



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FEBRUARY 6, 2017

**FOR THE 3RD STRAIGHT YEAR CITY OF FLORISSANT HOSTS THE
ST. LOUIS COUNTY REGIONAL POETRY OUT LOUD CONTEST**



Pictured is Mayor Thomas P. Schneider as he welcomes everyone and shares a couple of poems of his own.

Mayor Schneider is pleased to announce that for the 3rd consecutive year the City of Florissant hosted the St. Louis County Regional Poetry Out Loud Contest in the Gary R. Gaydos Auditorium on Wednesday, February 1, 2017.

The National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation in partnership with US state arts agencies founded Poetry Out Loud twelve years ago as a national poetry recitation competition for high school students in all 50 states, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia. Last year it reached 315,000 students. Since its inception in 2005, it has reached more than 3 million students, 50,000 teachers and 10,000 schools nationwide.

Thirteen St. Louis County high schools signed up, and Mayor Thomas Schneider welcomed eight participants last evening in the Gary R. Gaydos Auditorium. There are 9 other regional contests scheduled around the state with the 10 regional winners competing in Jefferson City on March 9 to determine who will represent Missouri in Washington DC at George Washington University April 15-6, 2017.

Emily Bauer from Parkway West High School is the winner who will represent our region in 2017. Runner up is Bradley McGinnis from Christian Brothers College High School, and the 2nd runner up is Katherine Donnelly from Villa Duchesne High School.

Last year, our Regional winner Sarah Koo from Parkway North won the state and did well at the national finals in Washington D. C. in 2016.

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Emergency 9-1-1