

Division of the Arts Announces the Winner of Delaware's 2012 Poetry Out Loud Contest

Elizabeth Landon, a junior from Wilmington Christian  School, won Delaware's Poetry Out Loud state competition on March 13, 2012, held at the Smyrna Opera House. Landon's recitations of "Ah! Why, Because the Dazzling Sun," by Emily Jane Brontë, "Golden Retrievals," by Mark Doty and "On Virtue," by Phillis Wheatley earned her high marks with the judges. The first runner up was Idalis Stamas from Polytech High School, and the second runner up was D'Ajah Grimes from Concord High School. Pictured from left to right is Ialis Stamas, Elizabeth Landon, and D'Ajah Grimes.

For her winning presentation, Elizabeth will receive \$200 and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, DC, with a chaperone to compete for the national championship May 13-15, 2012. Her school, Wilmington Christian School, will receive a \$500 stipend for the purchase of poetry books. Idalis Stamas, the first runner up will receive \$100, and \$200 goes to Polytech High School for the purchase of poetry books.

Prestwick House, Inc., provided additional prizes of \$100 to the winner, \$50 to the first runner up, and gift bags for the twelve sponsoring teachers that included \$50 for classroom supplies and English and poetry books. Walmart provided \$25 gift cards for all twelve student finalists. At the National Finals, The Poetry Foundation will be awarding up to \$50,000 in scholarships and school stipends, with a \$20,000 college scholarship awarded to the [Poetry Out Loud](#) National Champion.

The state Poetry Out Loud competition, sponsored by the

Delaware Division of the Arts in partnership with the [National Endowment for the Arts](#) and the [Poetry Foundation](#), is part of a national program that encourages high school students to learn about great poetry through memorization, performance, and competition.