

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS  
AND POETRY FOUNDATION PRESENT

**POETRY**

**OUT  
LOUD**



TM

**2024  
New York  
State Final**



MARCH 9, 2024  
FASHION INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
NEW YORK CITY



Council on  
the Arts

TEACHERS  
& WRITERS  
COLLABORATIVE



## Program

### Opening Remarks

Asari Beale, Executive Director, Teachers & Writers Collaborative

Christine Leahy, Arts Program Director, New York State Council on the Arts

### Poetry Out Loud Competition

Round I

Round II

### Intermission

### Poetry Out Loud Competition

Round III

### Closing Ceremony

### Reception



### Emcee

#### Twinkle Burke

Writer, actor, and educator

### Judges & Scorekeeper

#### Javan Howard

Poet, writer, and Co-Director of the Teaching Artist Project, Community Word Project

#### Christina Olivares

Writer, educator, and author of *Future Botanic* and *No Map of the Earth Includes Stars*

#### Aaron Zimmerman

Writer and Founder and Executive Director, New York Writers Coalition

#### Stephanie Pacheco

New York State Youth Poet Laureate and New York City Youth Poet Laureate

#### Asari Beale

Executive Director, Teachers & Writers Collaborative

# 2024 New York State Finalists

Students and poems are listed in the order of appearance. All finalists will recite in Rounds I and II in random order. The students with the five highest scores at the end of Round II will move on to Round III.

## ROUND I

### Rose Scordo

*Listening in Deep Space* by Diane Thiel

### Syeda Ahmed

*Miss you. Would like to grab that chilled tofu we love.* by Gabrielle Calvocoressi

