



The Humboldt Arts Council
in the Morris Graves Museum of Art

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Poetry Out Loud

Date: February 1, 2008

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Headline: Humboldt County Students Participate in Poetry Recitation Contest

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*Acclaimed Competition Improves Language Skills, Fun for Students;
Regional Winners to Compete in California State Finals on March 13th*

The Humboldt Arts Council (HAC) is proud to announce Humboldt County's participation in the National Recitation Contest, **Poetry Out Loud**. Students from Eureka High School, Zoe Barnum High School, St. Bernard's High School, and the North Coast Preparatory and Performing Arts Academy will present memorized poems to a panel of judges on Saturday, February 16, 2008 at 2 pm. The competition will be held at Sanctuary Stage located within the Eureka Theater. This event will be open to the community. Two high school students will be selected to advance to the Statewide **Poetry Out Loud** Competition in Sacramento held on Thursday, March 13, 2008.

The California champion wins \$200 and goes on to Washington DC for the national finals representing the state, and his or her school receives \$500 for poetry books. The runner-up receives \$100, with his or her school receiving \$200 for books. California's *Poetry Out Loud* is sponsored and organized by the California Arts Council. The national program was started by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the Poetry Foundation. This year marks the third year of a pilot program that encourages high school students to learn about poetry through memorization, performance, and competition.

For more information contact Rebecca Cacciari at (707) 442-0278 ext. 201.