



*2023 – 2024*

*Maryvale Prep*

*Bard Competition*

Dear Maryvale Prep Students and Families,

What is a bard? Well, throughout the centuries, bards have been keepers of tradition, reciting the poetry of their people and passing on oral history through beautiful words. Shakespeare was also referred to as “The Bard.” For the 2<sup>nd</sup> year, Maryvale Prep will be joining our fellow Great Hearts schools in holding a Bard Competition for our 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. We will challenge these students to memorize and recite poetry, and over the course of two rounds and two poems, judges will narrow down one student who recites exceptionally to be our 2024 Maryvale Prep Bard! That student will represent our school at the Great Hearts Archway Bard Competition to be held in the spring 2024.

Below you will find Maryvale Prep Bard Competition Registration Guidelines and a Registration Form. If your student wishes to participate, their registration form is **due no later than Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Whether your student participates or not, we invite all Archway families to join us for these public recitations:

<b>Round 1</b>	<b>January 18, 2024, 4:00 pm, Maryvale Prep Marley Center</b>
<b>Round 2</b>	<b>March 21, 2024, 4:00 pm, Maryvale Prep Marley Center</b>
<b>Great Hearts Final</b>	<b>April 2024, day/time/location TBD</b>

## 2023-2024 Bard Competition Guidelines

### Please keep this page for your reference

- Participants must be enrolled in 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Participants must return the registration form **by Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Please type into the form below and email to Mrs. Taylor Saar at [tmarshall@maryvaleprep.org](mailto:tmarshall@maryvaleprep.org) OR print a copy to give to your student's homeroom teacher by the due date. (Any registrations sent in after the due date will be declined.)
- The poem for Round 1 must be between 10 and 35 lines in length and be approved by Mrs. Saar. It cannot be an original work, and it **cannot be a poem already memorized in class**. There will be no speeches allowed, and all poems must be published before 1970. *The Harp and Laurel Wreath* is a great resource for choosing a poem!
- Participants will have the opportunity to work with Mrs. Saar and Mr. Wilson on select Wednesday mornings from 7:15-7:50 in preparation. They will help with choosing a poem, memorization practice, recitation skills, etc.
  - **Poetry Practice:**
    - 11/1 @ 7:15 am – Orientation Day, Poem Choosing Day
    - 11/15 @ 7:15 am – Rehearsal Day
    - 11/29 @ 7:15 am – Rehearsal Day
    - 12/13 @ 7:15 am – Rehearsal Day
    - 1/17 @ 7:15 am – FINAL Rehearsal Day
- If you would like to help your child choose a poem, note that it must be approved by Bard Coordinators before they begin memorizing. Email Mrs. Saar for poem approval: [tmarshall@maryvaleprep.org](mailto:tmarshall@maryvaleprep.org).
- All participants will recite in Round 1. The few participants with the highest overall scores will advance to Round 2. A **new poem** must be chosen by the participant to memorize. Participants will again have the opportunity to work with Mrs. Saar and Mr. Wilson in preparation for Round 2. After Round 2, our winner will go on to the final Bard Competition in April with winners from other Great Hearts schools!
- Recitations will be judged on physical presence, voice and articulation, evidence of understanding, dramatic appropriateness, overall performance, and level of difficulty of the poem.

## 2022-2023 Bard Competition

# Student Registration Form

**Due Monday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> (email or turn into teacher)**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Section: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Poem: *(You may leave this space blank if you would like us to help your child choose a poem.)*

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

The poem you memorize for Round 1 must be between 10 and 35 lines and published before 1970. It cannot be an original work or something that has been memorized in class.

## Recitations will be judged on

- Physical presence
- Voice and articulation
- Dramatic appropriateness
- Level of difficulty of the poem
- Evidence of understanding
- Overall performance/"wow factor"

## Important Dates:

Round 1 (All participants)

**January 18<sup>th</sup>, 4 pm, Maryvale Prep Marley Center**

Round 2 (Finalists only)

**March 21<sup>st</sup>, 4 pm, Maryvale Prep Marley Center**

**Great Hearts Annual Archway Bard Competition**

**April 2023 (day/time/location TBD)**

I agree to bring my child to the listed Wednesday morning poetry practice from 7:15-7:55.

Competition dates and times are subject to change. Please provide your contact information so we can communicate with you about competition details, as needed.

Parent/Guardian Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_