

spoken word

Poetry HIP HOP

Ages: 15-22

Your

Words

Have

Power!

Contest Prizes:

Local: Google Chrome book given to the top 3 entries, & opportunity to perform at the local Raise UP Celebration Concert and on KILI Radio

National: \$5,000 scholarship, a trip to Washington D.C. to perform at the Kennedy Center, & your work featured in an NPR Radio Series

Raise Up

Contest



Program Details

Raise Up is a spoken word, poetry, and hip-hop contest focusing on education and the high school dropout crisis. Raise Up is Youth Speaks' national competition. The Heritage Center is partnering with Youth Speaks to provide support for local entries, a local Pine Ridge Reservation contest, and a local Raise Up Celebration Concert. **We encourage youth to speak about successes, struggles, questions, stories related to graduation or dropping out, the current state of the education system and the dropout crisis happening within our communities.**

Every year, over 1.2 million students drop out of high school in the United States alone. That's a student every 26 seconds - or 7,000 a day. Native American students have a dropout rate that is twice the national average and the highest dropout rate of any US ethnic minority. Pine Ridge Indian Reservation's dropout rate is 70%; this is compared to South Dakota's 15%, and the national being 11%.

Submission Guidelines



- Entries must be submitted as video files with the Poet or Rapper vocalizing their lines.
- Film your video against a solid background (i.e. **NO** posters, street view, scenery, etc.) **Don't** film anything other than a video of yourself performing your rap or poem.
- All entries may not exceed **three minutes**.
- **NO** music or sound effects other than your own voice.
- Video **MUST** be uploaded to your own (or your school's) YouTube account as a Private File, **& submitted by midnight on May, 20 2014**
- Contest is open to young people **ages: 15 - 22**.
- Make sure your video has good lighting. We want to see you in this conversation.
- Do your best to eliminate all background noise. If using a cell phone to record your video, put it on airplane mode. If using another camera to record, turn your cell phone off. Otherwise, your cell phone will interfere with the sound quality.
- All work must be 100% original and about the theme. Plagiarism will not be tolerated.
- Entries must fit within the theme: Education. Again, **we encourage youth to speak about successes, struggles, questions, stories related to graduation or dropping out**,
- **Email** the YouTube link to your entry to: **Brandie Macdonald, Museum Educator** brandiemacdonald@redcloudschool.org
- **Information to include in your email to Brandie:** First and Last Name, Email, Phone Number, Address/City/State, School (if applicable), Age, Year of Birth, Title of entry.

For questions, assistance with entries, and/or more information about the contest contact:
Brandie Macdonald 605-867-5491, www.redcloudschool.org/heritage/edu

Prizes

Local:

- Top 3 entries will win Google Chrome Books (laptops).
- Top 3 entries will get the opportunity to perform on KILI Radio and at the local Raise Up Celebration Concert on May 31st at The Heritage Center.
- First 50 entries will receive a signed CD of guest performing artists featured at the Raise Up Celebration Concert held in Pine Ridge, SD.

National:

- \$5,000 Educational Scholarship
- A trip to Washington D.C to perform at the Kennedy Center.
- Your work featured in an NPR Radio Series.

Judging Criteria



- Clear, Articulate Message (via Rap, Poem, Spoken Word)
- The artist has an original message about the topic
- Video background noise is minimal. We want to hear you in this conversation.
- Your use of words provide a descriptive picture of your subject matter (integration of similes and metaphors)
- Providing supportive details, facts, and examples to enhance and/or back-up your message.
- All work must be original and of your own creation.

All entries will be submitted to the National Competition. Local competition prizes will be limited to South Dakota resident entries. The local competition will be judged by 5 qualified judges from around the country.

For more information about National Judging criteria please visit raiseupproject.org