

A program of the Nevada Arts Council and co-sponsors

NV Energy Foundation, Cultural Alliance Nevada, Nevada Department of Education,

Nevada Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs, KNPB Channel 5,

National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation





March 3, 2018

On behalf of the Nevada Arts Council, it is my sincere pleasure to welcome you to the 2018 Nevada Poetry Out Loud Competition State Finals and to recognize our nine finalists who are competing today.

Each finalist brings life to an art form most of us find challenging to understand. We applaud their talent and their ability to bring poetry to life. The hours of dedicated focus and practice they invest is remarkable. This afternoon we celebrate the revelation,

creativity and beauty of language, and the power of the spoken word.

These students are not alone in their endeavors. I want to acknowledge and thank the families, schools and teachers who provide an extraordinary support system to the more than 3,600 student competitors in Nevada this year. With the expanding participation of high school students around the state, Poetry Out Loud has become an integral element of arts learning for Nevada's youth. The combined support of so many individuals and organizations as well as our partners--- the National Endowment for the Arts, Poetry Foundation, NV Energy Foundation, Cultural Alliance Nevada, the Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs, KNPB, Carson City Square, the Nevada Department of Education, KUNR, and Dynagraphics Printing significantly contribute to the success of this program. I also want to acknowledge and thank the new Executive Director of the Nevada Art's Council, Tony Manfredi and his dedicated staff as well as my fellow NAC Board members whose combined strong commitment to lifelong learning in the arts benefits all Nevadans.

To each finalist today, I speak on behalf of the NAC Board and staff to say congratulations and best wishes for your continuing success. You are winners and talented role models for your peers and for all young Nevadans throughout the state.

Sincerely,

CHAIR, NEVADA ARTS COUNCIL

NEVADA ARTS COUNCIL

In partnership with

NV Energy Foundation
Cultural Alliance Nevada
Nevada Department of Education
Nevada Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs
KNPB Channel 5
National Endowment for the Arts
The Poetry Foundation

proudly presents

2018 NEVADA POETRY OUT LOUD STATE FINALS

March 3, 2018 Noon – 3 pm KNPB Channel 5 Reno

Featuring the 2018 Nevada Poetry Out Loud Finalists:

Sophia Peterson, Carson City
Sandra Luevano, Clark County
Lea Gifford, Douglas County
Mikayla De Guzman, Elko County
Gabrielle (Grey) Hunt, Lyon County
Christopher Wilbur, Pershing County
John Dexter Yago, Storey County
Michael Kerr, Washoe County
Darius Bush, White Pine County

Nevada Poetry Out Loud - celebrating its 13th year

"... In the hands of the poet, our everyday speech becomes a musical instrument."

-JOHN BARR, FORMER PRESIDENT, POETRY FOUNDATION

2018 NEVADA POETRY OUT LOUD PROGRAM

The literary arts have always been a figure in the western landscape, so it is no surprise that the Nevada Poetry Out Loud Program continues to power up enthusiasm and excitement.

Nevada has experienced exponential growth in participation since the first year in 2005, when 200 students, coaches, teachers and parents were involved. This year Poetry Out Loud engaged more than 3,600 students, 40 teachers and 27 schools across the state. Now that's poetry power!

A POEM IS A FRIEND FOR LIFE

Poetry Out Loud is a distinctive arts education initiative that begins in communities throughout the state. High school-aged students in public, private, charter and home schools master public-speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about their literary heritage through the memorization and recitation of classic and contemporary poetry.

By making the words of great poets literally come to life, semi-finalists advance from school and district competitions to compete at the Nevada State Finals where the stakes are high. The Nevada POL State Champion travels to Washington, D.C. to compete for \$50,000 in scholarships and school stipends at the National Finals, April 24-25, 2018 at the Lisner Auditorium at The George Washington University.

POWERING UP POETRY!

Generous support from NV Energy is fueling the Powering Up Poetry: Poets in Residence Program. For the seventh year in a row, three poet/educators worked with 1,180 students and 26 teachers in two high schools, one elementary school, one middle school and one community organization in Las Vegas, North Las Vegas, Minden, Sparks and Eureka. The poets worked with students on the power of language to communicate ideas, to express emotions, to persuade and empower. Students learned how to run a poetry slam, practice positive community norms, and interact with the arts in a meaningful way.

