# 2023 nevada poetry out toud





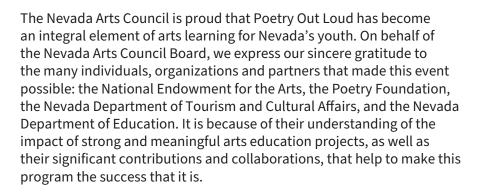
#### Terry Schefcik NAC BOARD CHAIR

### welcome

On behalf of the Nevada Arts Council, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 18th annual Nevada Poetry Out Loud Competition State Finals. Thank you for joining us in celebration of our six finalists. This is truly an exciting time in their lives!

Poetry Out Loud celebrates the human condition through the power of the spoken word. These young people are mastering the skill of speaking in public, and we as listeners are reaping an appreciation of their hard work as they move poetry from the printed page to the *virtual* stage. Their medium is words. Their tool is public speaking tempered by self-confidence. Their message is a portrayal of who we are. The words they speak can be powerful, sincere, poignant, emotion-laden, painful, inspiring, nostalgic, beautiful and much, much more, all of which are descriptors of the human condition.

We recognize that the students competing today are not alone in their efforts. It is through the continued encouragement of supportive families, dedicated teachers, participating schools, and our statewide team of coordinators who assist in the regional competitions that they have arrived at this stage. This is how Nevada is able to produce farreaching programs like Poetry Out Loud.



I also thank Nevada Arts Council Executive Director, Tony Manfredi, Arts Learning Specialist Maryjane Dorofachuk, the agency's dedicated staff, as well as my fellow Board members for their combined commitment and belief that lifelong learning in the arts benefits all Nevadans.

To each finalist, I speak on behalf of the Nevada Arts Council Board and staff when I offer an enthusiastic *congratulations*! We realize the dedication and persistence it took to get you where you are in the face of the unprecedented challenges we are dealing with today. All of us at the Nevada Arts Council acknowledge and thank you, your families and your teachers for the inspiration and hope of a brighter future you share with us today.

Thank you.





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### nevada arts council

In partnership with

Nevada's School Districts & Teachers
Nevada Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs
National Endowment for the Arts
Poetry Foundation

#### **PROUDLY PRESENTS**

# nevada poetry out loud state finals

March 11, 2023, Noon
Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts

#### **Featuring the 2022 Nevada Poetry Out Loud Finalists:**

Grace Hwang, Clark County
Ashlee Sandoval, Elko County
Selene Contreras, Eureka County
Farrah Bader, Lyon County
Michael Rees, Storey County
Rayann Hijazi, Washoe County

All day long my heart Trembles life a leaf. All alone at midnight, where did that beloved go?

### nevada poetry out loud

#### **CELEBRATING ITS 18TH YEAR**

"Poetry is the language of human experience. We come to poetry so that we can inhabit our own lives more fully and more fully inhabit the larger world in which we live our lives".

GAILMARIE PAHMEIER, NEVADA STATE POET LAUREATE





"Poetry Out Loud has been a journey that I am so glad was a part of my high school experience. I am grateful to be considered a part of the arts community and I hope more young people continue to be involved in the future. Poetry Out Loud is something I will never forget and will always hold close to my heart."

Eafjot Faur Sethon
2022 NEVADA POL STATE CHAMPION

### 2023 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 generate 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 1,800 students, 28 teachers and 13 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, May 8–10th, 2023, held in Lisner Auditorium on the campus of George Washington University.

#### Follow Poetry Out Loud on...

Twitter and Instagram at: @PoetryOutLoud, @NEAarts, #POL23 and #IAMPoetryOutLoud

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## poems + poets

For the Nevada State Finals, each student is required to prepare three poems for recitations that have been selected from an anthology prepared by the National Endowment for the Arts and The Poetry Foundation. The poems are listed below in the order in which they will recite them. One poem must be 25 lines or shorter and one must be written before the 20th century. The same poem may be used to meet both criteria.

