**POI RULES:**

**We will follow NSDA rules for POI.  Program Oral Interpretation Event Description: • POI is a program of oral interpretation of thematically-linked selections chosen from two or three genres: prose, poetry, drama (plays).**

**• A primary focus of this event should be on the development of the theme or argument through the use of narrative, story, language, and/or characterization.**

**• Competitors are encouraged to devote approximately equal times to each of the genres used in the program. At least two pieces of literature that represent at least two separate genres must be used.**

**• The use of a manuscript is required.**

**• Time Limit: 10 minutes max with a 30-second grace period.**

**• Sources must meet all Association Interp rules for publication. Program Oral Interpretation Judging Criteria:**

**• An introduction should set the stage, enhancing the interpretation of the literature to the audience, providing information and analysis to the chosen theme.**

**• All selections must be verbally identified by title and author. However, where, when, and how these are accomplished are the speaker’s decisions.**

**• The intact manuscript may be used by the contestant as a prop so long as it remains in the contestant’s control at all times.**

**• No costumes or props other than the manuscript are permitted.**

**• Adaptations may be used only for the purpose of transition.**

**• This is a contest in oral interpretation. The contestant should be evaluated on poise, quality, and use of voice, inflection, pronunciation, and the ability to interpret characters consistently.**

**• The contestant should also be evaluated on how effective their argument/theme is projected in the total program.**

**• In developing a creative, thematic program, attention should be given to the design and organization of a cohesive and carefully conceived whole by linking authors and ideas inherent in the literature.**

**• There is an expectation to use at least two pieces of literature each presenting a different genre with approximately equal times devoted to each genre. This distinction pertains to these three genres as a whole, not types of literature within a genre, such as fiction/nonfiction.**

**• The contestant must address the script; however, introduction and transitional material may be memorized.**