

Honorable Mention

Winter Storm *Ashleigh Engelbert*

Red and orange leaves,
Like pencil shavings,
Caught the wind
And blew down the street.
My black dress billowed out
Like a curtain
In front of an open window
In the morning.
I could see silhouettes
Of large trees
That stood up against the breeze
But still shed their leaves.
The sunset behind them was bright
But slightly clouded over,
And the large masses
Seemed so tall and strong.

There were whispers echoing
Through the air around me
But their words seemed jumbled
And hard to make out.
The world around me felt cold
And dry, and my throat
Began to ache
From the chill of late fall.
Long blonde hair
That felt foreign
And forgotten at first
Blew over my shoulders
And contrasted strongly
On the dark material.
I lifted up my hands
To hold the light mass
And it felt fragile
And soft like silk.

The sun was almost gone
When the wind picked up.
As I wrapped my arms around myself
To shield against the hardening wind,
The sky began to dim
And my eyes slowly adjusted
To the gradually rising moon
Of an incoming winter storm.



Quebec City

Honorable Mention

Dead, Now Alive *Noel Trimm*

A fire burns, throwing flames and licking a pot that sits above it.

A bounteous concoction boils in the pot, a stew filled with the
aspects of a life, every bit
and piece moving around, rousing themselves to wake.

A pressure forces itself out of the lid, singing as steam shoots out.
A warm cacophony
Of the voices, rallying up from inside the kettle, bursting with
flavor.

A passion of the senses, flooding the mind. It turns and spins,
knotting itself, tripping around.
It leaps and flies up to mix into the sky, spreading its beauty over
every corner
Of the Earth.

A whole planet, licked by the flames of a fire, the Sun.

An orb, every drop purified by the growth of its people, boiling,
bursting with pride.

A sky is strained as they cry out, spreading their passion, flooding
the dead space.

Now alive.

Poetry Out Loud Contest



Sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation, Poetry Out Loud is administered in partnership with the state arts agencies of all fifty states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico. Last year, from a competitive field of 365,000 students nationwide, Anita Norman, a student at Arlington High School in Arlington, Tennessee, won the title of 2014 Poetry Out Loud National Champion at the National Finals held in Washington, D.C. In recognition of her achievement, Poetry Out Loud awarded Norman a \$20,000 prize, and her high school received a \$500 stipend for the purchase of poetry books.

In San Antonio, TMI is one of the participating high schools. The winner of this year's Poetry Out Loud competition at TMI will go on to compete in the state-wide competition in Austin on February 22, 2015. The state winner will go on to the national competition in Washington, D.C., to compete for a pool of \$50,000 in scholarships for students and cash awards for schools.

Congratulations to sophomore Alexandra Prado (left) on winning the third annual Poetry Out Loud competition at TMI on December 2, 2014, and to junior Sofia Miranda-Fred (right), the runner-up.

