

**Arkansas Communication and Theatre Arts Association  
Poetry Interpretation – Comment Ballot**

Performer \_\_\_\_\_ School # \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Selection(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Round 1 2 S F Section \_\_\_\_\_

Length of Performance \_\_\_\_\_ Rank (Circle) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

*Rules: If a rule is broken, judge should lower performers one ranking and rating*

\*The selection should be poetic in form and have quality and aesthetic value.

\*If the reader chooses two or more short poems, they should have a common theme or author. The performer may present the poems one after the other OR may choose to weave them together into a program of poetry. If a program is created the selections must be presented in a chronological manner as they appear in the original poems.

\*The performer must use script, which should be in a performance notebook.

\*An introduction should be presented in a creative manner explaining poem or linking poems together.

\*Title(s) and author(s) must be stated in the introduction.

\*The performer may choose to incorporate limited movement into their presentation.

\*Time limit, inclusive of introduction, is 5 minutes with a 30 second "grace period". Should the performer go beyond the grace period they may not be ranked 1<sup>st</sup>.

\* Note: It is the expectation that performances are the artistic creation of the performer(s). It is plagiarism to copy a performance in detail from a video online. If there is suspicion of plagiarism, please be prepared to cite the source that was copied and consult with the tournament director. The tournament director will then consult with the coach of the performer(s) concerning consequences, which may result in their disqualification from the tournament.

**Criteria For Evaluation:**

**Judge's Remarks:**

Selection: Does the material have literary merit? Is it appropriate for the speaker/audience?

Introduction: Is the information relevant to and sufficient for the performance? Are the title(s) and author(s) clearly stated? Does speaker provide proper transition between intro and selection?

Insight and Understanding: Does the speaker display an understanding of the author's theme, point of view, and intent?

Interpretation: Characterization is presented suggestively and not literally. Reader conveys his/her understanding of the material.

Vocal Qualities: A wide variety of attitudes and voices are used to enliven the presentation. Articulation and diction are clear. Projection of voice is appropriate for audience and space. Appropriate rate changes, phrasing and pauses are used during performance. Inflection and voice flexibility are evident.

Bodily Action: Speaker does not show heavy dependence on script, giving appropriate eye contact to audience. Speaker handles manuscript in a way that is not distracting. Appropriate facial expressions are used to enhance performance.

Overall Effect: Speaker displays confidence and professionalism. Speaker is poised during presentation. If more than one poem is used, speaker provides proper transitions between poems or creates a cohesive program of poetry.

Judge's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ School # \_\_\_\_\_