

Research Topic: A literary publication that supports new and young writers in publication and in physical spaces -- ultimately making poetry a more down-to-earth and accessible form of expression and connection.

Problem: There is a problem with the pre-existing approaches to sharing poetry. In terms of publication, organizations that publish work are not developed with new young writers in mind, but experienced writers that are familiar with cover letters and pre-conditioned expectations. Additionally, writers who perform their work, such as spoken word or slam poets, have a difficult time finding places and organizations that encourage physical gatherings to share work, especially in suburban areas.

#### A. Discrimination of Young, Amateur Authors

##### 1. Criteria for Acceptance of Writing

- Need credentials (ex. previously published, won writing competitions, etc.)
- Cover letters - students are not typically exposed to how to write cover letters -

<https://medium.com/a-writers-life/how-to-write-a-cover-letter-for-a-literary-journal-submission-df0d3687907d>

##### 2. Lack of Exposure/Interest in Sharing Writing

- Educational writing - typically scientific, factual, objective, not necessarily creative

#### B. Poetry Slam

##### 1. Location - City

- Cut off from suburban/rural markets for interest
- Example - Button Poetry - based in Minneapolis -

<https://buttonpoetry.com/history/>

##### 2. Student Spheres

- Typical locations - bars, clubs/restaurants late at night - kids/students under 21 cannot usually participate
- Big competitions - usually in cities - inaccessible (ex. Brave New Voices is in San Francisco, CA -

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brave\\_New\\_Voices](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brave_New_Voices))

Solution:

#### C. Literary Publication

##### 3. Easier User Interface

##### 4. Zine format

- <https://blogs.lib.unc.edu/rbc/index.php/2017/10/25/a-brief-history-of-zines/>

##### 5. Submission Explanation

- Cover Letter Explanation -

<https://medium.com/a-writers-life/how-to-write-a-cover-letter-for-a-literary-journal-submission-df0d3687907d>

- Set up FAQ section combined with submission section of website
- 6. Student Interest Engagement
  - Focus on reaching out to teachers
  - Teachers tend to be afraid of teaching poetry -- one of the “least well taught” units in English literature education internationally-  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/17xCtro-arPJWOJLBQjWbOjNy\\_iSAuzK1/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/17xCtro-arPJWOJLBQjWbOjNy_iSAuzK1/view?usp=sharing)

#### D. Poetry Slam

- 3. Local - suburban/rural
  - Unattended market for performers - solution is to hold poetry slams locally
  - Hold them in public settings to make them more accessible - libraries, restaurants, local venues, schools
- 4. Student Spheres
  - Emphasis on young writers’ interest in participation
  - Reach out and share resources for submission with teachers and educators for writing and performance