



## Kids Asked to Honor Robert Frost



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Vermont State Police say they're wrapping up their investigation into that vandalism at poet Robert Frost's home. Now the Vermont Arts Council says the best way to honor the late writer is to learn his poetry.

The Council and the National Endowment for the Arts promote an annual competition called Poetry Out Loud. More than 35 Vermont high schools have signed on this year. Kids memorize and recite poems. On the list of choices this year? Several poems by Robert Frost.



The Arts Council hopes more Vermont kids will study the famous writer's work to build awareness of his legacy. This suggestion comes after teenagers broke into Frost's Ripton home last month and threw a destructive drinking party.

Vermont Arts Council executive director Alex Aldrich explains, "Turn that [crime] around, in essence, and help them understand who Robert Frost was, learn some of his poems, and then recite them in front of people to say, 'This is why it's important.'"

Aldrich adds, "You can't think about American poetry without Robert Frost being one of the first names that pops into your head."

Aldrich would even like to see some of the vandals sign onto the Poetry Out Loud competition to learn the value of Frost's work.

The state finals of the recitation contest are in the statehouse this March. That winner gets a trip to the national poetry finals in Washington, D.C. For more information on Poetry Out Loud, [you can click on this website](#).

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