#### CLARK | GRACE HWANG

The Second Coming by William Butler Yeats
I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud by William Wordsworth
Charles Sumner by Charlotte L. Forten Grimké

#### **ELKO | ASHLEE SANDOVAL**

Poem Toward People by Ariel Yelen Superstition by Ashley August "Where did the handsome beloved go?" by Jalal al-Din Rumi

#### **EUREKA** | **SELENE CONTRERAS**

Ah! Why, Because the Dazzling Sun by Emily Brontë I felt a Funeral, in my Brain, (340) by Emily Dickinson September, 1918 by Amy Lowell

#### LYON | FARRAH BADER

An Autumn Sunset by Edith Wharton
To have without holding by Marge Piercy
The world is about to end and my grandparents are in love by Kara Jackson

#### STOREY | MICHAEL REES

Common Dust by Georgia Douglas Johnson A Certain Kind of Eden by Kay Ryan The Tyger by William Blake

#### WASHOE | RAYANN HIJAZI

Meeting at an Airport by Taha Muhammad Ali Sonnet 55: Not marble nor the gilded monuments by William Shakespeare What Woman Are Made Of by Bianca Lynne Spriggs

Pecently I learned how to do this singing with

Just my lips, tongue, and breath

Old habits die hard

So I only do it outside the house.

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## finalists

# When the world ends will it such the earth of all its love?



**CLARK COUNTY** 

### grace hwang

Senior

Ed W. Clark High School Kerry Larnerd, Principal

Grace Hwang is a senior in the AMSAT program at Clark High School and will attend the University of Chicago. Since kindergarten, she has taken great pleasure in reciting poems and exploring each of their nuanced meanings. Grace is an avid writer, having self-published the chapbook For the Best. She is a scholar of the works by J. R. R. Tolkien. Finally, Grace is the principal flutist of the 2022-2023 Nevada All-State Orchestra. She would like to thank her English teachers, Robin Brown, Alyson Henderson and Ashley Nebe, her brother, Samuel Hwang, her father, Andrew Hwang and her mother, Margaret Hwang.



**ELKO COUNTY** 

### ashlee sandoval

Junior

Elko High School Timothy Wichersham, Principal

Ashlee Sandoval is a junior at Elko High School. She is seventeen years old and participates in many extracurricular activities. She enjoys attending Drama club and Art club in the afternoons. Her hobbies include reading, drawing, and a bit of photography. Ashlee enjoys learning new things and isn't afraid of failure. Her main goal for 2023 is to be herself and have fun. She would like to thank her drama teacher Jeanine Hoskins, her teacher Jo Brown and her mentor Kelly Moon.



**EUREKA COUNTY** 

### selene contreras

Freshman

#### Eureka County High School Travis Carr, Principal

Selene Contreras is a 15-yearold girl attending Eureka County High School who has a love for literature and the arts. Her favorite books are "Crime and Punishment" by Fyodor Dostoevsky and Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice". When Selene is not reading, she is expressing her creativity through writing and creating art. Debate is another passion of hers and she finds it exciting to discuss and defend her viewpoints with others while also learning about interesting topics in the process. Selene strives to be a determined and thoughtful individual, one that radiates kindness and empathy towards others. She would like to thank her Debate and Speech teacher Megan Carlson.

2023 NEVADA POETRY OUT LOUD STATE FINALS

# finalis 8





LYON COUNTY

### farrah bader

Senior

Yerington High School Kathy Bomba-Edgerton, Principal

Farrah Bader is a senior at Yerington high school and is currently taking classes to become a certified nursing assistant. Her plans for after high school is to go to college to become a registered nurse with the end goal of becoming a traveling surgical nurse. Farrah has a passion for traveling and meeting new people. She has been to Ireland, England, and Wales and currently has an upcoming trip to Italy and Germany this summer. She is very family oriented and is close with her parents, Monica and Brian Bader, her older brother Brock Bader and her puppy Luna. She would like to thank her English teacher Amanda Aldridge, her counselor Todd Hunt, her parents Monica and Brian Bader and all of her friends, who are her biggest supporters.

