

# POETRY INTERPRETATION

## Important Information about State Meet

Congratulations on qualifying for the UIL State Meet!  
Jana Riggins, UIL State Director of Speech & Debate

Prior to the Meet:

- Go online to locate information and necessary forms specific for the speech state contests.  
<http://www.uiltexas.org/speech/info/speech-state-tournament>
- Complete and submit the **Poetry Contestant Information Form**.
- Complete the interactive **Poetry State Selection Form** and print it. Do not send it to the State Office prior to the meet. Bring your completed form to Monday's contest assembly and turn it in to contest officials at the Poetry Roll Call Assembly prior to reporting to your preliminary round contest room. Be sure it contains your signature and your coach's signature.
  - Complete the interactive **Official UIL Poetry Documentation Form** with your selection titles/authors/theme and print it. Be sure it contains your signature and your coach's signature. Leave speaker # blank until you are given this information at the Roll Call Assembly. Make 3 copies of each page (Category A & B) to provide for the adjudicators on your judging panel. Bring these, along with your documentation, to your preliminary round and to finals, if you advance. Make an additional copy and staple to your Poetry State Selection Form.
- **Review the Rules** for your contest from the *Constitution & Contest Rules* and the *UIL Prose and Poetry Handbook* (Chapter 3 is helpful). Check the Oral Interpretation webpage for important documentation rulings.
- Contact the State Director immediately if your documentation has raised questions or had issues in documentation check at any previous level of competition. Don't assume it will pass at State.
- Time your selections again! The timekeeper is there for convenience but it is **your** responsibility to adhere to the 7-minute time limit. **There is no grace period**. Cut your literature so your performance is well within the time restraints because performing at State in front of a large audience can impact your reading. Revisit your introduction to be certain it meets the requirements specified in the category descriptor. (See contest rules.)
- **Coaches:** By **May 12**, submit the online **Emergency Contact Form**.  
<https://www.uiltexas.org/machform/view.php?id=42220>

Also have your qualifier complete the **Photo Release** (Student) form, retaining it in your school files. Then, you should complete the **Photo Release (Certification)** for your school and email to the State Office.

- Prior to State Meet, complete the interactive **State Meet Coach Information Form**, download and bring printed copy with you to turn in at Roll Call Assembly.
- If you cannot attend State Meet, it is mandatory that you contact State Director Jana Riggins at the State Office as soon as the issue arises.
- If you are an alternate, consult the **For Alternates Only** document online.

#### The Meet:

- Your contest will be held on the campus of the University of Texas in Austin in the University Teaching Center building. A State Meet campus map is posted online.
- Coaches are highly recommended to attend the **Coaches Meeting on Sunday, May 21 at 6:30 pm in the University Teaching Center, 2.112A auditorium**. Critical information about your contest will be reviewed and the opportunity to ask questions about your documentation will be provided. Attendance is not mandatory but advantageous.
- **Bring to Roll Call the appropriate required documentation** for both categories. Documentation will be checked in the contest room. Coaches should reread the contest rules and are responsible for reviewing the current *UIL Prose & Poetry Handbook* (chapter 3 is especially helpful) and the official UIL website in advance of the contest.
- If possible, bring the original sources of your selections to the contest. Although not mandatory, it is a safeguard if your selection is called into question.
- **The Poetry contest preliminary rounds will be conducted on Monday, May 22 at 4:00 pm. Opening assembly will be in UTC 2.112A. 6 contestants will advance from prelims to finals (3 from each section). Final rounds will be conducted on Tuesday at noon. Report to the assembly for final round roll call in UTC 2.112A.**
- **BE ON TIME!** Allow plenty of time to account for Austin traffic, locating the assembly room and for parking. Roll will be called in the assembly. After roll call is completed, alternates are called to take empty places in their region. Once an alternate has been called and verified, even if you arrive, you may not compete. Upon advancing to finals, again – be on time. Contestants are not allowed to compete out of order for any reason. Check the schedule carefully. It is extremely important that you are ready to perform when you are called.
- Review parking information posted online. All parking spaces on the UT campus require a UT permit at all times. Those in violation will be ticketed

and/or towed. The League is not responsible for any parking citation received by visitors to the campus.

- **Contestants should dress professionally in tournament attire for competition and attend the formal awards ceremony in tournament attire.**

#### Ballot Verification

- Verification will follow tabulation of the preliminary rounds. Ballots will be distributed in the patio area on the ground floor of UTC (if weather is favorable. Location will be announced at the official Roll Call assembly). Verification will follow in UTC 2.112A. Contestants and/or coaches should attend. This is a time to hear unofficial results, review individual evaluation sheets and tabulation.
- Once verification is over and results have been declared official, advancing contestants should remain in UTC 2.112A to draw for speaker order in the final round.

#### Awards

- Contestants should remain in professional tournament attire for the awards ceremony where all 6 finalists will be recognized on stage, along with their coaches.
- Medals will be presented to all finalists, and the coach of the state champion will receive a lapel pin. Speech Team State Championship plaques will be presented in each conference near the conclusion of the ceremony.
- Professional photos for the archives will be taken of each state finalist. All gold medalists will be asked to remain on stage for group UIL state champion photos. Schools and families may also purchase these photos directly from the photographer. Information will be posted online on the speech state tournament page.

***Congratulations on advancing to State!***

**Questions?**

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State UIL Speech participants are eligible to apply for a TILF scholarship.

<http://www.tilfoundation.org/>