2018 POETRY OUT LOUD NATIONAL FINALS — Watch them live at arts.gov

At the national finals competition students may compete in two rounds of judging. The first round occurs on Tuesday, April 24 where students are divided into three regions. Nevada's state finalist will compete in the Region 3 Semifinal on Tuesday, April 24 at 5:00 p.m. ET. Only three students from each region will move forward to the final competition on Wednesday, April 25. That competition begins at 7:00 p.m. ET. Tune in to see who will become the Poetry Out Loud National Champion!

The national semi-finals and finals will be webcast live at arts.gov.

Follow Poetry Out Loud on Twitter at @PoetryOutLoud and @NEAarts, #POL18.



2018 Nevada Poetry Out Loud State Finals

WELCOME

Julia Arger, Chair, Nevada Arts Council

COMMENTS

Katie Nannini, Community Relations Manager Northern Nevada, NV Energy

MASTER OF CEREMONIES | INTRODUCTION OF JUDGES AND STUDENTS Gailmarie Pahmeier, Poet and Educator

ROUND 1

- 1. Storey
- 2. Lyon
- 3. Pershing
- 4. White Pine
- 5. Washoe
- 6. Carson City
- 7. Clark
- 8. Elko
- 9. Douglas

ROUND 2

- 1. Clark
- 2. Elko
- 3. Pershing
- 4. Lyon
- 5. White Pine
- 6. Washoe
- 7. Storey
- 8. Douglas
- 9. Carson City

ROUND 3

Top three finalists

AWARDS PRESENTATION Julia Arger and Katie Nannini

RECEPTION

All are invited!



Poems + Poets

For the Nevada State Finals, each student is required to prepare three poems for recitation that have been selected from an anthology prepared by the National Endowment for the Arts and The Poetry Foundation. The poems chosen by each student are listed below in the order in which they will recite them. Deciding on the recitation order is a strategic decision that the students must make. All students will recite one poem in Round 1 and one poem in Round 2. Only three students will advance to Round 3.

CARSON CITY | Sophia Peterson

Ars Poetica by Archibald Macliesh Epitaph on the Tombstone of a Child, the Last of Seven that Died Before by Aphra Behn Chicago and December by W.S. Di Piero

CLARK | Sandra Luevano

Let the Light Enter by Frances Ellen Watkins Harper Domestic Situation by Ernest Hilbert I Sit and Sew by Alice Moore Dunbar-Nelson

DOUGLAS | Lea Gifford

The Bookshelf of the God of Infinite Space by Jeffrey Skinner Epitaph on the Tombstone of a Child, the Last of Seven that Died Before by Aphra Behn Ode by Arthur O'Shaughnessy

ELKO | Mikayla De Guzman

Bleeding Heart by Carmen Giménez Smith Propositions by Stephen Dunn The Passionate Shepherd to His Love by Christopher Marlowe

LYON | Gabrielle (Grey) Hunt

The Mortician in San Francisco by Randall Mann The Children's Hour by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow Weighing In by Rhina P. Espaillat

PERSHING | Christopher Wilbur

The Darker Sooner by Catherine Wing The Paradox by Paul Lawrence Dunbar Song of the Powers by David Mason

STOREY | John Dexter E. Yago

Love Armed by Aphra Behn
Invictus by William Ernest Henley
I Find No Peace by Sir Thomas Wyatt

WASHOE | Michael Kerr

To a Mouse by Robert Burns History by Camille Rankine Horns by Kwame Dawes

WHITE PINE | Darius Bush

The More Loving One by W. H. Auden The Affliction of Richard by Robert Bridges Black Boys Play the Classics by Toi Derricote CARSON CITY

Sophia Peterson Junior Carson High School Tasha Fuson, Principal CLARK COUNTY

Sandra Luevano
Senior
East Career and Technical Academy
Darlene Delgado, Principal

DOUGLAS COUNTY

Lea Gifford Senior Douglas High School Joe Girdner, Principal







Sophia Peterson attends Carson High School in Carson City, Nevada. She is a member of many clubs at her school, most notably Speech and Debate and Mock Trial. Her participation in these clubs is what led to one of her coaches recommending that she participate in Poetry Out Loud, which she thoroughly enjoys. In 2016, Peterson was one of northern Nevada's International Extemporaneous Speaking representatives at the National Speech and Debate Association's National Tournament in Birmingham, Alabama. She would like to thank her parents, Jenny Treece and Russ Peterson, and all the Carson High debate coaches.

