

News release



Everett Public Schools

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For more information:

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Everett High students recite at *Poetry Out Loud* competition, Jan. 15

Last November, Everett High School students were intrigued and interested when they heard about the [Poetry Out Loud](#) competition. *Poetry Out Loud* is a national recitation contest that helps students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about their literary heritage. Students memorize and perform some of the most influential and timeless poems of the English language.

To compete, students chose two very different poems from the [Poetry Out Loud Anthology online](#). One poem must be short – just 25 lines or fewer. The other must be old – written before the 20th century.

Students memorized both poems for recitation at the competition. The judges evaluated each student's physical presence, voice and articulation and dramatic appropriateness. In addition, points were given based upon each poem's level of difficulty, how well the student exhibit full understanding of the poem and each student's overall performance. Recitation must be perfect; each mistake was accounted for by an individual judge.

Each competition ends up with one finalist and one runner-up. Emily Olson won first place on Jan. 15 and will represent Everett High School at the *Poetry Out Loud* Regional Finals on Jan. 30. Janelle Schank won second place.

The Jan. 30 Northwest Washington Regional Final is two hours of poetry – 7 to 9 p.m. at the [Burlington Library](#), 820 East Washington Ave., Burlington. The event is free and open to the public. Winners from the Burlington event can advance to state and national competitions and ultimately have a chance at the \$20,000 grand prize for the national winner.

Everett High School students who competed and the poems they recited were:

- Antony Giesick: "A Poison Tree" and "Pity the Beautiful"
- Jarrell Quincy: "The Darkling Thrush" and "Alone"
- Emily Olson: "Invictus" and "The New Colossus"
- Janelle Schank "A Poison Tree" and "History Lesson"
- Thomas Sams "America" and "The American Soldier"
- Alyssa Morris "Life in a Love" and "Full Moon"
- Corey Robinson "Invictus" and "Full Moon"
- Diana Vazquez "A Poison Tree" and "Full Moon"
- Hannah Del Rosario "Love Song" and "Late Summer"

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