



Poetry Out Loud

National Recitation Contest
2010 Nevada State Final



WELCOME

Tim Jones, Chair, Nevada Arts Council Board of Directors,
Master of Ceremonies.

Introduction of Judges and Students - Tim Jones

Round 1

- 1. Elko
- 2. Mineral
- 3. Nye
- 4. Pershing
- 5. Lincoln
- 6. Churchill
- 7. Humboldt
- 8. White Pine
- 9. Lyon
- 10. Carson City
- 11. Storey
- 12. Washoe
- 13. Douglas
- 14. Lander
- 15. Clark

Round 2

- 1. Lyon
- 2. Mineral
- 3. Douglas
- 4. Storey
- 5. Carson City
- 6. Washoe
- 7. Clark
- 8. Lincoln
- 9. Lander
- 10. Humboldt
- 11. Pershing
- 12. Elko
- 13. White Pine
- 14. Churchill
- 15. Nye

Round 3

Top three finalists

READING

by Poet Ellen Hopkins

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Mary O. Simmons – V.P. External Affairs NV Energy
Jill Berryman – Executive Director, Sierra Arts and President,
Nevada Alliance for Arts Education

FINAL COMMENTS

Tim Jones

RECEPTION

To be held in the Lobby. All are invited!

The Nevada Arts Council

a Division of the Nevada Department of Cultural Affairs

in partnership with

The National Endowment for the Arts

The Poetry Foundation

The Nevada Department of Education

and

The Nevada Alliance for Arts Education

proudly presents

The Fifth Annual Poetry Out Loud National Recitation Contest

Nevada State Finals

March 13, 2010 • Noon

Siena Hotel Spa Casino

Featuring Students From

- Carson City
- Clark County
- Elko County
- Lander County
- Lyon County
- Nye County
- Storey County
- White Pine County

- Churchill County
- Douglas County
- Humboldt County
- Lincoln County
- Mineral County
- Pershing County
- Washoe County

POETRY OUT LOUD



It is a pleasure to serve as Honorary Chair of the 5th Annual Nevada State Poetry Out Loud Competition.

It is obvious that the young people who have reached this level of competition share a rich love for words. Through the spoken word and verse, poets invite us to share moments of deep recognition and understanding. As a native Nevadan, I’m especially proud to see such a diverse cross-section of competitors representing 15 communities from throughout our state. Each competitor brings a blend of their local culture and personal heritage to their creative work.

I want to extend my congratulations to all of the organizations that have made this event possible; the Nevada Arts Council, the Department of Cultural Affairs, the Nevada Department of Education, the Nevada Alliance for Arts Education and the Siena Hotel. I’d also like to thank the parents and educators who work with young people in our communities to instill such an enjoyment of the arts.

At NV Energy, we strive to become a part of the local communities we serve, and I’m glad to see that everyone involved in this great event sees the same opportunity. Arts and culture are a vital component to thriving communities and we are proud to play a role in participating in and sponsoring arts initiatives throughout our state.

As we listen and learn from the young people involved in Poetry Out Loud, I hope we all take away an appreciation for the creativity, commitment, dedication and achievement of each and every one of these competitors. Congratulations to all, and a very heartfelt thanks for allowing me and my company to be involved.

Sincerely,

Mary O. Simmons
Vice President, External Affairs - NV Energy

POEMS & POETS

Each student was required to prepare three poems from an anthology of poems selected by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation. Each student’s poems are listed below in the order in which they will

recite them. Deciding on the order is a strategic decision that the students must make. All fifteen students will recite one poem in Round 1 and one poem in Round 2. Only three students will advance to Round 3.

CARSON - STEPHANIE KULLA

Iowa City: Early April by Robert Hass
Safe In Their Alabaster Chambers by Emily Dickenson
Cartoon Physics, Part I by Nick Flynn

CHURCHILL - SARAH JAMIESON

Cartoon Physics, Part I by Nick Flynn
O Captain! My Captain! by Walt Whitman
The New Colossus by Emma Lazerus

CLARK - KIMBERLY DARLENE GOSS

If by Rudyard Kipling
Video Blues by Mary Jo Salter
It Couldn't Be Done by Edgar Albert Guest

DOUGLAS - MIA YOUNG

I Am Learning to Abandon the World by Linda Pastan
Light Shining Out of Darkness by William Cowper
Cold Blooded Creatures by Elinor Wylie

