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## NEWS

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### **Teens take to the stage in Wilton Library's 5<sup>th</sup> annual Poetry in Motion March 25 and 26**

Wilton, CT – March is the time of year when teens pick their heads up from their iPhones, unplug from their iPods and either perform or watch their friends perform in Wilton Library's Poetry in Motion two-night event. This year's performances are set for Friday and Saturday, March 25 and 26 beginning at 7:30 p.m. For the fifth year in a row, teens in grades 7 through 12 express themselves in creative ways based on the Poetry in Motion theme – this year's is "Bridging the Gap." In their poems, teens explore differences in people and ways in which people can be brought together. Topics include age, gender, socio-economics, technology, religion, culture, ethnicity and more. Each fall the teens submit their poetry for review and selection, and then they work through the winter editing and rehearsing, culminating in the two-night event. According to Susan Lauricella, Head of Teen Services, "This program has taken on a life of its own. By the time kids have reached the high school, they've either heard about the Poetry in Motion program or have already participated in one. Each year, we see returning students and we get an influx of new talent. It's been a wonderful experience."

Thirty-five students will perform their own or other students' poems, oftentimes accompanied by music or dance. The students have rehearsed with Regie Gibson, a professional poet and national poetry slam winner, director Nancy Ponturo, music director Tony Burnett, and choreographer Brenda Froehlich. The 36 poems have been published in a book that will be available for purchase during the receptions after each performance. Poetry in Motion is made possible by the generous donations of families and friends.

Tickets are \$5 per person for each night and on sale now at the library's circulation desk. A limited number of tickets might be available at the door however

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attendees should note that the performances do sell out quickly. For information or directions, visit [www.wiltonlibrary.org](http://www.wiltonlibrary.org) or call 203-762-3950, ext. 243.

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**Caption:** Regie Gibson (far right) works with student performers (left to right) Jackson Ward, Cressida Richards, Ali Kandiew and Madeline Driver for Wilton Library's 5<sup>th</sup> annual Poetry in Motion event set for Friday and Saturday, March 25 and 26 beginning at 7:30 each night. Receptions follow the performances. Tickets are \$5 per person each night and are on sale now at the library. For information: [www.wiltonlibrary.org](http://www.wiltonlibrary.org), 203-762-3950, ext. 243. Wilton Library, 137 Old Ridgefield Road, Wilton.