**STOREY COUNTY** 

### Michael rees

Sophomore

Virginia City High School ShawnMarie Lumos, Principal

Michael was born in Las Vegas and moved to Virginia City in 2020. He keeps himself busy with cross country, track and field, robotics, and Boy Scouts. He loves being outdoors and gardening. As an Eagle Scout, Michael can say that Boy Scouts has helped instill in him a love of learning and understanding the world around him, everything from the science to the philosophies of the unknown. And he loves how poetry and poets are able to show these topics with art and grace. He thinks that poetry is better than other art forms because of its ability to convey thoughts, emotions, ideas, or entire personalities through nothing more than a couple of stanzas. Michael would like to thank his mom, Kimberly Rees, his dad, John Rees, his twin brother, John Rees II, and his English teacher Mr. Watts.

**WASHOE COUNTY** 

### rayann hijazi

Sophomore

Coral Academy of Science High School Murat Kurt, Principal

Rayann Hijazi is a Muslim Palestinian girl who is excited to be here. She adores poetry and writing and has been passionate about it since she was young. She was born in Albuquerque and has moved frequently around the U.S. Rayann has lived in Reno, Nevada for a few years and is excited to represent her school. She loves art, playing the flute and dreams to work in the medical field someday. She was always a very shy, sensitive kid, so she has quite the fear of public speaking. But she is super excited to be participating in Poetry Out Loud. Rayann would like to thank her mom Abeer Hijazi, her dad Ramzi Hijazi, her sister Noor Hijazi and her English teacher Mr. Lydon.

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#### **MASTER OF CEREMONIES**

### gailmarie pahmeier

Gailmarie Pahmeier has been a Nevadan for almost 40 years. Now emerita, she taught creative writing and contemporary literature courses at the University of Nevada, Reno, where she was honored with the Alan Bible Teaching Excellence Award and the University Distinguished Teacher Award. She is currently on the faculty of the low-residency MFA Program at UNR Tahoe. A Pushcart Prize nominee, her work has garnered several 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. Her most recent book, Of Bone, of Ash, of Ordinary Saints, was released in 2020. Gailmarie 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. She currently serves as Nevada's Poet Laureate and is a 2022 Laureate Fellow of the Academy of American Poets.

And Twintle on the Milty way, They stretched in never-ending line

Continuous as the stars that shine

Along The Margin of a bay.

#### **JUDGE**

### dustin howard

Dustin Howard is the current City of Reno Poet Laureate. He is also the Director of Community Engagement and Events for Sage Ridge School in Reno, Nevada. Dustin is the author of Engrams, his first collection of poetry, and of the supernatural thriller novel Breakvale, both of which can be found on Amazon. He is currently working on a second collection of poems and his next novel. An avid movie buff and fan of both horror and science fiction, he can often be found enjoying a good scary movie or rewatching his favorite Star Trek episodes. He also speaks a little Klingon, just for fun. Dustin is an advocate for LGBTQIA+ issues, at-risk youth, and youth education, believing that all students deserve the right to learn in a safe, supportive environment. Dustin loves sharing his love for poetry, and would be delighted to come speak to your students about why poetry matters and conduct a workshop! You can reach him directly by visiting his website at dthbooks.com.

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### irma varela

Irma Varela is the Cultural Program Supervisor at Winchester Dondero Cultural Center, a part of Clark County Parks and Recreation. Born in Zacatecas, Zac. Mexico, she came to Las Vegas in 1989. She first worked for the county as the Folk Arts Program Assistant and in 2003 she became a Cultural Specialist for the cultural center where she has developed a variety of programs promoting arts and culture through the rich and diverse cultural fabric of the Las Vegas community. In 2001, Varela created a Day of the Dead celebration that developed into the Life in Death Festival, an award-winning annual gathering of artists, musicians, food, and spirit from the many regions of Mexico. She started World Vibrations and World Steps programs, highlighting the international music and dance talents of Las Vegas community and the Families in Nature program bringing awareness to climate change, stewardship, and nature conservation. She manages the Clark County Poet Laureate program, working to promote poetry throughout the community. Varela is a past board member of the Nevada Arts Council and The Hispanic Museum. She currently serves as a committee member of IME Becas at the Mexican Consulate and as a Treasurer for **Woman of Diversity Productions** Inc. She is an active member of Red Rock Audubon Society. Varela holds a degree in Business Administration and Tourism from Universidad del Valle de Atemajac of Guadalajara, Mexico, and a MA in Intercultural Relations from Antioch University of Ohio.

