

REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPATION

1. **Louder Than a Bomb 2017 will take place between April 22nd and May 13th.** Once registration closes, we will disseminate the tournament bout sheet and send it to you so you can see exactly when and where your team will compete. Please clear your schedules and make sure either you or another adult chaperone can be in attendance with your students for these events.
2. **REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, APRIL 14th, 2017.** Please complete your team's online registration no later than 6:00pm on April 14th. We will need you and your students' names, phone numbers, e-mail addresses, t-shirt sizes, and team name.

The registration fee is \$150 per school team, covering your team's competition entry fee, all-access passes (which will get you into all of the LTAB events), and shirts.

Your payment will be collected at your designated venue on the day you are scheduled to compete.

Your registration fee may be paid one of three ways:

- By a check. Please make out your check to "Split This Rock" with "LTAB-DMV Festival" on the memo.
- By a credit card. You can use [paypal.com](https://www.paypal.com) and direct the registration funds to info@splitthisrock.org.
- By cash.

Your invoice is included in this packet.

3. The "Crossing The Streets" Opening Ceremony will take place at the Kennedy Center on Saturday, April 22nd from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. All participating teams are expected to attend.
4. The preliminary bouts will take place on both Saturday and Sunday of the weekends of April 29th and May 6th at Busboys & Poets – Brookland from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. The Grand Slam Finals will take place in the evening on Saturday, May 13th at the Kennedy Center – Millennium Stage.

***If you know that you and/or your team will be unable to attend one of these dates, please let us know upon registration!**

5. The faculty sponsor or coach must attend all events in which his/her team is participating.
6. Each team should prepare at least 4 original poems for competition: three individual pieces and one group piece. Assuming your team advances from preliminaries to the Grand Slam Finals, your team may repeat any of the poems that were used in their preliminary bout.
7. There may be more than 20 teams competing this year, and a handful of teams participating but not competing. Please lead by example and help your students mix and mingle and meet new people. This is a community-building initiative and we appreciate you making it possible.
8. Earning the most points and winning the slam are not the purposes of the LTAB-DMV. The purpose is to share in the art of performance poetry, bond with new people, and honor the stories, feelings, and talent of the poets participating. Remember: *"The points are not the point! The point is the poetry!"* We just play the slam game to get people to listen. Please help us de-emphasize the competition aspect and uplift the importance of the content and expression of our students' poems, not the numbers random judges assign them.