How to Submit Video Performances
to the New York State Poetry Out Loud Competition

We are excited to host another year of Poetry Out Loud! This year’s program will be virtual, making it a new and different experience for everyone.

For students competing independently (eg. not with a school)
Submit your materials via Survey Monkey and Dropbox by Monday, January 24th, 2022. (See the student checklist on the following page, with links.) You will go on to compete at the regional competition based on the region in which they live.

For students representing their schools in the regional competitions
All students competing at the regional level must submit their poems, poem order, signed media release form and three videos (see below for details on how to submit everything) by Monday, January 24th 2022. Please remember as in previous years that poem order and poems may not be changed after submission.

How will your video be scored?
The judges will receive all materials electronically and score as they would in a live competition. All three rounds will be scored and considered at every level of the competition and the top two highest scorers will be announced as the winner and runner up.

Please see below for a step by step checklist of what each student needs to complete to be successful in the virtual Poetry Out Loud program. Please email pol@twc.org with any questions you may have.

Reminder – Recitation Requirements:
● Students must begin by stating the title of the poem and the poet’s name, and the translator, if applicable.
● A student’s own editorial comments before or after the poem are not allowed.
● Poems must be recited from memory.

For more details regarding the evaluation criteria, please consult the Teacher’s Guide.

Accessibility:
To request accommodations, please contact the New York State Poetry Out Loud coordinator at pol@twc.org.
STUDENT CHECKLIST

☐ Have a parent or guardian complete the Media Release form.

☐ Submit your poem titles, poem order, personal bios for each round and upload the media release form on Survey Monkey.

☐ Record your three poem performances as separate videos. They should be saved as MP4 files. **Important!** The filename should include your last name, first name and the Round in which you want the performance to be included. Example: Smith, Jane - Round 1

☐ Upload your three videos to the Regional Competition Dropbox folder by Monday, January 24, 2022. The link can also be found on the Survey Monkey registration page.

Recording your video

These tips can also be found online at Poetry Out Loud Virtual Competition and Filming Requirements

Filming requirements:

- Film with a horizontal orientation.
- Face the camera so it captures your head to mid-torso (medium shot).
- Each recitation should be filmed in one single shot from one static angle.
- The sound and picture must be clear.
- Videos cannot be edited. Do not add music, graphics, titles, virtual backgrounds, filters or computer animation.
- Use of professional recording studios is prohibited.
- Each recitation requires its own separate video.

Tips:

- Stand in front of a neutral background, if possible. Try to avoid wearing clothing in similar colors to the background. It's best if the camera is level, not tilted up or down.
- Do not place light sources behind you to avoid being backlit.
- Students may look directly into the camera, at a fixed spot, or at an imagined audience.
- Make sure you are the only visible and audible person in the video.
Use a microphone, if possible. If the microphone is on the camera, position the camera close to you.

Start recording a few seconds before the recitation and stop recording a few seconds after the end.

Examples of student filmed POL recitations can be found on the POL YouTube page.