Sandra Luevano has lived all her life in Las Vegas. She is involved in school clubs such as the Students Against Violence club, Red Cross Club, and DECA, an organization for emerging business leaders. Luevano takes honors and AP courses and has a profound interest in fashion. Her goal is to become an entrepreneur and create her own business one day. She would like to thank her AP language and public speaking teacher Darren Stewart, her mother Carolina Escoto, her sister and brother Ericka Luevano and Carlos Luevano, and others who have supported her and helped her get where she is today.

Lea Gifford is a senior at Douglas High School. She is in her fourth year of Speech and Debate and this year is privileged to be co-captain of the team. She has also been privileged to participate in other speaking engagements, such as the American Legion's Oratorical Contest and the Lion's Club Speaking Contest. In her spare time, she loves listening to Kpop and volunteering in the nursery at LifePoint church. Gifford wishes to thank her parents, Jim and Alecia Gifford, her teachers Mena Dedmon, Mark Kuniya and Cheyenne Contreras, and her coach Karen Heine.

Finalists

ELKO COUNTY

Mikayla De Guzman Junior

Elko High School
Tim Wickersham, Principal

LYON COUNTY

Gabrielle Hunt

Senior

Yerington High School
Duane Mattice, Principal

PERSHING COUNTY

Christopher Wilbur

Senior

Pershing County High School Tom Brooks, Principal







Mikayla De Guzman was born in Manhasset, New York, and moved to Elko, Nevada around the age of 2. As a junior at Elko High School she enjoys singing in Choraliers, participating in Key Club, and acting in drama class. It was during her freshman year of speech class that she was introduced to Poetry Out Loud and got the chance to work with poets Randy Rieman and Joel Nelson at a workshop. De Guzman would like to thank her teachers Emily Nielson and Kelli Moon, and her parents Jocelyn and Felix De Guzman, for encouraging her to find her voice.

Gabrielle (Grey) Hunt is an avid four-time competitor in the Poetry Out Loud program. They like reading, writing, and playing in the school band. After graduation, they hope to attend college for political science and possibly become a civil liberties lawyer, using their love of politics, debate, and social justice. They would like to thank their parents, friends, and most of all Mrs. Aldridge for unyielding support and setting them out on the track of this incredible four-year journey.

Christopher Wilbur has been a resident of rural Nevada for almost six years. Through his time living so far from town, he has developed many ways to keep stress and boredom at bay. His biggest stress relief has by far been poetry. Wilbur looks forward to listening to and reading poetry in the future. He also enjoys building things and spends a lot of time with his best friend, Renee. Wilbur would like to thank his best friend/girlfriend Renee Gokey, his parents Donna Wilbur and Mike Wilbur, and his drama teacher Julie Terry.



STOREY COUNTY

John Dexter E. Yago Junior

Virginia City High School ShawnMarie Chapman, Principal



Michael Kerr

Junior

Bishop Manogue Catholic High School Brianne Thoreson, Principal WASHOE COUNTY

Darius Bush

Senior

White Pine High School Rebecca Murdock, Principal







John Dexter E. Yago was born and raised in the Philippines until 2012, when he moved to the United States. At Virginia City High School, he participates in the Silver Sound Choir and plays football, and in his spare time, he likes to sing and do karaoke. He loves pizza and coffee. Yago wishes to thank his mother and stepfather, Maricel Vernazza and Mike Vernazza, and his English teacher, Kristen Scott. He dedicates his performance during the Nevada State Finals to his grandparents.

Michael Kerr is a Junior at Bishop Manogue Catholic High School in Reno. He enjoys theatre, programming, rock climbing and literature. His favorite poets are Edgar Allan Poe and other 19th century poets. He has performed in multiple theatre shows for Reno Little Theatre and in a musical for Bishop Manogue. Kerr's literary tastes and acting experience have made this poetry competition a new and challenging endeavor. He wishes to thank his parents Michael and Marie Kerr, his English teacher Katie LaPointe and all of his teachers and friends at Manogue.

Darius Bush was born in Ely, Nevada, and has lived there all his life. He is a poet and artist, as well as a sound equipment manager, stage manager, and vice president of White Pine High School's Players Club. Bush takes pride in changing the views of those around him and offering a new voice to the town of Ely. He would like to thank his parents, Justin and Kristy Jacobsen, Kelly Sturgeon and his other English teachers, and White Pine High School.