ELKO - AMANDA LLOYD

Solitude by Ella Wheeler Wilcox
Famous by Naomi Shihaw Nye
Scary Movies by Kim Addonizio

HUMBOLDT - BRENDON KILCOURSE

The Charge of the Light Brigade by Alfred, Lord Tennyson
Jabberwocky by Lewis Carroll
When You Are Old by William Butler Yeats

LANDER - JUSTINA ALEJANDRA CHAVEZ

A Country Boy In Winter by Sarah Orne Jewett
Abandoned Farmhouse by Ted Kooser
Report to Crazy Horse by William E. Stafford

LINCOLN - ARYN ANDERSON

O Captain! My Captain! by Walt Whitman
Romance by Claude McKay
Scary Movies by Kim Addonizio

LYON - CASEY KILGORE

The Hospital Window by James L. Dickey
The New Colossus by Emma Lazarus
Hate Poem by Julie Sheehan

MINERAL - GRANT LANE OBERHANSLI

A Country Boy in Winter by Sarah Orne Jewett
Ozymandias by Percy Bysshe Shelley
Childhood's Retreat by Robert Duncan

NYE - ELIZABETH MOEN

Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening by Robert Frost
A Hymn to God the Father by John Donne
Bright Star, Would I Were Steadfast as Thou Art by John Keats

PERSHING - ERIKA TERRY

Rough Music by Deborah Digges
Golden Retrievals by Mark Doty
Sonnet LV: Not Marble, Nor the Gilded Monuments by William Shakespeare

STOREY - CELINA JOY LLERA

We Wear the Mask by Paul Laurence Dunbar
The Spider and the Fly by Mary Howitt
I Carry Your Heart with Me (I Carry It In) by e. e. cummings

WASHOE - EMILY ORELLANA

I Felt a Funeral in My Brain by Emily Dickinson
Rough Music by Deborah Digges
And Soul by Eavan Boland

WHITE PINE - MALLORY EVERS

We Wear the Mask by Paul Laurence Dunbar
Why I am Not a Painter by Frank O'Hara
A Psalm of Life by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

FINALISTS



CARSON CITY

Stephanie Kulla – Junior

Carson High School – Ron Beck, Principal

Stephanie Kulla is very involved in the arts in and out of school, and enjoys everything from painting to dancing and singing. She has always been creative and is always looking for new ways to express her creativity, recently, becoming interested in the creation of art with the body. Using methods like viewpoints, a form of free flow acting, and Suzuki, a style of body control, Stephanie has become fascinated with how the body can communicate to an audience in a beautiful and raw way. Stephanie also enjoys traveling and hopes to travel more often in the future. Stephanie had the pleasure of competing and taking third place at last year's Poetry Out Loud competition. Stephanie would like to thank her drama teacher and poetry coach, Karen Chandler; her father and poetry coach, Scott Kulla; her grandfather, Vern Kulla; her sister, Melissa Kulla and her aunt, Michelle Honeck.



CHURCHILL COUNTY

Sarah Jamieson – Junior

Churchill County High School – Kevin Lords, Principal

Sarah LeiNani Jamieson is the oldest child of the amazing Gary and Kathy Jamieson. She attends Churchill County High School, home of the Greenwave. She is currently in the middle of an extremely busy junior year and loving every second of it. She is in her school's Young Republicans, Chess Club, Tech Club, and Jazz Choir. Her passion is playing the piano. This is her second time performing in POL, and her first time at State. Sarah would like to thank her father, Gary Jamieson, and her creative writing instructor, Myke Nelson.



CLARK COUNTY

Kimberly Darlene Goss – Senior

College of Southern Nevada High School – Dennis Birr, Principal

Kimberly Goss, a senior at College of Southern Nevada High School, was born in North Fort Myers, Florida, but has lived in many places since then. She is 19 years old. She inherited a passion for reading from her father at a very young age and has not been able to stop reading since. She also enjoys writing and listening to music. In January of 2009 she competed in the school wide Poetry Out Loud competition and moved on to the district competition where she placed first. This will be her first time in a state-wide Poetry Out Loud Contest. She hopes to attend Spelman College in the fall. Kim would like to thank her grandparents, Don and Sunday; her mother, Patricia; her father, Dave; her aunt and uncle, Sherri and Erick; her composition teacher, Serrin Anderson and her best friend Duane.

