

Rules for Spoken Word Contest

- 1) To enter the contest, you must be a registered student at North Hennepin Community College during spring semester 2018.
- 2) Spoken word is a piece of creative writing that is best delivered through performance. Spoken word includes dramatic scenes, short stories, poetry, memoir, lyrics, or some combination of these genres.
- 3) Your spoken word piece must be 2-10 minutes long. If it doesn't meet the 2 minutes minimum, the performer will be ineligible to place 1st, 2nd, or 3rd. If it goes past 10 minutes, expect to be cut off.
- 4) The piece must be your own creative writing, but you can quote other writers. If you reference other authors, your performance must include verbal citations.
- 5) Your spoken word performance must connect to *Between the World and Me*. You can check out a copy of this book from NHCC's library. You can also attend Common Book Club discussion on Wednesdays from 2-3pm in CLA 118 for ideas.
- 6) You may use costumes, props, music, and visual aids to share your spoken word performance. You are also welcome to include dialogue and act out characters.
- 7) You may seek the help of a tutor or a professor when crafting your entry for this contest. If you have questions about the nature of the competition, its rules, or are looking for some advice on composing a spoken word performance, feel free to contact the members of the committee:

English Department

Kaelie Farrah
Kelly Lundquist
Brian Baumgart
Sarah Babbitt

Communication Studies Department

Stacy Fitzpatrick
Sean Larson
Brian Timm

- 8) To enter the spoken word competition, you must enter your performance by Monday, April 2nd.
To Audition in person:
 - Email Kaelie Farrah at kfarrah@nhcc.edu by Friday, March 30th to schedule an auditionTo submit you entry electronically:
 - You have until 11:59pm on April 2nd to upload your video to the appropriate D2L Assignment folder.
 - For more information about how to upload a video submission, review the documents in the "Uploading Your Contest Entry" section on the D2L Content page.
- 9) The Common Book Committee will select the top speakers, and finalists will be announced no later than April 4th. Notification will be sent to students' NHCC email addresses unless another email has been provided with the submission.
- 10) If you make the final cut, you will perform in the final round, which will be in the Black Box Theater (CC 242) from 12:30pm to 2:00pm on Wednesday, April 11th. You must be available for this time and should expect that you will be performing for a public audience and a panel of judges.
- 11) For information about how Spoken Word Performances will be judged, go to the document titled "Judge's Ballot for Spoken Word Performances" posted to the D2L Content page.
- 12) Watch the following videos for tips on composing a Spoken Word performance:
 - "Spoken Word: The Roots of Poetry" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G9qaVXE30FU>
 - "Become a Slam Poet in Five Steps" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9f8VcV8v2LE>