

FOR RELEASE: Wednesday, January 9, 2013

CONTACT: Murielle Gaither, Arts Council of Southeast Missouri

334-9233

ARTS COUNCIL HOSTS REGIONAL POETRY COMPETITION

CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO-- Saturday, January 19, at 1:30 p.m., the Southeast Missouri Arts Council will be hosting the Regional Poetry Out Loud Competition at Port Cape Girardeau. This competition determines who will attend the statewide competition as a representative of the Southeast Missouri Region.

The Poetry Out Loud National Recitation Contest for high school students encourages the nation's youth to learn about great poetry through memorization and recitation. This program helps students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about their literary heritage.

The contest was created in 2006 by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation, and is administered in partnership with the State Arts Agencies of all 50 states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico.

Representatives from six regional schools will participate in 2013's Southeast Region Poetry Out Loud Competition including: Jackson High School, Notre Dame Regional High School, Arcadia Valley High School, Ranch Campus in Lesterville, MO, Delta High School, and New Madrid County Central High School.

Please visit the Poetry Out Loud website at poetryoutloud.org for more information concerning this event.

The Arts Council of Southeast Missouri is located at 32 North Main Street in Cape Girardeau, MO. Galleries are open Tuesday- Saturday, from 10am to 4pm.