

# HPP POETRY SLAM

## RULES & GUIDELINES



1/2 Pint Poetics (HPP) is a literacy project engaging elementary school students 8-14 and their teachers in youth centered art making, service projects, and opportunities to perform, record, and publish their works. 1/2 Pint Poetics culminates in a two day, social and environmental justice themed poetry slam.

### SLAM FORMAT

- The poetry slam will consist of 2 preliminary rounds only, all teams will be required to prepare 2 different poems for the entire competition.
- Each team will go one time in both round 1 and round 2.
- Scores from both rounds will be added together for a final ranking placement (1st -15th) and the top 4 scoring teams will go on to the final round.
- In the event that there is a tie, tiebreakers will be determined according to each team's total points for the two bouts and their writing content score.

### PERFORMANCE GUIDELINES

- Each individual and group piece must be no longer than three minutes in length. We will have a 30 second grace period, after which significant time penalties will incur.
- A maximum of 6 poets may be on stage per each performance.
- The Slam is about the poet(s) and the mic(s). Props may not be used in the Slam. A school tee shirt is encouraged!

### POEM GUIDELINES

- All of the work used in the Slam must be original writings by the team members; a special WORD WARRIOR award will be presented to the most astute work!
- Plagiarized works will be disqualified.
- There is no censorship whatsoever, but gratuitous use of profanity could work against you when it comes to scoring. It is recommended that teams regulate themselves and try to avoid cursing, excessive violence, sexually explicit content and/or language that is degrading to any group of people is not acceptable.

### TEAM GUIDELINES

- 2-10 poets may be on the team. All members of the team must be physically present and checked in with the Slam organizers at least 30 minutes before the bouts begin.
- All teams must submit their written pieces two weeks before the Preliminaries.
- Teams are encouraged to attend any of the arts & activism activities offered during fall and spring

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

All teams must be registered and all students must have KL waiver and permission forms signed by their legal guardians in order to perform.

Information regarding all HPP calendar of activities including but not limited to the two day slam can be found at [www.kuumbalynx.org](http://www.kuumbalynx.org) under the HPP tab.

The HPP slam is intended to familiarize students with the slam poetry community and protocols.

- \* KL will have all of the events professionally recorded in both audio and video format. There will be cameras everywhere capturing all events, official and unofficial.