**Lost & Found: What’s Hidden in the Words & Music**

**Revised 1/6/2020**

**Indianapolis Public Library (Central Library)**

**March 21, 2020**

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**40 E. St. Clair St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46204**

**10am-4pm**

1. **General Information:** This year’s Spoken Word Theme is **Lost & Found.** The inspiration for this theme is the power that every day music has to shape who we are or who we are not. **You will choose a maximum of 2 lines from a song and then add your own ideas, rebut the lyrics for why they are not accurate about you, or explain how the words have impacted you.** This theme gives you he choice to express ideas that are important to you.

* This event is for 8-12th graders.
* Each school may send **4 students per category**.
* Students can only compete in **1 category** and as a member of a team.
* Each team can include up to **4 students**. There can be **3 teams** per school.
* There will be three categories:
  + **Free Form Spoken Word-** Students prepare an original work (using 2 lines from a song) based on the theme **Lost & Found.** The piece should be a commentary on and what has been found hiding in the words of a song. **Maximum time: 3 minutes. See below for amendments based on suggestions from multiple teachers.\***
  + **Recited Spoken Word**- Students choose a poem or song that they recite (not sing) as spoken word, based on the theme **Lost & Found.** The poem, or song (to be recited not sung) you select, should comment on the power of music. Be sure to cite the songwriter. **Maximum time: 3 minutes.**
  + **Free Form Team Event**-Students prepare an original work and present together a unified message on the theme **Lost & Found.** The team will focus on different perspectives they find hidden in the words of a song. **Maximum time *for each participant*: 2 minutes.** For example, a team of three people may have up to 6 minutes.
  + First, Second, and third place will be awarded for each category.
  + First place in the Free Form category will be invited to the Art and Language Competition on April 18th in Chicago to perform their piece and receive an additional $100 gift card.
  + There will be an overall winner for 8th grade competitors.
  + No props or music are allowed. Participants present in front of judges and a live audience, and memorization is optional, though encouraged.

\*Theme will be linked with the writing competition

* + Since this is a school event, and open to the public we need to make sure that we are representing Concept Schools to the best of our ability. For that reason, swearing will not be accepted in student’s performances.
  + There will be a **$100 fee per school** to cover event costs.

1. **Submitting:** 
   * You must complete the registration form by no later than **Friday,** **February 21, 2020. As we approach the event a Google Doc will be provide.**
   * You must submit a copy of the student’s piece to [aflaherty@conceptschools.org](mailto:aflaherty@conceptschools.org) no later than February 28, 2020.
   * Student names may not be changed after the deadline for submission.
   * **February 28th** teachers will receive a form to complete for t-shirt sizes and lunch options. Completed form due by **March 2nd.**
2. **Judging:**
   * Judges will receive rubrics prior to the event so that they are familiar with the categories
   * Students will have a grace period of 5 seconds over the allotted time before points are deducted.
3. **School Sponsor’s responsibilities:**
   * Please make sure that the student’s pieces have appropriate language for a school sponsored activity.
   * Please make sure that the student’s pieces are on topic/theme and in the correct category.
   * Please adhere to all deadlines.
   * Plan transportation to and from the event, and hotel accommodations if needed.
4. **Concept Schools’ Spoken Word Organizer** (**Andy Flaherty)** **responsibilities:**
   * Collect all registration forms, t-shirt/lunch orders and student pieces.
   * Make sure that student pieces are not being performed by any other schools- If this does occur the school that submitted the piece first will perform the piece.
   * Make sure the pieces have appropriate language for the competition.

\*Students may change up the two lines that inspired them and they may repeat lines multiple times. It makes sense that a student will need to use language in new ways to fit the rhythm of her/his own poems. All we ask is that students source their words after their name/grade/school when they submit the writing for approval. For example, I could do the following:

But in times of trouble when Mother Mary comes to me,

I don’t think its words of wisdom if she’s just telling us to ‘let it be.’

My submission would read:

Andy Flaherty

12th grade

ABC High School

After reading “Let it Be” by the Beatles