2019 New Mexico Poetry Out Loud students, teachers, workshop leaders, judges, volunteers, New Mexico Arts staff, event coordinator, and New Mexico Museum of Art staff.

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St. Francis Auditorium    New Mexico Museum of Art    Santa Fe
New Mexico Poetry Out Loud is a national recitation contest made possible by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation. It is produced and directed in New Mexico by the state arts agency New Mexico Arts, in accordance with their agreement with the Endowment.

The competition begins at the high school classroom level and progresses to a school competition. School champions move on to the state finals, which are held each winter in Santa Fe.

The state champion receives a cash prize of $200 and the champion’s school receives $500 for the purchase of poetry books for the school library. The state champion and chaperone also receive an all expenses-paid trip to Washington DC to represent New Mexico at the National Finals.

This year 883 students began the competition. This book features the ten state finalists and the people who make it all possible.

Gracias y felicidades a todos!

Illustration, Deco, Bernadette Freeman
Graphic Design, Camila Kennedy
Tim Keller Photography
Printing, NM State Printing

Phyllis Kennedy
Program Coordinator
Dustin loves sports and working. Jessica Lopez asked, “What kind of work do you like to do?” “Cowboy stuff,” he said. In the future he hopes to own a successful business.

DUSTIN POLING
Clayton High School, Clayton
Julie Book, Teacher

When You Are Old, William Butler Yeats
The Well Rising, William E. Stafford
Traveling Through the Dark, William E. Stafford
Spencer plays the trombone and enjoys building robots and working on different engineering projects. She also enjoys reading and spending time with friends and family. She will be going to college at NMSU and hopes to get a bachelor’s degree in Civil or Mechanical Engineering, and to travel the world.
Abeni enjoys playing ukulele, writing poetry, reading poetry, and listening to music. She hopes to become a nurse at a children’s hospital. Her favorite authors are Edgar Allan Poe and Robert Frost.

**ABENI KELSEY**
Arrowhead Park Medical Academy, Las Cruces
Reyes Duran, Teacher

*Acquainted With the Night*, Robert Frost
*April Love*, Ernest Dawson
*I Felt a Funeral in my Brain*, Emily Dickenson
Ammerece Michel
Rio Grande Preparatory Institute, Las Cruces
Kelly King and Ruleen White, Teachers

*Envy*, Mary Lamb
*Medusa*, Louise Bogan
*Domestic Situation*, Ernest Hilbert

Ammerece is interested in reading and working. Her dream for the future is to be a café and bookstore owner. She says her favorite writer or poet is our own amazing NM POL teaching artist, Manuel Gonzalez.
Neil’s hobbies include tennis, exercise, neuroscience, Medical Reserve Corps, and resource conservation. He says, “I am enjoying my experience working in the Medical Reserve Corps [at Bosque School] and am interested in potentially pursuing further experiences in health care.”

NEIL KATZMAN
2019 New Mexico State Champion
Bosque School, Albuquerque
Teacher, Kevin Cummins
Zacuanpapalotls, Brenda Cardenas
Life in a Love, Robert Browning
Kindness, Yusef Komunyakaa
ZOE SLOAN CALLAN
Native American Community Academy,
Albuquerque
Kat Page and Emily Beenen, Teachers
Famous, Naomi Shihab Nye
Song of the Powers, David Mason
The Wish, By a Young Lady, Laetitia Pilkington

Zoe’s interests and hobbies are reading, writing, fencing, acting, cooking, babysitting, swimming, drawing, arting, performing, learning, crocheting, and comedy (primarily watching and laughing). Her dream for the future is to become a successful lawyer, providing quality services to those in need. Eventually I would like to make it to the Supreme Court at either the state or federal level. “Whatever I do, I would like to keep writing and reading on the side,” she said.
Raina enjoys listening to music, writing, and spending time with friends and family. Her dream for the future is to “be happy (and maybe write a novel)”. Her favorite authors are Rick Yancey and Erin Hunter.
Mary likes swimming and arts and crafts. Someday she would like to be a teacher or maybe a Certified Nurse Assistant. Her favorite authors are J.K. Rowling, Dr. Seuss, Jamie Lee Curtis, and Pittacus Lore (James Frey).
Michelle writes that her interests and hobbies are playing violin, singing, reading, and writing. She hopes to become a speech-language pathologist. Her favorite authors are Sharon Olds, Rudolfo Anaya, and Veronica Roth.
Abigail’s interests and hobbies are choir, orchestra, and lots of clubs. “And I am very involved in my church,” she says. Her dream for the future? “I hope to do something that I can wake up every morning, with a smile on my face and say ‘this was the right choice’, even on a cloudy day.”
THE TEACHERS
Kernie Zimmerman, Reyes Duran, Julie Book, Kelly King, Ruleen White, Donelle Bunch, Annette Hardin, Emma Pennypacker Rayroux, Jessica Helen Lopez.
D’NESSA MCDANIEL
Calibration Round

JAZZ DUO
Weston Winkler, guitar
Adam Griffo, saxophone
New Mexico School for the Arts

THE JUDGES
Left to right: Gene Case, Prompter; Valerie Martinez, Recitation Judge; Debbi Brody, Accuracy Judge; Tom Maguire and Alexandra Germain, Recitation Judges
NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITY ACADEMY. REZSPIT - INDIGENOUS YOUTH POETRY.
Left to right:
Sierra-Garcia Charlie, Chris Sandoval, Lucas Meadows, Aaron Begay and Scout Callan.