CREATING JOBS. GENERATING COMMERCE. DRIVING TOURISM.

THE ARTS MEAN BUSINESS IN NEVADA

\$471.7 million in economic activity

\$227.3

million
by arts
& cultural
organizations

\$244.4 million in eventrelated audience

spending

Supports **10.494**

full-time jobs

\$250.7 million

Conributes
to household income for
local residents

\$36.8 million

Generates local and state government revenue

ARTS DRIVE TOURISM

54.2% of non-local event attendees said the primary purpose of their visit to the state was "specifically to attend this arts/cultural event"

47.6% of non-resident attendees said they would have "traveled to a different community to attend a similar cultural event"

41.8%

of resident attendees said they would have "traveled to a different community to attend a similar cultural event"

AUDIENCE SPENDING

\$79

Non-local average attendee spending per person above and

beyond ticket price



Avg. per person attendee spending beyond ticket price

Arts and Economic Prosperity 5 (AEP5) is the most comprehensive economic impact study of the nonprofit arts and culture industry ever conducted. In fiscal year 2015, the State of Nevada joined Americans for the Arts as an official study partner.

Data from Nevada was gathered from 164 nonprofit arts and culture organizations and over 2,200 audience spending surveys. The study utilized a customized input-output model for the region to ensure reliable results.

What sets the AEP5 study apart is that it not only focuses on localized research on arts organizations, but also incorporates the event-related spending by their audiences beyond any ticket prices. When patrons attend an arts event, they may pay for parking, eat dinner at a restaurant, enjoy dessert after the show, and return home to pay the babysitter. The study found that in Nevada, the typical attendee spends \$28.90 per person, per event beyond the cost of admission.

AEP5 demonstrates that the arts provide both cultural and economic benefits. Nationally as well as in Nevada, the arts mean business.

Master of Ceremonies

GAILMARIE PAHMEIER

Gailmarie Pahmeier has been a Nevadan for over 30 years. She teaches creative writing and contemporary literature courses at the University of Nevada, Reno, where she has been honored with the Alan Bible Teaching Excellence Award and the University Distinguished Teacher Award. She is also on the faculty of the low-residency MFA Program at Sierra Nevada College. A Pushcart Prize nominee, her work has garnered a number of awards including a Witter Bynner Poetry Fellowship and two Artists Fellowships from the Nevada Arts Council as well as the prestigious Fellowship Project Grant. Her poems have been widely published in literary journals and anthologies. She is the author of *The House on Breakaheart Road* and *The Rural Lives of Nice Girls* as well as three chapbooks, one of which, —*Shake It and It Snows*—, won the Coal Hill Chapbook Award from Autumn House Press. Pahmeier has received the Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts from the state of Nevada and is a former National Literary Panelist for the YoungArts Foundation. In 2015 she was appointed Reno's first Poet Laureate; in 2016 she was inducted into the Nevada Writers Hall of Fame, and in 2017 she received the Outstanding Teacher in the Humanities Award from the Nevada Humanities Council.

Judges

JOE ATACK

Joe Atack is an actor, director, musician and educator who has taught workshops in the UK, Switzerland and the U.S. Originally from northern England, Atack trained as an actor at the Arden School of Theatre in Manchester and earned a degree from the University of Manchester. He worked as an actor in theatre, film, television and radio and later co-founded Inky Fingers Theatre Company, which produced new works supported by the Arts Council of England; and SheepTown Theatre Company, which was dedicated to producing new theatre in rural communities. In 2007 Atack was invited to work for the Nevada Shakespeare Company of Reno. In addition to serving as company manager he produced, directed and acted in plays under Producing Artistic Director Cameron Crain, with whom he co-wrote *Romeo and Juliet Ish*, which toured northern Nevada, Idaho and Oregon. In 2008 Atack became the first Education Director for the Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival (LTSF) and teaches workshops on Shakespeare and acting in addition to being a member of the acting company. LTSF provides educational programming to over 7,000 young people each year. Since Atack became Producing Artistic Director of Good Luck Macbeth Theatre Company of Reno in 2014 it has has grown significantly, resulting in a recently opened new theatre space in Midtown, Reno, doubling the company's space and capacity.

