



Dear LTAB coaches,

We hope you are doing well. This is your first email for the 2017-2018 academic year. In this email you will find LTAB 2018 Rule and Calendar Updates. We are excited to announce the dates for Crossing The Street and LTAB Team Finals:

LTAB 2018

CROSSING THE STREET

Tilden High School
4747 S. Union Avenue
Saturday, February 17, 2018

TEAM FINALS

Auditorium Theatre
50 E. Congress Parkway
Sunday, March 18, 2018

We also wanted to take this opportunity to update you on some LTAB 2018 rule changes:

LTAB 2018 Rule Updates

- Community Organization teams can only have poets who attend schools without an active LTAB team. This means that if a poet attends a school with an active team, they are not allowed to be a member of a community organization's team. However, they are allowed to register as an Indy Poet with a community organization.
 - **For 2018 only, we will allow poets who participated on Community Organization teams in 2017 to remain on their Community Organization team.**
 - For LTAB 2019, poets who wish to compete as members of an LTAB team must register with their school team. If poets do not have an active LTAB team at their school, they are eligible to join a Community Organization Team or can choose to work with Young Chicago Authors or a community organization to start a poetry slam team at their school.
 - We acknowledge that schools are, at times, unsafe spaces for some of our participants. If a student feels unsafe on their school team, there will be a process that will seek to restore safety on the school team for that student, and if at the end of the restorative process, the student continues to feel unsafe on their school team, they are welcome to join a community organization LTAB team.
 - If poets do not make their school team, they may still compete as an Indy Poet.
- Schools or Community Organizations can register up to 3 Indy Poets in addition to a team.
- In Semifinals, there will still be 5 rounds and teams may choose to send their group piece up in any round.
- From Semifinals, only the top two scoring poets from a particular team will be allowed to advance to Indy Finals.
- Repeating poems from previous LTAB festivals is not allowed.
- The winner of LTAB Team Finals will receive travel and registration expenses paid for 6 youth team members and 1 adult chaperone for the Brave New Voices Festival.

In the coming weeks, you'll receive more information about registration, coaches' meetings, and a more detailed festival calendar. If you have any questions pertaining to the slam, please email **YCA** at slammaster@youngchicagoauthors.org. If you have any questions about registration, please email **Bayana Davis** at bayana@youngchicagoauthors.org. To book a YCA Teaching Artist to lead a workshop or workshop series at your school, please contact Tammy Job at tammy@youngchicagoauthors.org.

All my best,
José