



## Poetry Out Loud 2023

***“No matter who you are, where you come from, or what your story is, there is some poem out there you can connect with.”***

**Poetry Out Loud (POL)** inspires in high school students and teens the confidence to make themselves heard, using one of the most powerful tools at their disposal—poetry. It encourages teens to learn about poetry through memorization, performance, and competition. Participants master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about literary history and contemporary life.

**And the best part about POL, it’s fun and easy to participate.**

1. Go to the POL website and choose 3 poems. [www.poetryoutloud.org](http://www.poetryoutloud.org).
2. Ask a teacher, mentor, or group leader to be your sponsor.
3. Notify Mara Grimes [mgrimes@smcgov.org](mailto:mgrimes@smcgov.org) that you would like to participate by **Dec. 16, 2022**. You will receive information on how to proceed. Coaching sessions will be available to a limited number of students from each school or organization to be held in **January 2023** via Zoom.
4. Check out video of past participants and resources [www.poetryoutloud.org](http://www.poetryoutloud.org).
5. Start memorizing and have fun!
6. The county competition will take place on **February 7, 2023**.

***“Before I began this process, poetry seemed foreign and inaccessible, but now it is an art with which I can connect and appreciate more fully.”***



**COUNTY OF SAN MATEO**  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S OFFICE  
OFFICE OF ARTS AND CULTURE