MARY HOLSCLAW

Mary Holsclaw is a native of North Carolina. She earned her bachelor's degree in political science and international studies from Mars Hill University and her master's degree in curriculum and instruction from the University of Scranton, Pennsylvania. Beginning in 2014, she worked as the Social Studies Consultant for the Nevada Department of Education and is currently its new Competency-Based Education and STEM Consultant. Holsclaw has worn many different hats throughout her career including sponsoring the Model United Nations Club and Youth Legislative Club, providing community service in the legal field, sponsoring Girl Scouts, and chairing the social studies department (at her previous school where she taught). She has also conducted professional development trainings pertaining to curriculum, 21st Century learning, and enhancing literacy in social studies. Through this wide experience, Holsclaw has developed a unique perspective into the field of education. In her spare time she enjoys reading literature in various genres and exploring the surroundings of northern Nevada.





VOGUE ROBINSON

Vogue Robinson recently became Clark County's second poet laureate. She has an appreciation for humans who put truth and heart into words. Since graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in English from San Diego State University, she has dedicated herself to the art of expression. Her work has been published in Catching Calliope: Vol. 2, Red Rock Review, Legs of Tumbleweeds, Wings of Lace: An Anthology of Literature by Nevada Women and Clark: Poetry from Clark County, Nevada. Her first poetry collection titled Vogue 3:16 was released in 2014. Robinson serves as the organizer and cohost to Words in Motion Open Mic and Battle Born Poetry Slam. She has also represented Las Vegas four times at the National Poetry Slam. She is the Executive Director of Poetry Promise, Inc. whose mission is to advance the knowledge and practice of poetry and the literary arts in Clark County, the state of Nevada and beyond. Robinson likes to spend what spare time she has with family.

MICHAEL URSELL

Michael Ursell manages the Beverly Rogers, Carol C. Harter Black Mountain Institute's development program and is the associate publisher of the acclaimed literary magazine The Believer. He is a writer, educator, and digital strategist. He worked at the Los Angeles Review of Books (LARB) as a communications director and an editor for the nonprofit magazine's poetry section. He arrived at LARB after winning a competitive fellowship from the American Council of Learned Societies "Public Fellows" program. Ursell holds a PhD in literature from the University of California, Santa Cruz, where he wrote about French and English Renaissance poetry and taught many classes, from Shakespeare to Introduction to Composition. His academic writing on poetry has appeared in publications including Studies in English Literature 1500 – 1900 Connotations, and The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics.

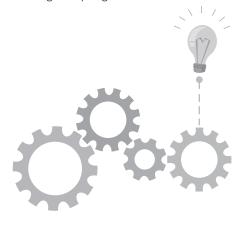
LINDSAY WILSON

Lindsay Wilson, an English professor at Truckee Meadows Community College, serves as Poetry Editor for the school's national literary journal, *The Meadow*. He earned his M.F.A. in poetry from the University of Idaho. He has been named a finalist for the Philip Levine prize and has received a special mention in the 2017 Pushcart Prize anthology. Wilson's first collection, *No Elegies*, won the Quercus Review Press Spring book award. He has also authored five chapbooks and his poetry has appeared in *The Bellevue Literary Review, Verse Daily, The Missouri Review Online, The Carolina Quarterly*, and *The Portland Review* among others. Currently he is serving as the Poet Laureate of Reno, Nevada.

Accuracy Judge

NANCY MANFREDI

Nancy Manfredi is a native Nevadan. She grew up in Sparks, attended Sparks schools, and graduated from the University of Nevada with a Bachelor of Arts in Secondary Education. She taught at Dilworth Junior High School, Wooster High School, and McQueen High School. While at McQueen, she served as the English department chairman for four years. During her 33 years as an educator she taught writing, poetry, and literature to both regular and honors classes and was a scorer for the Nevada State Proficiency Test in Writing. Upon retirement, Manfredi joined the Assistance League of Reno-Sparks where she volunteers in its numerous programs. She also enjoys her membership in the Historic Reno Preservation Society where she is a walking tour guide for weekly tours during the spring and summer months.



Acknowledgements

Congratulations to all the students who competed at the school and district levels, and many thanks to their parents, families and friends. We are indebted to the enthusiastic support of and participation by the teachers, coaches, principals and superintendents involved with Nevada's 2018 Poetry Out Loud Competition. We know that the list below may be missing others, and we thank you as well.

