fall in classrooms across the country. High school teachers use free POL materials—including a comprehensive teacher toolkit—to introduce students to poetry recitation and run classroom competitions.

- Students select poems from the Poetry Out Loud Anthology
- School champions compete at the county level
- County winners travel to Sacramento for the California State Finals
- The state champion moves on to the National Finals in Washington, D.C.

Visit sbac.ca.gov/poetry-out-loud for more information on the program.

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY COMPETITION

NOVEMBER 18, 2026

**JOSEPH CENTENO BETTERAVIA
GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
511 LAKESIDE PARKWAY, SANTA MARIA**

TIMELINE:

SB County Poetry Out Loud Competition
November 18, 2026, 5:30pm

State Finals In Sacramento
February 28 - March 1, 2027

National Finals in Washington D.C.
April 2027

**CALIFORNIA
POETRY
OUT LOUD**