FINALISTS

DOUGLAS COUNTY

Mia Young - Freshman

Carson Valley Middle School – Bob Been, Principal

Mia Young, a freshman at Carson Valley Middle School, was born in Carson City, Nevada, and later moved to Minden. She has been drawing since she could hold a crayon and this is a pastime she is often engaged in. She also loves to read and write. She often creates characters and extravagant worlds to put them in. She is an aspiring comic book artist, inspired by the graphic novels she reads avidly. Mia is very interested in unique clothing styles, including but not limited to Goth, Lolita, and Steampunk. This is her first time competing in the Poetry Out Loud contest. Mia would like to thank her parents, her grandfather, and her English teacher, Susan Van Doren.



ELKO COUNTY

Amanda Lloyd – Sophomore

Spring Creek High School – Keith Walz, Principal

I have lived in Spring Creek Nevada most of my life. I grew up with loving supportive parents and an older and younger brother. Music has been a big part of my life. Singing, dancing, and playing the piano always finds a way into the activities I have participated in. I've competed in a beauty pageant, countless dance competitions, piano recitals, and school choirs, along with performing in a community play “Joseph and the Technicolor Dream Coat.” Once in high school, I joined the forensics team and have performed a couple of times and really enjoyed myself. Currently I am participating in the Elko/Spring Creek High School's rendition of Oklahoma. I would like to thank my family and my teachers, Mrs. Isamen and Mrs. Lewis.



HUMBOLDT COUNTY

Brendan Kilcourse – Junior

Albert M. Lowry High School – Debbie Watts, Principal

Brendan Kilcourse was born on November 2nd, 1992 in Carson City, Nevada. He is a junior at Albert M. Lowry High School in Winnemucca. His favorite subjects are U.S. History, English, and Science. He enjoys reading and writing poetry and has published numerous poems on the TeenInk Magazine website. He is also a member of the Teen Court program at his school. Outside of school, he enjoys following auto racing, reading “Star Wars” books, and spending time with his dad. Brendan would like to thank his father Kevin, his teachers Vicky Meissner, Rene Hill, Corrine James and Michelle Garrison, and his friend Jaren Cornwall.



FINALISTS



LANDER COUNTY

Justina Alejandra Chavez – Freshman
Battle Mountain High School – Susan Baldwin, Principal

My name is Justina Alejandra Chavez; I was born an only child to Jacob and Cheryl Chavez in Elko, NV June 6th, 1995. I have lived in Battle Mountain all my life and I love the charms of my small town. I love to fish and hunt with my parents and I take in archery and photography as a few of my passions. I am an active member of the local Girls Scouts of Sierra Nevada for 6 years and I am the secretary/treasurer of one of my local Skills USA sections. I plan to earn a welding certification and become a family practitioner. I would like to thank my English teacher, Mrs. Lindsley, and my parents, Jacob and Cheryl Chavez.



LINCOLN COUNTY

Aryn Anderson – Junior
Lincoln County High School – Marty Soderborg, Principal

Aryn Anderson was born in Logan, Utah. She lived in Cedar City, Utah until 2009. She now loves living in Panaca, Nevada. She stays busy running track, being the yearbook editor, singing in the school show choir, participating in student government, and playing the piano. Her favorite thing to do however is to act in her school drama productions. She would like to thank her awesome family (especially her parents) and Pete Peterson, her Drama Advisor.



LYON COUNTY

Casey Kilgore – Senior
Yerington High School – Jerry Ogolin, Principal

Casey was born in Winnemucca, Nevada. When Casey was 7 his family moved to Yerington. Casey has been involved in drama since the second grade. He is one of the leading members of his high school's drama club. Casey is also a part of the concert, jazz, marching and pep bands at his high school. Casey also serves as Student Body President at Yerington High School as well as Valedictorian of his graduating class. Casey would like to thank his mother Cecile, his father Wayne, and his English teacher, Amanda Aldridge.

