Write Club's Poetry Slam Judging Rubric

Last Updated: 28/02/2024

Notes for Judges:

- Scores should be assigned immediately after each performance for each metric.
- Consider the coherence of the piece and how the delivery enhances the content.
- The audience's reaction is a significant factor in judging the performer's impact.
- Judges may take brief notes to support their scores.
- Judges can give half points (.5)

Poem
The poem is well crafted and demonstrates effective use of poetic language, which may include figurative language and/or rich vocabulary.
The poem clearly conveys an idea and a point of view.
The poem captures and conveys human emotion and experience.
The poem effectively uses the rhythm and/or sound of language.
Interpretation
The poet's body movements, facial expressions, and gestures are consistent with and enhance the ideas and mood of the poem. The poet conveys energy and emotion that is consistent with and enhances the ideas and mood of the poem.
Performance
The poet speaks clearly. The poet projects his/her voice.
The poet has memorized his/her poem.
The poet effectively performs for the audience.   **Distribute X3 points**

Rules:

- No props or accompaniment: Performers should not wear any costumes or use props during their performance. The use of musical instruments, backing tracks, or sound effects is also not permitted.
- Original Works Only: All pieces performed must be original creations of the participants.
- Time Limit: Performers are required to adhere to a time limit of five minutes for their performances.
- Registration Deadline: Participants must register in advance until spots are filled.
- No over 3 minutes, every 10 seconds over is a point deducted.
- Time starts the moment the Poet engages the audience.
- Elimination style:
  - [EXAMPLE]:
  - 1st round: 10 people
  - 2nd round: 6 people
  - 3rd round: 4 people

Order of Slam Performance

1. The poet is introduced/re-introduced to the audience.
2. The poet walks up the stage, and the audience applauds and hypes them up.
   - Poets will get the opportunity to adjust the microphone height, get centered, etc.
   - Time immediately starts the moment the poet engages with the audience.
   - If the Poet stumbles or messes up, the audience should motivate the poet to finish the piece.
3. The poet finishes the poem, the audience applauds for the piece.
4. A moment is provided for the judges to write out their scores on the whiteboards provided.
5. Judges will raise their whiteboards, for all to see, and the scores will be read out loud by the MC (Ryan).
   - The audience will get the opportunity to rip into the judges for their scores (ex: "HIGHER!!!")
   - Scorekeeper will tally up the total amount of points the poet receives for the piece, but not reveal the total score to the audience.
6. A final applause will be given to the Poet, and then the next Poet who has to perform will be introduced/re-introduced.
7. Processes from 1 to 7 will continue until all Poets have performed.
8. Whoever has the highest score will move into the next round.

Prizes:

- Gift card from Indigo
- Speech-time to the masses