### Simone DiNota

*Adam's Curse* by William Butler Yeats

### Jane Kitch-Willis

*The Snow-Storm* by Ralph Waldo Emerson

### Jade Wolff

*I Am the People, the Mob* by Carl Sandburg

### Zoey Marcus

*It was not Death, for I stood up, (355)* by Emily Dickinson

### Dylan Foss

*Candles* by Carl Dennis

### Ryan Karis

*When You Are Old* by William Butler Yeats

### Isabelle Scherl

*The Speakers* by Weldon Kees

### Kai Dirksen

*The Grauballe Man* by Seamus Heaney

### Kaitlyn Rams

*To Madame Curie* by Alice Moore Dunbar-Nelson

### Sarah Pipino

*Summer* by Chen Chen

### Cayden Young

*Propositions* by Stephen Dunn

### Ariadne Civin

*Siren Song* by Margaret Atwood

### James Masson

*Kubla Khan* by Samuel Taylor Coleridge

### Emily Wang

*Discrimination* by Kenneth Rexroth

### Jinx Hill

*I felt a Funeral, in my Brain, (340)* by Emily Dickinson

### Anadia St. John

*Spring Snow* by Arthur Sze

## ROUND II

### Cayden Young

*Le Maudit* by Richard Aldington

### Kaitlyn Rams

*Key to the Dollar Store* by Al Young

### Kai Dirksen

*"Hope" is the thing with feathers - (314)* by Emily Dickinson

### James Masson

*At the city pound* by Vincent O'Sullivan

### Sarah Pipino

*Songs for the People* by Frances Ellen Watkins Harper

### Jinx Hill

*Caged Bird* by Maya Angelou

### Simone DiNota

*A Shropshire Lad 2: Loveliest of trees, the cherry now* by A. E. Housman

### Emily Wang

*Night Bird* by Danusha Laméris

### Jane Kitch-Willis

*Self-Portrait as So Much Potential* by Chen Chen

### Rose Scordo

*The Definition of Love* by Andrew Marvell

### Dylan Foss

*The Affliction of Richard* by Robert Bridges

### Anadia St. John

*To have without holding* by Marge Piercy

### Ariadne Civin

*Crossing the Bar* by Alfred, Lord Tennyson

### Syeda Ahmed

*Before the Birth of One of Her Children* by Anne Bradstreet

### Isabelle Scherl

*What lips my lips have kissed, and where, and why* by Edna St. Vincent Millay

### Zoey Marcus

*Wedding Poem* by Ross Gay

### Jade Wolff

*To Helen* by Edgar Allan Poe

### Ryan Karis

*Once the World Was Perfect* by Joy Harjo

## ROUND III

### Syeda Ahmed

*Not Tonight but Tomorrow (1978)* by Miguel Algarín

### Ariadne Civin

*One Art* by Elizabeth Bishop

### Simone DiNota

*Cathedral of Salt* by Nick Flynn

### Kai Dirksen

*American Smooth* by Rita Dove

### Dylan Foss

*The Light of Stars* by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

### Jinx Hill

*Siren Song* by Margaret Atwood

### Ryan Karis

*Whenever you see a tree* by Padma Venkatraman

### Jane Kitch-Willis

*Magnitudes* by Howard Nemerov

### Zoey Marcus

*And Soul* by Eavan Boland

### James Masson

*Onions* by William Matthews

### Sarah Pipino

*Cathedral of Salt* by Nick Flynn

### Kaitlyn Rams

*In a Dark Time* by Theodore Roethke

### Isabelle Scherl

*When I Have Fears That I May Cease to Be* by John Keats

### Rose Scordo

*Poems* by Nikki Grimes

### Anadia St. John

*Songs for the People* by Frances Ellen Watkins Harper

### Emily Wang

*The Debt* by Paul Laurence Dunbar

### Jade Wolff

*Edgar Allan Poe Is Reached at the Baltimore Harbor by the Shadows That Pursue Him* by Fernando Valverde

### Cayden Young

*The Affliction of Richard* by Robert Bridges

Poetry Out Loud is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation. In New York State, Poetry Out Loud is made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts and is presented by Teachers & Writers Collaborative. Poetry Out Loud is a national program that encourages high school students to learn about great poetry—both classic and contemporary—through memorization, performance, and competition. Since the program began in 2005, Poetry Out Loud has grown to reach more than 4.1 million students and 68,000 teachers from 17,000 schools and organizations in every state, American Samoa, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

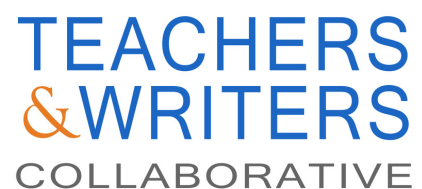
Students participating in the 2024 Poetry Out Loud New York State Final are the winners from 9 regional semifinal competitions that took place across the state. The winner will go on to represent New York State at the national Poetry Out Loud finals in Washington D.C. from April 30 to May 2, 2024.

Special thanks to the following for their contributions to 2024 Poetry Out Loud in New York State:

**The Hudson Valley Writers Center**  
**The Hudson Valley Writing Project**  
**The Long Island Writing Project**  
**Poets & Writers**  
**Simon & Schuster**  
**The State University of New York**  
**Stony Brook University**  
**The Western New York Writing Project**



Learn more about Poetry Out Loud at:  
[nypol.org](http://nypol.org) and [poetryoutloud.org](http://poetryoutloud.org)  
[#iampoeetryoutloud](https://twitter.com/iampoeetryoutloud)  
[@teacherswriters](https://twitter.com/teacherswriters)



# **2024 Poetry Out Loud New York State Final Schools & Cities**

Students participating in the 2024 Poetry Out Loud New York State Final represent the following schools and cities.

**The Bronx High School of Science, Bronx** — Syeda Ahmed

**Byron-Bergen Junior-Senior High School, Bergen** — Jade Wolff

**Cornwall Central High School, Wappingers Falls** — Dylan Foss

**Hastings High School, Hastings On Hudson** — Kai Dirksen

**Herricks High School, New Hyde Park** — Kaitlyn Rams

**Horace Mann School, Bronx** — Ariadne Civin & Emily Wang

**Jamesville-DeWitt High School, Dewitt** — Anadia St. John

**Olean High School, Olean** — Rose Scordo

**Roy C. Ketcham High School, Wappingers Falls** — Jinx Hill

**Sanford H. Calhoun High School, Merrick** — Ryan Karis

**Saratoga Springs High School, Saratoga Springs** — Sarah Pipino

**Schenectady High School, Schenectady** — Jane Kitch-Willis

**School of the Holy Child, Rye** — Simone DiNota

**Shoreham-Wading River High School, Shoreham** — Isabelle Scherl

**Stuyvesant High School, New York** — Zoey Marcus

**Syosset High School, Syosset** — James Masson

**Whitesboro High School, Marcy** — Cayden Young