Participating Districts

CARSON CITY

Coordinator: Patrick Mobley School: Carson City High School Principal: Tasha Fuson Teacher: Patrick Mobley

CLARK COUNTY

Coordinator: Shana Venenga, Clark County School-Community Partnership Program Schools: East Career and Technical Academy, Las Vegas Academy, Legacy High School, College of Southern Nevada High School West, College of Southern Nevada High School East, Palo Verde High School, New Horizons Center for Learning and Green Valley High School

Principals: Darlin Delgado, Scott Walker, Ken Sobaszek, George Leavens, Darren Sweikert, Barbara Bidell and Kent Roberts

Teachers: Darren Stewart, Stacey Johnston, Rachel Burke, Serrin Anderson, Gary Havener, Amy Reed, Sandra McCluney and

Ines Lopes

DOUGLAS COUNTY

Coordinator: Mena Dedmon School: Douglas High School Principal: Joe Girdner Teacher: Mena Dedmon

ELKO COUNTY

Coordinator: Emily Nielsen, Elko High School **Schools:** Elko High School and Owyhee

Combined School

Principals: Tim Wickersham and Steven

Cook

Teachers: Emily Nielsen, Kelly Moon, Justin Streeter and Melissa Weick-Juceam

HUMBOLDT COUNTY

School: Albert M. Lowry High School **Coordinators:** Rene Hill and Jake Evans

Principal: Ray Parks

Teachers: Rene Hill and Jake Evans

LINCOLN COUNTY

Coordinator: C. Pete Peterson School: Lincoln County High School, Principal: Marty Sodeborg Teacher: C. Pete Peterson

LYON COUNTY

Coordinator: Amanda Aldridge School: Yerington High School Principal: Duane Mattice Teacher: Amanda Aldridge

Home School (Lyon County)

Sierra & Jake Kreamer-Parents

NEVADA VIRTUAL STATEWIDE

Coordinator: Cornel Nemes School: Nevada Virtual Academy Principal: Janine Calhoun Teacher: Cornel Nemes

PERSHING COUNTY

Coordinator: Julie Terry

School: Pershing County High School

Principal: Tom Brooks **Teacher:** Julie Terry

STOREY COUNTY

Coordinator: Kristen Scott **School:** Virginia City High School **Principal:** ShawnMarie Chapman

Teacher: Kristen Scott

WASHOE COUNTY

Coordinators: Bridget Conway and Britt

Curtis, Holland Project

Schools: Bishop Manogue Catholic High School, Coral Academy of Science High School, Davidson Academy of Nevada, Procter Hug High School, McQueen High School, Reed High School, Sparks High School and Truckee Meadows Community

College High School

Principals: Murat Kurt, Colleen Harsin, Cristina Oronoz, Amy Marable, Josh Rosenbloom, Kevin Carroll, Melissa Olsen

and Brianne Thoreson.

Teachers: Wes Lydon, AnnElise Hatjakes, John Kocian, Keith Roberts, Jillian Merson, Amanda Ellison, Georgie Gerrard, Kim Laack, Amanda Solem, Alicia Mustard, Amanda Guffey, Ryan Smith, Shelly Brewster-Meredith, Lindsey Lavely, Kira Temple, Julianne Dillard, Mary Jane Ubando, Wes Reid, Joseph Garton, Lori Farias, Tina Hart, Phil Harriman, Kasey Kaskie, Patricia Constantino and Katie LaPointe.

WHITE PINE COUNTY

Coordinator: Kelly Sturgeon School: White Pine High School Principal: Rebecca Murdock Teacher: Kelly Sturgeon

SUPERINTENDENTS

Steve Canavero, State of Nevada
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Teri White, Douglas County School District
Jeff Zander, Elko County School District
Dave Jensen, Humboldt County School District
Pam Teel, Lincoln County School District
Wayne Workman, Lyon County School District
Russell D. Fecht, Pershing County School
District

Todd Hess, Storey County School District Traci Davis, Washoe County School District Adam Young, White Pine County School

District



Acknowledgements

Without the passion, support and dedication of so many individuals, organizations and donors, the 2018 Nevada Poetry Out Loud Program would not have been possible. To all those noted below, and others that we may have missed – **THANK YOU!**

Special Thanks

National Endowment for the Arts – Jane Chu, Chairman; Ayanna N. Hudson, Arts Education Director; Andi Mathis, State & Regional Specialist; Eleanor Billington, Division Coordinator; Nancy Daugherty, Arts Education Specialist; Lauren Miller, POL Program Manager; and Liz Auclair, Media Contact.

