

*The Board of Supervisors of  
Contra Costa County, California*

In the matter of:

**Resolution No. 2015/82**

**Recognizing Arielle Herman, Kara Lenci and Alexis Takaki for placing First, Second, and Third in the Contra Costa County “Poetry Out Loud” 2015 Competition**

WHEREAS, the members of the Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County are pleased to extend congratulations to Arielle Herman, Kara Lenci and Alexis Takaki for placing first, second, and third in the Contra Costa County “Poetry Out Loud” 2015 Competition; and

WHEREAS, Arielle Herman, a senior from Monte Vista High School in Danville, was awarded First Place, Kara Lenci, a junior from Truthtrackers Co-op in Walnut Creek, was awarded Second Place, and Alexis Takaki, a junior from El Cerrito High School in El Cerrito, was awarded Third Place in the Contra Costa County “Poetry Out Loud” Competition on February 7, 2015, a competition which emphasizes language skills and public speaking; and

WHEREAS, over 2,000 students countywide memorized a poem for this year’s program, a program started by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and run by the California Arts Council in the State and locally by the Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa County (AC5), to engage high school students in the presentation of poetry through memorization and performance; and

WHEREAS, this is Contra Costa County’s eighth year participating in the “Poetry Out Loud” competition; and

WHEREAS, students performed their recitations in front of an audience of one hundred at the Las Lomas High School Theatre in Walnut Creek; and

WHEREAS, the pool of finalists included students from thirteen county high schools, including: College Park High in Pleasant Hill, Deer Valley High in Antioch, El Cerrito High in El Cerrito, Independence High in Brentwood, Las Lomas High in Walnut Creek, Monte Vista High in Danville, Mt. Diablo High in Concord, Northgate High in Walnut Creek, Truthtrackers Homeschool Co-op in Walnut Creek and John F. Kennedy High, Making Waves Academy, Richmond High and Salesian High, all in Richmond; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Herman, Ms. Lenci, and Ms. Takaki gave extraordinary recitations along with a very competitive group of finalists; and

WHEREAS, the “Poetry Out Loud” program seeks to foster the next generation of literary readers by recognizing the latest trends in poetry: recitation and performance; and

WHEREAS, to excel as Ms. Herman, Ms. Lenci, and Ms. Takaki have done, a young person must demonstrate, in addition to a great deal of natural ability, an outstanding spirit of dedication, enthusiasm and hard work.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County, California does hereby recognize Arielle Herman, Kara Lenci and Alexis Takaki for placing First, Second, and Third in the Contra Costa County “Poetry Out Loud” 2015 Competition and extend this expression of our pride in your accomplishments.**

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**JOHN GIOIA**

Chair,  
District I Supervisor

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**CANDACE ANDERSEN**

District II Supervisor

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**MARY N. PIEPHO**

District III Supervisor

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**KAREN MITCHOFF**

District IV Supervisor

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**FEDERAL D. GLOVER**

District V Supervisor

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

ATTESTED: March 10, 2015

David J. Twa,

By: \_\_\_\_\_, Deputy