



POETRY

OUT LOUD

NATIONAL RECITATION CONTEST

*2012 NORTHERN
ARIZONA
REGIONAL COMPETITION*

**COCONINO CENTER
FOR THE ARTS
AUDITORIUM
FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA**

March 7, 2012



Arizona
Commission
on the Arts



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE ARTS

POETRY



FOUNDATION

Northern Region Competition Event Schedule

Wednesday, March 7, 2012
7:00pm - 9:00pm

Welcome and Introductions

First Round

Break

Second Round

Break

Recognition of Student Contestants

Announcement of Three Finalists



Biz Lemke
Coconino High School, Flagstaff, Arizona

Biz was born and raised in Flagstaff, Arizona. She was homeschooled until her sophomore year of high school and is now a junior at Coconino High School. She was raised in a ranch-like setting, riding horses and herding small animals, never owning less than ten animals at a time. She aspires to become a veterinarian in the future, but for now focuses on her studies.



Laramie Pajkos
Coconino High School, Flagstaff, Arizona

Laramie was born and raised here in Flagstaff, Arizona and has lived through droughts, floods, and fires. She's a tough nut to crack and an even tougher competitor. Being the daughter of a teacher, she has always put academics first and now hopes to study forensic sciences at Eastern Washington University. For now, she will stick with her passion; poetry.



Rebecca Andersen
Kingman High School, Kingman, Arizona

As an aspiring novelist, poetry means a great deal to Rebecca Andersen. Not only does her love for Emily Dickinson possess deep roots into her childhood, but her beliefs match those of Carl Sandburg and her views of love parallel Sir Walter Raleigh. Rebecca spent much of her childhood moving across the west coast, living in various environments, and thus owns a unique view on life. She lives with her sister until the end of senior year, where she will return to her mother's home in the Californian mountains and study Forensic Psychology and Creative Writing in college. Instead of having children of her own, Rebecca intends to adopt children from needy homes after her career stabilizes. When she grows old, Rebecca hopes to buy a castle on the Irish seaside and refurbish it, residing there until the end of her days.



Alec Gibelyou
Kingman High School, Kingman, Arizona

Alec is a Junior in High School. He enjoys playing soccer, and he also runs Cross Country and Track. He hasn't made any specific plans for college, but he will probably attend Brigham Young University, at least for his Freshman year. He hasn't decided on a major yet. He enjoys reciting poetry because it gives him a chance to express emotions, whether his own or his interpretation of someone else's.

Chelsea Baum
Mogollon High School, Heber-Overgaard, Arizona



Tyler Myers
Mogollon High School

Tyler divides his busy schedule between football, wrestling, and baseball. Whatever time he finds leftover, he spends at his family's store in Winslow.



Sophia Licher

Sedona Red Rock High School, Sedona, Arizona

Sophia enjoys singing, swimming, archery, reading, art, hiking, traveling, watching movies, adventures, being with her friends and eating. She is interested in the world, animals, people, and possibly massage.



Ismea Westerveld

Sedona Red Rock High School, Sedona, Arizona

Ismea is really passionate about art and also enjoys writing and expressing herself through stories and poetry. She is hoping to go to an art college after high school.



Anna Flurry

Tri-City College Preparatory, Prescott, Arizona

Anna Flurry has been writing since elementary school. Her novelette, *The Morphist*, was published in 2009 and is available from Lulu Marketplace.

Recently she won third place in the Young Playwrights Festival for her play entitled, "C is For Cat." Dozens of her works can be found on the online magazine *Teen Ink*. She is an avid reader, accomplished musician, and prolific writer who hopes to major in Creative Writing and Music in college.



Adriana Hurtado

Tri-City College Preparatory, Prescott, Arizona

Adriana is a freshman at Tri-City Prep High School who is active in creative writing and a member of the softball team.



Tyler Myers
Mogollon High School, Heber-Overgaard, AZ

Tyler divides his busy schedule between football, wrestling, and baseball. Whatever time he finds leftover, he spends at his family's store in Winslow.