MINERAL COUNTY

Grant Lane Oberhansli – Sophomore
Cedar Street School – Courtney Oberhansli, Principal

Grant Oberhansli is a native Nevadan. Since the age of six, Grant has worked with his older brothers making movies and has always known he wanted to make films. He enjoys acting, animating, camera operating, and editing. Grant also enjoys inline skating, playing drums and saxophone, and swimming with the Hawthorne Stingrays. When he graduates, he plans to attend Savannah College of Art and Design where his two older brothers are currently film majors. Grant would like to thank his mother and coach, Courtney Oberhansli, and his supporter and friend, Bea Whitney.



NYE COUNTY

Elizabeth Moen – Junior
Beatty High School – Karen Hills, Principal

Elizabeth Moen, a junior at Beatty High School, was born in Las Vegas, Nevada, in April of 1993. Since that time she has been busy fostering her love of reading and being on the stage. She is very active in her school and community, participating in Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America, drama productions, National Honor Society, Concert Band, cheerleading, and Academic Olympics. She is also a member of the Methodologies project, a traveling theatre group advocating healthy lifestyles, and Nye Communities Coalition Youth Organization. Elizabeth would like to thank her family, Julie, Bruce, Erik and Kevin, her Aunt Claire Legowski, her English teacher, Mary Beth Aragon, and her drama director, Francie Winters.



PERSHING COUNTY

Erika Terry – Sophomore
Pershing County High School – Russell Fecht, Principal

My name is Erika Terry. I was born in Boise, Idaho and moved to Lovelock, Nevada when I was two. I have been there ever since. I am currently a sophomore at Pershing County High School where I am involved in varsity cheerleading for fall and winter sports, track and choir. This is my second year competing in Poetry Out Loud. I am enrolled in Speech and Drama in addition to my regular coursework. I enjoy reading, writing and composing my own piano music. I would like to thank my mother and coach, Julie Terry and my family for supporting me.



FINALISTS



STOREY COUNTY

Celina Joy Llera – Sophomore

Virginia City High School – Patrick Beckwith, Principal

Hello there, my name is Celina Joy Llera. My friends and family members call me by my middle name, Joy. I’m a sophomore in Virginia City High School and I am representing Storey County for the Poetry Out Loud contest. I’m sixteen years old and I was born on January 11, 1994 in Jersey City, NJ. When I turned three years old, my family and I moved here to Reno. I both enjoy reading and writing poetry, and getting a chance to recite it is an amazing experience. I competed for the Poetry Out Loud contest during my freshmen year of high school. This is my first time heading on to the next step of the competition, hopefully this will be an amazing experience that I won’t forget in the future. I would like to thank my mother, Nadia Llera.



WASHOE COUNTY

Emily Orellana – Junior

Rainshadow Community Charter High School – Steve West, Principal

My name is Emily Orellana, and I am seventeen years old. I was born and raised in “The Biggest Little City in the World,” Reno. I have always held an interest in literature, and from the time that I was young, I have loved to write. My mentor and coach, Pan Pantoja, has helped me to find my voice. I am doing spoken word performances at open-mic nights around Reno and have become involved with a local collective of poets called Spoken Views. My school has started a slam poetry club that I am a part of as well. Performing is a love of mine and my dreams for the future include continuing on with spoken word and poetry. Becoming published is a goal that I am working towards. This is my second year at the state competition, having won the honor of representing Nevada at the 2009 national final competition in Washington D.C. I cannot wait to represent Rainshadow Community Charter High School and Washoe County in the upcoming state finals. I would like to thank my mentor and teacher, Pan Pantoja.



WHITE PINE

Mallory Evers – Junior

White Pine High School – Adam Young, Principal

My name is Mallory Evers, and I am the daughter of Darcy and Scott Evers. I am currently a junior attending White Pine High School. This is my first year participating in Poetry Out Loud although I have had many other theatrical opportunities. The latest being, Jadis (The White Witch) from “The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe.” I would like to thank my teachers, Mrs. Tucker, Mrs. Sturgeon, Mr. Marz, my friend, Allison Briggs, and my family.

SPECIAL GUESTS

Kristine Bell (Accuracy Judge) - is presently an English teacher at Eureka County High School. Her familiarity with education runs from kindergarten to college in California, Oregon, and Nevada. She is an editor. Her experience includes teaching English to all ages, American History, World History, Creative Writing, Drama; and editing textbooks.

