



Media Release:

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Time for Territorians to Polish their Lines and Rhymes

The Northern Territory Library will be abuzz with the sounds of locals speaking, screaming, howling, whispering and singing original poems when it hosts the Northern Territory heats of the Australian Poetry Slam '08 at 6.30pm this Monday 29 September 2008.

Northern Territory Library Director Jo McGill said they were delighted to play host for the second year running, following the resounding success of the inaugural national competition last year.

“What better place to hold a poetry competition than here at the Library, surrounded by the many thousands of words contained within these walls for inspiration,” Ms McGill said.

“Contestants have just two minutes to perform their original piece of poetry and impress the judges, who are selected at random from the live audience.

“The Slam allows for original spoken word, poetry, hip hop, monologues and stories to be performed with cash prizes up for grabs for both the winner and runner-up.

“The host for the evening is spoken-word artist Andrew Finegan, who will no doubt entertain the crowd with his own original word artistry.

“The Poetry Slam is a great spectator sport and five audience members will be selected at random to judge which two competitors will win the prize money and make it through to the finals to be held in Sydney on 4 December 2008.

“Last year we had 16 contestants battle it out in the Northern Territory heat, along with over 600 poets Australia-wide in the inaugural competition, with Territorian Noodle String taking out the top prize in the Territory heat and Victorian poet Marc Testart taking out the National Slam title.”

Admission is free and willing participants need to sign up 30 minutes prior to the start with a limit of 20 contestants in the heat.

For more information, heat details and slam rules go to www.ntl.nt.gov.au.

Ends

Media Note – for more information contact Jo McGill on 8999 5562

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