Poetry Foundation – Henry Bienen, President; Stephen Young, Program Director; and Justine Haka, Program Associate.

Nevada Department of Education – Steve Canavero, Ph.D., Superintendent of Public Education; Nancy Martineau, Administrative Assistant III.

NV Energy – Katie Nanini, Community Relations Manager; and Mary Simmons, Vice President of External Strategy.

Cultural Alliance Nevada – Judy Harris, President/Chair; Pam Alvey, Vice-Chair; Stephanie Gibson, Secretary; and Tia Flores, Treasurer.

KNPB Channel 5 – Kurt Mische, President & CEO; Megan Myers, Vice President of Content & Marketing; Dave Santina, Director of Local Content; Don Alexander, Studio Technician; and Michele M. Joyce, Marketing & Volunteer Coordinator.

The Academy of Arts, Careers & Technology, Washoe County School District – Chef Fred Wright and the participating students of AACT.

Michael Okimoto Photographer

Dynagraphics

Domsky Glass

Wendy and Steve Kaplan

Tia Flores, score tabulator; Pam Alvey, prompter.

State of Nevada

Brian Sandoval, Governor



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2018 NEVADA POETRY OUT LOUD PROGRAM

Planning Committee

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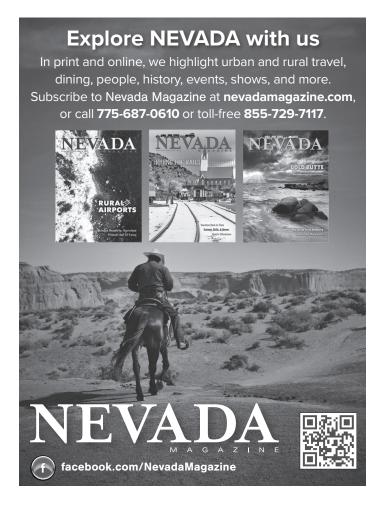
Arts Learning Director & Poetry Out Loud State Coordinator

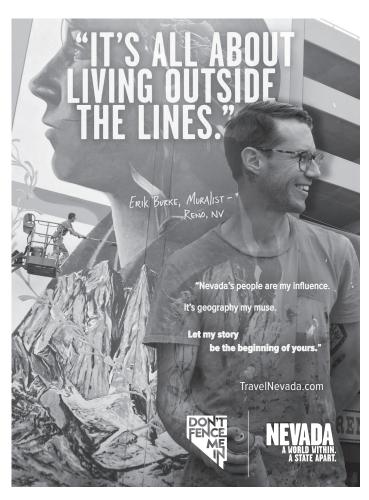
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Executive Director, Nevada Arts Council

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Nevada Poetry Out Loud Assistant







Reno Public Radio

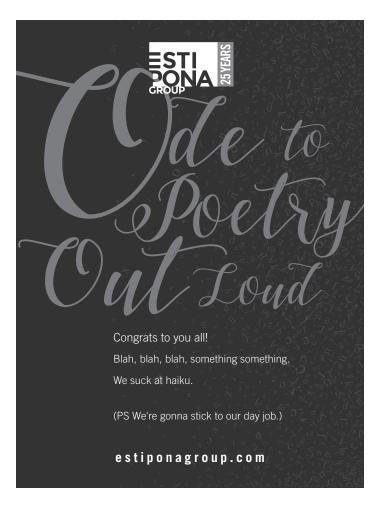
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Now available to stream online at KUNR.org or by using the KUNR App for Android and IOS devices.



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Support Arts Education | Drive your message home with an Arts License Plate!

Purchase a "Rich in Art" license plate and support programs in the literary, performing and visual arts for thousands of Nevada's children across the state provided by the Nevada Arts Council and Arts for All Nevada (formerly VSA arts of Nevada). \$15 of the initial fee and \$10 of each renewal means more children expressing themselves positively through the arts!



Standard Plate: \$51; Annual Renewal \$20

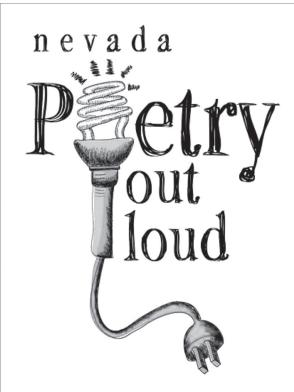
Personalized Plate: \$86; Annual Renewal \$40



Questions?

