



11 West Mt. Airy Avenue • Philadelphia, PA 19119 • Phone (215)242-5074 • www.mtairyartgarage.org

RULES FOR SLAM POETS

- Poems can be on any subject and in any style.
- Each poem must be an original piece performed by the author.
- No props.
- No costumes.
- Performances are timed and should not exceed 3 minutes.
- Timing starts when the performance or sound begins.
- No musical instruments (leave the drum set home) or prerecorded music.
- Each poem may only be used once during the competition.

RULES FOR SLAM JUDGES

- Judges are selected at random from the audience (no experience needed). Names of volunteers will be selected from a "hat."
- Five judges are used and each is asked to leave their personal bias at home.
- The high and low scores are discarded and the three remaining scores are added together to give the poet a single score for the poem.
- Judges are asked to rate 50% on performance or presentation of the poem and 50% on the content of the poem (was it well written, did it make sense, did you agree with the content?).
- Scores are from 0 (lowest) to 10 (highest)
- At the same time, judges hold up one score when asked by the M.C.
- The M.C. then announces the poet's scores out loud.