



2018-19 Region 5 Poetry Out Loud

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ALABAMA PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Phase I: Class Competitions (August – September)

1. High schools apply to participate by **September 15**
2. NEA and the Poetry Foundation provide standards-based teaching materials.
3. Students each select a poem from the [website](#).
4. Students memorize their poem and recite it in a class competition (it is recommended that they research the poem and the poet; materials are available on the [website](#)).
5. Class winners are chosen by the teacher or a judge chosen by the teacher.



Phase II: School Competitions (October)

1. The winners from each class move forward to a school wide competition.
2. Each student recites two poems for the school wide competition.
3. School judges should come from outside the school. (NEA provides funds to pay judges \$25 each, or these funds can be used for travel expenses to the regional workshop and competition).
4. School winners prepare for regional semi-finals. Teachers should support them from here on.

Phase III: Regional Competition (November)

REGION 5 WORKSHOP: Friday, October 19, 2018

in the Wilson Hall 160 (Art Gallery) on the UAH Campus ([map](#))

A. Finding Your Voice Workshop – School winners and their teachers attend *Finding Your Voice*, an intensive poetry workshop to prepare students for the regional, state, and national competitions.

REGION 5 COMPETITION: Friday, November 16, 2018

in Chan Auditorium on the UAH Campus

B. Regional Semi-Finals

1. Anthology Poetry: Each student memorizes and recites three poems from the Poetry Out Loud anthology: one pre-20th century *and* one 25 lines or fewer.
2. Original Poetry: Each student is required to write two original poems to recite.
3. The top three winners from both the *National Poetry Out Loud* competition and the *Original Poetry* competition will move forward to the State Finals. The Huntsville Literary Association will again award \$100 for first prize in each contest, and we have asked for UAH Scholarship money as well.
4. Winners will be invited to attend an intensive coaching session in January to prepare them for the State Finals.

Phase IV: State Competition (February) - Students choose which of two competitions to enter:

National Poetry Out Loud

- Recite poems from the anthology to compete for **State Champion**
- **State Champion wins \$200** (Winner's school wins \$500 for the library.)
- **First runner-up wins \$100** (Runner-up's school wins \$200 for the library.)
- **State Champion** and chaperone travel to Washington, DC for National Finals, all expenses paid (Phase V below)

Original Poetry

- Students recite their own original poetry
- Winner gets a state award which has included a cash prize from the Alabama Writers Forum
- Competitors not eligible for national championship

Phase V: National Competition (May) – Washington, DC

- NEA and the Poetry Foundation pay travel expenses to Washington, DC for state champion and a chaperone.
- A total of \$50,000 is awarded in scholarships during the National competition.
- The National Champion receives a \$20,000 scholarship.
- Finalists receive \$5,000 & \$1,000 scholarships.