Nevada Arts Council: nac.nevadaculture.org 775.687.6680 | 702.486.3738

Arts for All Nevada: artsforallnevada.org | 775.826.6100



Poetry is language at its most distilled and most powerful,

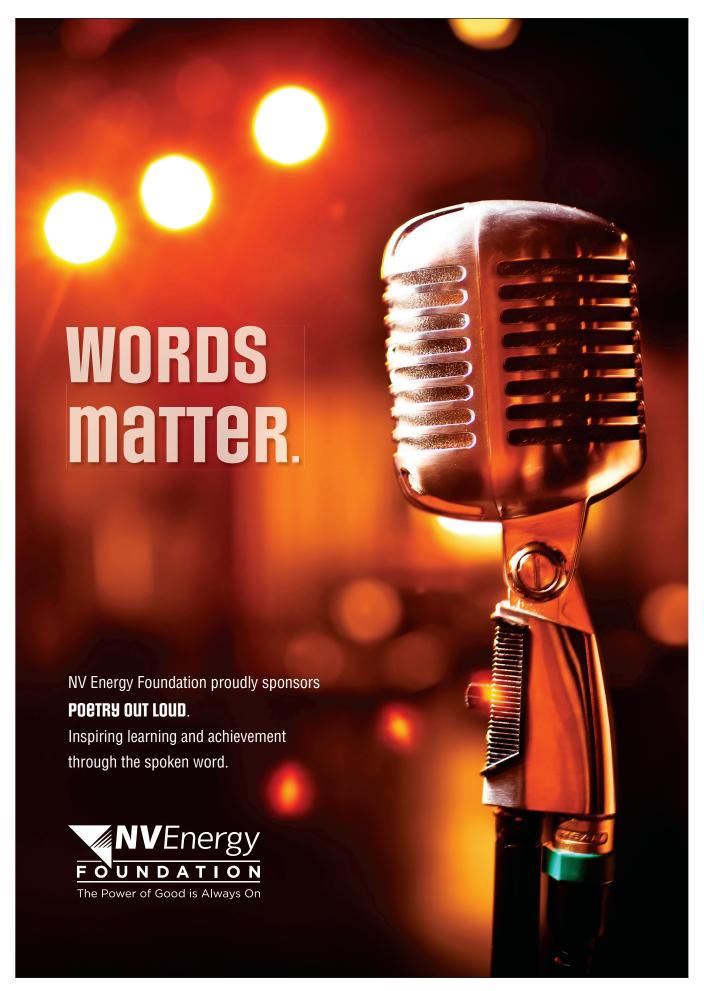
-Rita Dove



to all the 2018 Poetry Out Loud finalists!

Cultural Alliance Nevada (CAN) is a statewide 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to the advancement of arts, culture and arts education through advocacy, education and partnership.





























NEVADA ARTS COUNCIL

Celebrating its 50th Anniversary in 2017, the Nevada Arts Council was established as a state agency in 1967. The Arts Council is charged with ensuring that state and national funds support cultural activity and encourage participation in the arts throughout Nevada. In addition to providing hundreds of grants to arts and community-based organizations, schools, artists and local municipalities throughout the state, the Nevada Arts Council (NAC) designs and coordinates a variety of statewide programs and activities such as traveling exhibits, artist residencies, workshops and cultural assessments to serve the state's rural and urban communities. A division of the Nevada Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs, NAC is funded by the State of Nevada, the National Endowment for the Arts, and other private sources.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

Congress established the National Endowment for the Arts in 1965 as an independent agency of the federal government. To date, the NEA has awarded more than \$4 billion to support artistic excellence, creativity, and innovation for the benefit of individuals and communities. The NEA extends its work through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector.



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.

CULTURAL ALLIANCE NEVADA

Cultural Alliance Nevada, formerly the Nevada Alliance for Arts Education (NAAE), is a statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to the advancement of arts, culture and arts education through advocacy education and partnership. Cultural Alliance Nevada continues and expands upon the work of NAAE and its two decades of grassroots arts and arts education advocacy on the local, state and national levels; and successful partnerships and initiatives.