

### CASE STUDY – Poetry

#### why we're an Arts Award Supporter

**'We support young people developing their poetry writing skills. Being an Arts Award Supporter allows The Poetry Society to help young people gain accreditation for the work they do with us within a structured programme.'**

Rachel Piercy, Education Co-ordinator, The Poetry Society

#### OUR PROGRAMME

The Poetry Society has two major competitions for young people. The Foyle Young Poet of the Year Award for 11 - 17 year olds is a world-wide competition and free to enter. It is very prestigious; a lot of winners have gone on to be famous poets, including Helen Mort, Jay Bernard, Caroline Bird and Sarah Howe.

SLAMBassadors is a performance poetry competition for 12 - 18 years old, who can enter individually or through their school. They film themselves performing a poem on the theme of identity and submit this. Former SLAMBassadors include Anthony Anaxagorou, Aisling Fahey, Charlotte Higgins and Megan Beech.

The Poetry Society also runs a 'Poets in Schools' programme matching poets with schools, so they can work directly with young people to develop their writing.

The Poetry Society's Young Poets Network website has been developed to support young people writing poetry. It features information about famous poets, and there are regular mini writing competitions with partner organisations, such as the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and the British Library. Young people write poems in response to a set theme and some of these are published on the site.

The site also lists publication and competition opportunities for young people from other organisations.



The Poetry Society: SLAMBassadors Megan Beech performs at National Poetry Day Live 2014 photo Hayley Madden



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### OUR SUPPORTER OFFER

All of the activities that the Poetry Society offers can be used towards Arts Award. The Poetry Society can also share information about how arts organisations work. They will forward messages to poets and even try to set up meetings with poets.

### HOW DO WE PROMOTE IT?

The Poetry Society's Supporter offer is promoted through their ebulletins, both to young people and teachers. These go out twice a month and display the Arts Award Supporter badge.

#### a user's view

**'The best resource I could ever imagine for young poets'**  
Imogen

**'The Poetry Society has been formative in getting me to the place I am now.'**  
Joanna



### BENEFITS for the organisation

- ▶ It's a new way for young people to find out about The Poetry Society, approach them and get involved. They have found it really useful to work side by side with Arts Award to help young people to experience poetry
- ▶ There is a shared Arts Award offer with sixteen other organisations including The Roundhouse, Sadlers Wells and the British Museum, which helps raise the profile of Young Poets Network
- ▶ Being a Supporter at all levels of Arts Award helps to demonstrate that Young Poets Network caters to young poets at all stages of writing

#### Check the links

[poetrysociety.org.uk/education](http://poetrysociety.org.uk/education)  
[poetrysociety.org.uk/young-poets](http://poetrysociety.org.uk/young-poets)



The Poetry Society: A school workshop with poet Polarbear  
photo Hayley Madden