### jesse james ziegler

Jesse James Ziegler hosts the weekly poetry open mic Monday Night Poetry and the monthly poetry book club Collective Breath as an active member of Spoken Views Collective. He opened for season 15 winner of AGT Brandon Leake as a part of the world premiere of their one man spoken word play INSOMNIA. Jesse was also the Poet in Residence of the Bruka Theatre for three consecutive seasons (27, 28, and 29) He has been actively involved with the Poetry Out Loud program for several years now. He lives in sparks with his wife Amanda and their pets Honey, Finn, and Tulsa.

### nancy podewils-baba

Nancy Podewils-Baba, MSW, LCSW, is a semi-retired Licensed Clinical Social worker currently consulting for a behavioral nonprofit. She has over 50 years of clinical practice, is a past adjunct professor at the UNR School of Social Work, and a lifelong lover of all art forms. She currently serves on the board of the Sierra Watercolor Society, where she coordinates their Arts Angels program, bringing free watercolor instruction and supplies to elementary classrooms that do not have art. She also serves on the Leadership Council of KUNR Public Radio and is a past board member for the Reno Little Theater, where she volunteers regularly. Nancy has successfully written grants for both Reno Little Theater and Sierra Watercolor Society. She feels ready to be the Accuracy Judge for Nevada Poetry Out Loud, because she was an English major at Cornell, as well as a first child!

All through the night, your glorious eyes Nere gazing down in mine.



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 2023 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 **Teacher:** Patrick Mobley

#### **CLARK COUNTY**

Coordinators: Maryjane Dorofachuk & Alexis Parsha, Nevada Arts Council Schools: East Career and Technical Academy and The Meadows School

Teachers: Daren Stewart,

Valerie Bugni

#### **EUREKA COUNTY**

**Coordinator:** Megan Carlson, Eureka County High School **School:** Eureka County High

School

**Teacher:** Megan Carlson

#### **ELKO COUNTY**

**Coordinator:** Meggan Voth,

Elko High School

Schools: Elko High School, Spring Creek High School Teachers: Meggan Voth, Maren Miller, Jeanine Hoskins

#### **LYON COUNTY**

Coordinator: Amanda Aldridge, Yerington High School Schools: Yerington High School, Silver Stage High School Teachers: Amanda Aldridge, Kayla Mueller, Cara Childs,

#### **STOREY COUNTY**

Dalton Piatt

**Coordinator:** Karl Watts, Virginia City High School **School:** Virginia City High School

**Teacher:** Karl Watts

#### **WASHOE COUNTY**

**Coordinator:** Alana Berglund, Holland Project

Schools: Coral Academy of Science High School, Davidson Academy of Nevada, McQueen High School, Wooster High School,

Ed Reed High School

**Teacher:** Wesley Lydon, Michelle Aucoin Wait, Jillian Merson, Kaitlynn Cooper, Alicia Mustard, Lindsey Lavely, Beth Estes, Jenny Nelson, Tobey Hilliard, Amanda Ayala-Guffey, Aimee Kelly, Kimberly Cuevas, Nelson Jenny, Kira Temple, Pat Condon, Julianne Dillard

#### **SUPERINTENDENTS**

Jhone Ebert, State of Nevada Superintendent of Public Instruction

Andrew Feuling, Carson City School District

Dr. Summer Stephens, Churchill County School District Dr. Jesus Jara, Clark County

School District

Keith Lewis, Douglas County School District

Clayton Anderson, Elko County School District

James Fosset, Esmeralda County School District

Tate Else, Eureka County School
District

Dr. Dave Jensen, Humboldt County School District

Russ Klein, Lander County School District

Pam Teel, Lincoln County School District

Wayne Workman, Lyon County School District

Stephanie Keuhey, Mineral County School District

Dr. Warren Shillingburg, Nye County School District

Russell Fecht, Pershing County School District

Todd Hess, Storey County School District

Dr. Susan Enfield, Washoe County School District

Adam Young, White Pine County School District

And birds sang loudly in the wood, And fresh winds shoot the door.