Wayne Darby Cook (Judge) - is currently the Manager of the Arts in Education Program and the ADA 504 Coordinator for the California Arts Council. Mr. Cook continues to perform with his one-person show dramatizing the poetry of Langston Hughes at many venues from schools to performing arts centers. Wayne is the author of *Center Stage, A Curriculum for the Performing Arts*, which is the only theatre textbook adopted by the state of Texas and used throughout the United States and Canada. In Texas alone, sixty-eight thousand K-6 teachers have this text book. Mr. Cook has been a drama and movement instructor at a number of universities, including Penn State, California State, Long Beach and California State, Sacramento. Wayne has also been very active with the California Department of Education rewriting the California State Framework to include recently adopted content standards for the visual and performing arts.

Gary B. Sessa (Judge) - is an English teacher at Bonanza High School and the task force Chair for theatre for the Clark County School District. A sixteen-year teacher, Gary has a B.A. and Master’s in Theatre from UNLV. As a project facilitator for Theatre and Dance, he worked to update and create new courses for the growing CCSD theatre program as well as teach new teachers and supervise theatre safety. He has performed in stage, television, and film and has directed over twenty-five middle school, high school and community theatre productions.

Ellen Hopkins (Judge) - is an award-winning poet and author of twenty nonfiction books for children and six *New York Times* bestselling novels-in-verse. Mediabistro recently called Hopkins “the bestselling living poet in the US.” She is also the recipient of this year’s Governor’s Arts Award for Excellence in the Arts. She lives in Washoe Valley with her husband and son.

Erin Breen (Judge) - is an Emmy-award winning journalist with a long career in print and broadcast news. Erin graduated from the University of Washington in Seattle and has worked in television in Reno since 1982. After 18 years as Channel 8’s main anchor, she spent five years writing documentaries for PBS. She currently anchors and reports for Channel 2 News and writes an award-winning column for the *Reno Gazette-Journal*. In fact her first book, *Finding Bliss*, a compilation of her columns, was published just a year ago. You can find Erin on the Emmy-award winning Channel 2 News this morning if you get up early enough. But you can also find her columns in the *Reno Gazette-Journal* on Sundays and in a host of other publications.

SPECIAL GUESTS

Stacy Kies Endres (Judge) - is a writer, publications coordinator and teacher in Nevada. As a freelancer, she contributes to numerous magazines, newspapers, websites and other publications in Nevada, California and Hawaii. During her wide-ranging career, Stacy taught English and journalism at the secondary and university levels. She has served as publications coordinator at Renown Health System, vice president for communications and member relations at the Nevada Hospital Association, public relations practitioner and grant writer at the University of Nevada School of Medicine, and fine arts publicist at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. She holds a M.A. in Speech Communications, B.A. in Journalism and teaching credentials in English and journalism, all earned at the University of Nevada, Reno. Her newspaper feature writing and reporting includes work at the *Reno Gazette-Journal*, *Las Vegas Review-Journal*, *Las Vegas Sun* and the *Nevada Appeal*. She has won numerous writing awards and has been active in a variety of community organizations. Born and raised in Texas, she moved with her family to Las Vegas in the early 60s and has lived in the Reno-Carson City area for more than 40 years. Her newest career path is in the voice-over and voice acting field, and she currently volunteers with the Nevada State Library Talking Books program.

Tim Jones (Master of Ceremonies) - serves as chairman of the Nevada Arts Council, a nine-member board appointed by the Governor. Employed by the University of Nevada, Reno for 29 years until 2008, Tim served as the Director of University Arts and an Associate Director of the School of the Arts. One of the co-founders of Artown (Reno's summer arts festival which began in 1996), he developed a number of that festival's programming concepts including the award-winning "Discover the Arts" education/participation series for children. Tim has served as a member of a number of non-profit and advisory boards in Reno and at Lake Tahoe. He received his B.A. in broadcasting and an M.A. in speech/communication from Washington State University.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CARSON COUNTY

Coordinator: Karen Chandler
School: Carson High School
Principal: Ron Beck
Teachers: Karen Chandler
Others: Brewery Arts Center

CHURCHILL COUNTY

Coordinator: Myke Nelsen
School: Churchill County High School
Principal: Kevin Lords
Teacher: Myke Nelsen

