

STEP

10

Make a simple video of your winner's recitation

This year, the county round of the Poetry By Heart competition will be judged by video. To enter your school/college winner for this round of the competition, you will need to work with your winner to make a simple video of his/her two poem recitations.

It is important that these videos are created after the competition. We want students to feel that they were able to submit their very best performance, not the one with the attendant pressure of the competition. They may wish to polish their performance a little more, and that's all good!

However, we're not looking for a masterclass in video production! The simpler the video the better. The judges want to see and hear the recitation. Anything else is merely a distraction. Please follow these important rules and guidelines:

1. Entry to the county round of the competition is by video submission only.
2. You need to submit two videos, one for each of your winner's chosen poems.
3. The video content is to be shot in a single take i.e. not multiple recordings cut and edited together. But the student can have as many takes as they like before selecting which versions they wish to submit.
4. The video content is to be produced from a single camera in a fixed position i.e. no zooming or tracking, or cutting between angles. Just point and shoot!
5. The fixed shot should be a head-to-knee shot or head-to-feet shot so that all videos are comparable and so that we can see the embodied performance – no close-ups please!
6. The student should be filmed against a plain background with no distracting visuals in shot. Test how the student looks on film and make sure they are comfortable with that. Different backgrounds will suit different skin tones – be kind to your student!
7. Make sure you test sound quality at the start and end of your recording session. Above all, we need to be able to hear your winner! Avoid noisy rooms. Big rooms may give a lot of echo. A music room might work best!
8. Video of the winning student's two poem recitations must be submitted to Poetry By Heart by midnight on 31st March 2017.