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Without the passion, support, and dedication of so many individuals, organizations, and donors, the 2023 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**

Dr. Maria Rosario Jackson, Chair; Michael Orlove, Director of State, Regional & Local Partnerships, and International Activities; Lara Holman Garritano, State and Regional Specialist; Nancy Daugherty, Arts Education Specialist; Lauren Miller, POL Program Manager.

#### **Poetry Foundation**

Ydalmi Noriega, Vice President of Programs and Community Engagement; Justine Haka, Education Programs Manager.

#### **Nevada Department of Education**

Jhone Ebert, Superintendent of Public Education

#### **Nevada State Poet Laureate**

Gailmarie Pahmeier

#### **Kunder Design Studio**

#### **Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts**

**SoSu. TV** – Mark & Dana Hatjakes

**Sundance Bookstore** 

**Joe Winter Pottery** 

West Charleston Library, Las Vegas

#### State of Nevada

Joe Lombardo, Governor

#### Nevada Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs

Brenda Scolari, Director

#### **Nevada Poetry Out Loud Team**

Maryjane Dorofachuk, State Coordinator Alexis Parsha, POL Assistant Tony Manfredi, Executive Director

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# celebrating 17 years of nevada poetry out loud

#### 2022

**1st Place** — Eakjot Sekhon Robert McQueen High School/Washoe County

**2nd Place** — Anastasia Chevalier Virginia City High School/Storey County **3rd Place** — Grace Hwang Ed. W Clark/Clark County

#### 2021

**1st Place** — Eakjot Sekhon Robert McQueen High School/Washoe County

**2nd Place** — Anastasia Chevalier Virginia City High School/Storey County **3rd Place** — Allyson Adamsen Doral Academy Red Rock/Clark County

#### 2020

**1st Place** — Eakjot Sekhon Robert McQueen High School/Washoe County

2nd Place — Anastasia Chevalier
 Virginia City High School/Storey County
 3rd Place — Lara Cassity
 Douglas High School/Douglas County

#### 2019

1st Place — Vanessa Aponte Legacy High School/Clark County 2nd Place — Noemi Valdez Sparks High School/Washoe County 3rd Place — Mikayla De Guzman Elko High School/Elko County

#### 2018

1st Place — Grey Hunt Yerington High School/Lyon County 2nd Place — Mikayla De Guzman Elko High School/Elko County 3rd Place — Sandra Luevano East Career Technical Academy/ Clark County

#### 2017

1st Place — Grey Hunt
Yerington High School/Lyon County
2nd Place — Cache Black
Elko High School/Elko County
3rd Place — Lea Gifford
Douglas County High School/
Douglas County

#### 2016

1st Place — Mikayla Bates Elko High School/Elko County 2nd Place — Grey Hunt Yerington High School/Lyon County 3rd Place — Vanessa Blackwell Douglas County High School/ Douglas County

#### 2015

1st Place — Dominique Groffman Douglas County High School/ Douglas County 2nd Place — Dylan Baker College of Southern Nevada/ Clark County

**3rd Place** — Whitney Reyes Wooster High School/Washoe County

#### 2014

1st Place — Christian Schunke Yerington High School/Lyon County 2nd Place — Princess Jackson Green Valley High School/Clark County 3rd Place — Mikayla Bates Elko High School/Elko County

#### 2013

1st Place — Graciela Maya-Joseph Owyhee High School/Elko County 2nd Place — Jennifer Simon Pahrump Valley High School/Nye County 3rd Place — Ralston Pedersen Yerington High School/Lyon County

