

JUDGES RUBRIC

CATEGORY	0	1	2	3	4	5
CONTENT & CREATIVITY	 Simple content Easy language Presents vague idea and no awareness of the topic Poem contains no artistic appeal indicating no effort in production Poet does not maximize their vocabulary with little word usage 	 Straight-forward language and content Prevents vague idea and showing little awareness of the topic Poem contains little artistic appeal indicating little effort in production Poet does not maximize vocabulary and creates vague imagery 	 One element of challenging content: language or length Presents recognizable idea showing some awareness of the topic Poem is appealing indicating little effort in production Poet minimizes vocabulary with little amount of powerful words to create imagery and sensory details 	 Two elements of challenging content: language and length Presents controlling idea showing awareness of the topic Poem is appealing indicating some effort in production Poet maximizes vocabulary with some powerful words to create imagery and sensory details 	 Contains very challenging content and language Length is appropriate to complexity of the poem Presents clear idea showing strong awareness of the topic Poem is appealing indicating significant effort in production Poet maximizes an abundant amount of powerful words to create imagery and sensory details 	 Contains extremely challenging content and language Length is challenging for a poem of this complexity Presents compelling idea showing complex awareness of the topic Poem is unique and compelling indicating significant effort in production Poet clearly maximizes word usage with an abundant amount of powerful words to create imagery and sensory details
STAGE PRESENCE & PRESENTATION	 Stiff or agitated Lacks eye contact with audience Appears uncomfortable 	Timid Unsure Eye contact and body language reflects nervousness	• Body language and eye contact are at times unsure, and at times confident	• Comfortable • Steady eye contact • Confident body language	• Poised body language and eye contact reveal strong stage presence	• Authoritative body language and eye contact show compelling stage presence
DELIVERY	 Inaudible Slow, distracting rhythm Hurried Mispronunciations Poem is overshadowed by significant distracting gestures, facial expressions, inflections or accents, acting out of poem, over emoting and inappropriate tone 	 Audible but quiet Monotone Paced unevenly Affected tone Poem is secondary to style of delivery Includes instances of distracting gestures, facial expressions, vocal inflections, and inappropriate tone 	 Clear Adequate intonation Even Pacing Poem is neither overwhelmed nor enhanced by style of delivery 	 Clear Appropriate intonation and pacing Poem is enhanced by style of delivery Any gestures, facial expressions, and movements are appropriate to poem 	 Very clear, crisp Effective use of volume, intonation, rhythm, and pacing Style of delivery reflects precedence of poem Poem's voice is well conveyed 	 Very clear, crisp mastery of rhythm and pace Skillful use of volume and intonation Style of delivery reflects internalization of poem All gestures and movements feel essential to poem's success
OVERALL PERFORMANCE	 Ineffective or inappropriate recitation Does disservice to poem 	 Inadequate recitation Lackluster Does disservice to poem 	 Sufficient recitation Lacks meaning impact on audience 	• Enjoyable recitation • Successfully delivers poem	 Inspired performance Shows grasp of recitation skills and enhances audience's experience of the poem 	Captivating performance Shows mastery of recitation skills