Alina Burniston-Perez
Sedona Red Rock High School, Sedona, AZ

Alina is an aspiring pianist. She enjoys sculpting, running and playing volleyball. She also loves bunnies and delicious food.



Jacob Seemann
Sedona Red Rock High School, Sedona, AZ

Jacob Seemann is in his senior year at Sedona Red Rock High School. He has participated in Poetry Out Loud every year of his high school career. In addition, he works with the Sedona Youth Slam Poetry Team, Young Voices Be Heard, or alternatively, The Business. He and his friends spend way too much time trying to be clever, and his one weakness is winter fresh gum.



MeKenzie Hawley
Seligman High School, Seligman, AZ

Southern born and bred, MeKenzie Hawley now resides in rural northern Arizona. Being a ninth grader at Seligman High has enabled her to explore several sports, as well as other interests like creative writing, photography and cooking. MeKenzie has an artistic soul, and loves to express herself as a performer in several venues.



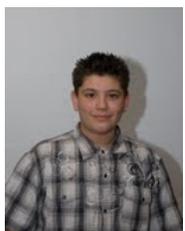
Kylie Newman
Seligman High School, Seligman, AZ

A native Arizonian, Kylie Newman now resides in rural northern Arizona. Raised on a ranch, Kylie is a member of the FFA and loves spending quality time outdoors with her family. A voracious reader, she enjoys reading romance novels. For inspiration and motivation in her poetry recitation, she draws upon her knowledge of reading and musical interests.



Jake Levin
Tri-City College Preparatory High School, Prescott, AZ

Jake Levin is a sophomore at TCP. He has two brothers, a dog, a pig, and eleven chickens. He enjoys riding horses, branding cattle, playing basketball, and listening to and playing music. He also enjoys hanging out with friends and other outdoor activities.



Jacob Servedio
Tri-City College Preparatory High School, Prescott, AZ

Jacob is a sophomore at TCP, where his interests include History and Drama. He looks forward to attending a college on the east coast and plans to be a Spanish teacher.

Northern Region Judges



Judith Cloud is an accomplished mezzo–soprano soloist and composer who has performed throughout the United States, premiering many new works by young composers as well as her own music.

Dr. Cloud received performance degrees from the North Carolina School of the Arts, and Florida State University. She has been a member of the music faculty for The North Carolina School of the Arts, Florida Community College at Jacksonville, and Indiana State University. She is currently Coordinator of Voice at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff and teaches studio voice and vocal pedagogy.



Ann Cummins is the author of a short story collection, *Red Ant House* (Mariner, 2003) and a novel, *Yellowcake* (Houghton Mifflin, 2007), a San Francisco Chronicle notable book and Best of Kirkus. Her stories have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *McSweeney's*, and elsewhere and have been anthologized in a variety of series including *The Best American Short Stories*, *The Prentice Hall Anthology of Women's Literature*, *Best of McSweeney's*, and *The Anchor Book of New American Short Stories*. A 2002 recipient of a Lannan Foundation Literary Fellowship, she's a graduate of Johns Hopkins University and the University of Arizona writing programs. She teaches creative writing at Northern Arizona University.



Toby Yatso is Artist-in-Residence at Phoenix Theatre, Faculty Associate for Lyric Opera Theatre at the Arizona State University School of Music, and a member of Actors' Equity Association. Stage highlights include Leo Bloom in *The Producers* (ariZoni Award winner), Ash in *Evil Dead: The Musical* (ariZoni Award winner), Cosme McMoon in *Glorious* (ariZoni and Encore Society Award winner), Princeton/Rod in *Avenue Q* (Encore Society Award winner), Joe Sutter in *The Spitfire Grill*, Corny Collins in *Hairspray*, Malcolm McGregor in *The Full Monty*, Tom in *Hunter Gatherers*, and as a narrator for The Phoenix Symphony. Directing highlights include *The 25th ... Spelling Bee*, *Forbidden Broadway*, *Devil Boys From Beyond* and *Oedipus For Kids*.