#### 2012

1st Place — Mandy Titolo College of Southern Nevada/Clark County 2nd Place — Graciela Maya-Joseph Owyhee High School/Elko County 3rd Place — Jennifer Simon Pahrump Valley High School/Nye County

#### 2011

1st Place — Emily Orellana Rainshadow Community Charter High School/ Washoe County 2nd Place — Sarah Jamieson Churchill High School/ Churchill County 3rd Place — Dani Cabot College of Southern Nevada/ Clark County

#### 2010

1st Place — Emily Orellana
Rainshadow Community Charter High
School/Washoe County
2nd Place — Stephanie Kulla
Carson City High School/Carson City
3rd Place — Erika Marchesini
Pershing County High School/
Pershing County

#### 2009

1st Place — Emily Orellana
Rainshadow Community Charter High
School/Washoe County
2nd Place — Jaitee Pitts
Pahrump Valley High School/Nye County
3rd Place — Stephanie Kulla
Carson City High School/Carson City

#### 2008

1st Place — Lainey Henderson Carson City High School/Carson City 2nd Place — Talton Gay Independence High School/Elko County 3rd Place — Heather Gibeson Pahrump Valley High School/Nye County

#### 2007

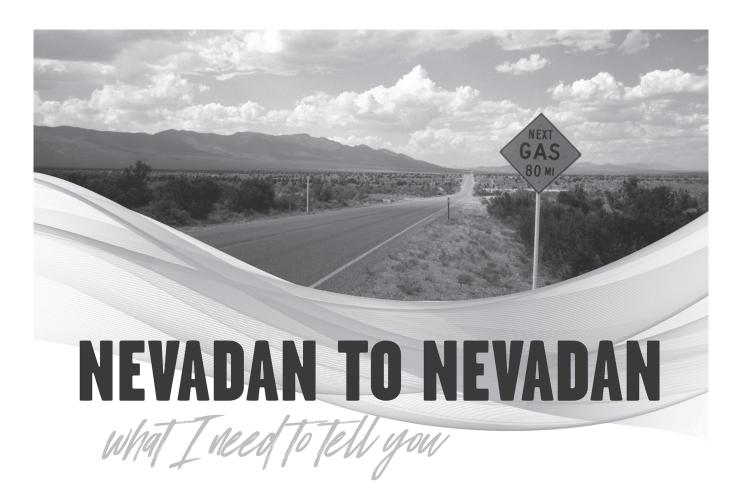
1st Place — Jake Reid
Douglas County High School/
Douglas County
2nd Place — Lainey Henderson
Carson City High School/Carson City
3rd Place — Geoffrey McFarland
Galena High School/Washoe County

#### 2006

1st Place — Gibran Baydoun Green Valley High School/Clark County 2nd Place — Jacob Behymer-Smith Coral Academy/Washoe County 3rd Place — Alicia Freeman Carson City High School/Carson City

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This ongoing statewide poetry project is the major project of state Poet Laureate Gailmarie Pahmeier. It utilizes the epistolary style – or letter poems. The goal of this project is to encourage Nevadans to speak to one another via poetry, to tell one another something about what it means to live in a beautiful but complicated state.

Gailmarie has worked with poet ambassadors across the state to provide poetry workshops and to encourage participation. To date the project has published 74 poems from 15 different 'cities and towns. The project has received submissions from authors in 10 counties across Nevada and continues to publish these works. The success of this project is evident in the diversity, beauty, and humor of the poems submitted by residents of Nevada.



Scan the QR Code to View the Nevadan to Nevadan Gallery





Funding for the Nevada Arts Council is provided by:





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### Support Arts Education

Drive your message home with an Arts License Plate!

Your purchase of a "Rich in Art" license plate supports programs in the literary, visual and performing arts for thousands of Nevada children and their families statewide—provided by the Nevada Arts Council, a state agency and Arts for All Nevada, a non-profit organization.



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QUESTIONS?