CLARK COUNTY

Coordinator: Judy Myers, Clark County School-Community Partnership Program
Schools: Advanced Technologies Academy, Basic High School, Bishop Gorman High School, CSN High School West, East Career & Technical Academy, Green Valley High School, New Horizons Academy, Northwest Career & Technical Academy, Shadow Ridge High School, Sierra Vista High School, Southeast Career Tech Academy, Sunrise Mountain High School, Virgin Valley High School
Teachers: Serrin Anderson, Barbara Bidell, Ben A. Jorgensen, Lori Jorgensen, Shaun Ingalls, Kristin Pohl, Chrissie Ramos, Linda Rickey, Dr. Rosemary Smith, Daren Stewart, Amy Turmanek, Michelle Uttke, Steve White, Mary Ziegler
Principals: Karen Diamond, David Bechtel, Aggie Evert, Dennis Birr, Glenda Goetting, Jeffery Horn, Thomas Barberini, Dan Phillips, Richard Arguello, Shawn Boyle, John Barlow, David Wilson, Frank Pesce III, Dr. Gehring
Others: Firouzeh Forouzmmand, Sharon Heyman, Angela Phillips, Sally Ahlstedt, Tamaria Anderson, Kurt Arnold, Kim Russell, Carol Edwards (Tallier), West Charleston Library, Century Link

DOUGLAS COUNTY

Coordinator: Elizabeth Mannino-Tully
Schools: Douglas High School, Carson Valley Middle School
Principals: Marty Swisher, Bob Been
Teachers: Elizabeth Mannino-Tully, Catherine Scully, Susan Van Doren

ELKO COUNTY

Coordinator: Linell Bollacker
Schools: Carlin High School, Elko High School, Independence High School, Owyhee High School, Spring Creek High School
Principals: Janice Alexander, Michael Altenburg, Clark Davidson, Teola Blossom, Keith Walz,
Teachers: Brian Starkey, Kelly Moon, Emily Nielson, Linell Bollacker, Kathy Olson, Katie Pongrekun, Amy Isaman, Julie Lewis

HUMBOLDT COUNTY

Coordinator: Vicky Meissner
School: Albert Lowry High School
Principal: Debbie Watts
Teachers: Vicki Meissner

LANDER COUNTY

Coordinator: Jacqueline Lindsay
School: Battle Mountain High School
Principal: Amy Kester

LINCOLN COUNTY

Coordinator: Pete Peterson
Schools: Lincoln County High School, Pahrnagat Valley High School
Principals: Marty Soderborg, Mike Strong
Others: Steven Hanson, Mike Strong, Pete Peterson

LYON COUNTY

Coordinator: Lecia Curtis
Schools: Fernley High School, Yerington High School
Principals: Robert Kent Jones, Jerry Ogolin
Teachers: Gary Stone, Royce Aldridge, Amanda Aldridge, Lynne Gervais

MINERAL COUNTY

Coordinator: Bea Whitney
Schools: Cedar Street School, Mineral County High School,
Principal: Courtney Oberhansli, Don Aschinger
Teachers: Courtney Oberhansli, Carmen Dupree

NYE COUNTY

Coordinator: Deanna Brill
Schools: Beatty High School, Pahrump Valley High School
Principals: Nancy Hein, Kent Roberts
Teacher: MaryBeth Arbor, Deanna Brill

PERSHING COUNTY

Coordinator: Julie Terry
School: Pershing County High School
Principal: Russell Fecht
Teacher: Julie Terry

STOREY COUNTY

Coordinator: Christine Prater
Schools: Virginia City High School
Principal: Patrick Beckwith
Teacher: Christine Prater, Greta Gard, Jacqueline Petrosky

WASHOE COUNTY

Coordinator: Rick Southerland
Schools: Academy of Arts Careers & Technology, Edward C. Reed High School, Galena High School, McQueen High School, Rainshadow Charter High School, Nevada Christian Home School
Principals: Steve West, John Carlson, Ross Gregory, Denise Hausauer, Thomas C. Brown, Tamara West, Sara Russell, Andrew Kelly, Mary Vesco
Teachers: Greg Burge, Lary Olliver, Francine Gray, Tamera West, Dawn Callahan, Sue Vaughn, Kira Temple, Stacy Allinson, Jillian Merson, Randy Tobey, Pan Pantoja

WHITE PINE COUNTY

Coordinator: Kelly Sturgeon
School: White Pine High School
Principal: Adam Young
Teacher: Kelly Sturgeon

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SPONSORS

Superintendents:

Keith Rheault, Superintendent of Public Instruction; Richard Stokes, Carson City School District; Dr. Carolyn Ross, Churchill County School District; Walt Rulffes, Clark County School District; John Soder, Douglas County School District; Jeff Zander; Elko County School District; Ben Zunino, Eureka County School District; Mike Bumgartner, Humboldt County School District; Curtis Jordan, Lander County School District; Nykki Holton, Lincoln County School District; Caroline McIntosh, Lyon County School District; Paul Kirk, Mineral County School District; Rob Roberts, Nye County School District; Daniel Fox, Pershing County School District; Robert Slaby, Storey County School District; Dr. Heath Morrison, Washoe County School District; Robert Dolezal, White Pine County School District, Nat Lommori, Mineral County School District, Robert Aumaugher, Esmerelda

The State of Nevada

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Nevada Department of Cultural Affairs

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National Recitation State of Nevada Planning Committee

Tim Jones –Chair, Nevada Arts Council

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Susan Boskoff – Executive Director, Nevada Arts Council

Elizabeth Blau – Arts Education Program Assistant, Nevada Arts Council

Jill Berryman – Executive Director, Sierra Arts; President, Nevada Alliance for Arts Education

Tracy Gruber – Consultant, Nevada Department of Education



National Endowment for the Arts

The National Endowment for the Arts is a public agency dedicated to supporting excellence in the arts- both new and established- bringing the arts to all Americans, and providing leadership in arts education. Established by Congress in 1965 as an independent agency of the federal government, the Endowment is the nation's largest annual funder of the arts, bringing great art to all 50 states, including rural areas, inner cities and military bases.

The Poetry Foundation

The Poetry Foundation, publisher of *Poetry Magazine*, is an independent literary organization committed to a

vigorous presence for poetry in our culture. It has embarked on an ambitious plan to bring the best poetry before the largest possible audiences.

Nevada Alliance for Arts Education

The Nevada Alliance for Arts Education (NAAE) promotes arts education as an essential component of a quality education. A member of the Kennedy Center for Arts Education Network, NAAE partners with the Nevada Arts Council and other institutions and organizations to promote arts education and implement professional development for educators throughout the State of Nevada.

Nevada Arts Council

The Nevada Arts Council (NAC) was established as a state agency in 1967 with a mission “to enrich the cultural life of the state through leadership that preserves, supports, strengthens, and makes accessible excellence in the arts for all Nevadans.” NAC programs stimulate artistic and cultural activity throughout the state and encourage public and private support for the arts. A division of the Nevada Department Of Cultural Affairs, NAC is funded by the Nevada State Legislature, the National Endowment for the Arts and other private sources.

What Is Poetry Out Loud?

The Poetry Out Loud National Recitation Contest, created by the National Endowment for the Arts and The Poetry Foundation, seeks to foster the next generation of literary readers by capitalizing on the latest trends in poetry - recitation and performance. The program builds on the resurgence of poetry as an oral art form, as seen in the slam poetry movement and the immense popularity of rap music among youth. Poetry Out Loud invites the dynamic aspects of slam poetry, spoken word, and theater into English, theater, humanities, and social studies classrooms. Through Poetry Out Loud, students can master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about their literary heritage.

This year, across the nation, thousands of high school students will participate in Poetry Out Loud. State finalists advance to the National Finals where \$50,000 in scholarships and school prizes will be awarded. Finalists will attend a welcome banquet at the Renaissance DC Dupont Circle Hotel on Sunday, April 25, with the National Semifinals to be held on April 26 and the

Finals on April 27 on the George Washington University campus. Students will also have an opportunity to meet their members of Congress at a special breakfast in their honor in the Cannon House Office Building.

For Nevada's Poetry Out Loud Program, the Nevada Arts Council, the Nevada Alliance for Arts Education and the Nevada Department of Education invite all high schools across the state to participate – public, charter and private. In our first year (2006), ten of Nevada's school districts participated. This year, 15 of the 16 school districts in Nevada with a high school participated - engaging 41 schools, 55 teachers and more than 2,000 students, family members, friends and coaches. The Nevada State Finals champion is awarded \$1,000 and his/her school receives \$2,000 to support literary arts programs and the purchase of poetry books. First and second runners-up each receive \$500; their schools receive \$1,000 each to support literary arts programs and the purchase of poetry books.

Congratulations to all of today's competitors!