Nevada Arts Council: nvartscouncil.org 775.687.6680 | 702.486.3738 Arts for All Nevada: artsforallnevada.org | 775.826.6100

### **ARTS LEARNING**

### building a community for arts education

Arts and creativity strengthen education. They set young people up for success, close the achievement gap and improve test scores. Arts and creativity spark human potential, promoting cognitive development and readiness to learn at every age, they develop an innovative, globally competitive workforce by adding the key ingredient of creativity to STEAM education, and art therapies help to forestall Alzheimer's and promote lifelong brain health.

The Arts Learning Program from the Nevada Arts Council provides funding, resources, and programs; and engages in statewide initiatives to promote learning in, through and about the arts.

**75**%

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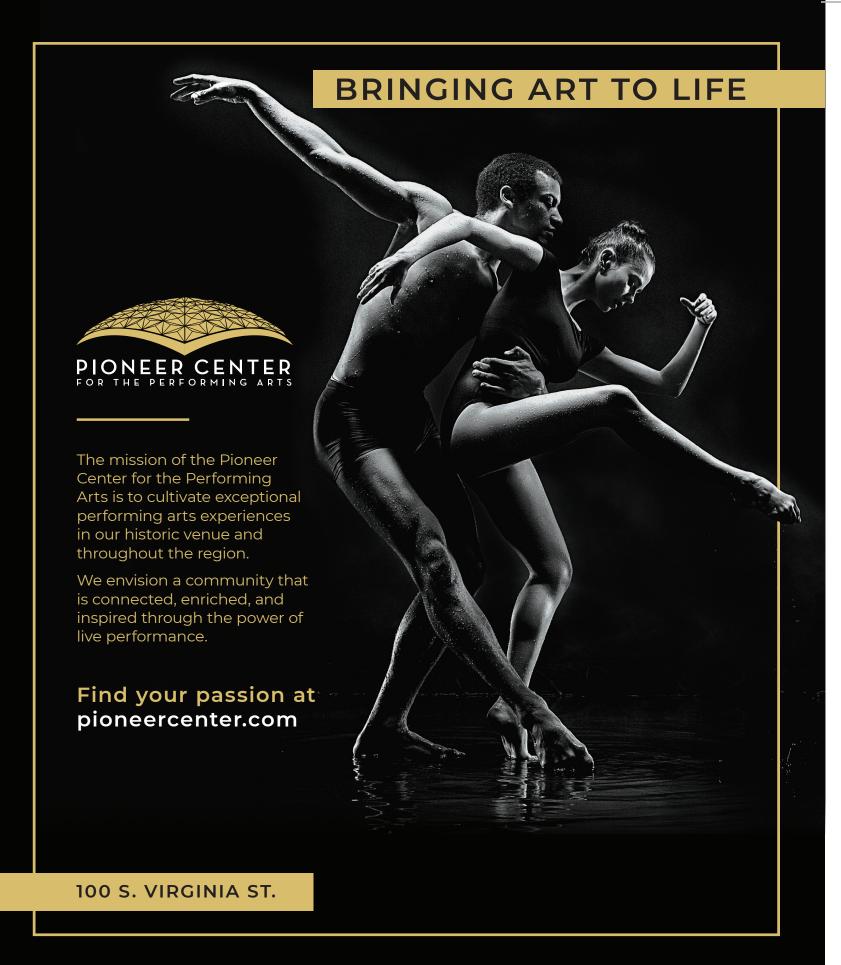
believe the arts help students perform better academically 92%

believe it is important for K-12 students to receive education in the arts 62%

believe that the arts are part of a well-rounded education

2023 NEVADA POETRY OUT LOUD STATE FINALS

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## nevada arts council

Established as a state agency in 1967, the Nevada 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 Nevada State Legislature, 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 exists to discover and celebrate the best poetry and to place it before the largest possible audience. Established in 2003, The Foundation seeks to be a leader in shaping a receptive climate for poetry by developing new audiences, creating new avenues for delivery, and encouraging new kinds of poetry.



nvartscouncil.org

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