

March 5, 2010

Members of the Poetry Club at Parker Junior High School in Flossmoor School District 161 recently competed in the "Louder Than A Bomb" poetry competition held at Columbia College.

Louder Than A Bomb is a poetry festival that emphasizes self-expression and community through the performance of poetry, oral story-telling, and hip-hop spoken word.

Members of the Parker Poetry Club are sixth grade student Mbella Beseka; seventh grade students Naseem Ahmed, Michelle Jiles, Tiffani Riley and Alyssa Villamor-Thompkins; and eighth grade student Joshua Saleem.

In their first poetry bout on February 24 the Parker Poetry Club received a second place, defeated only by Whitney Young High School.

The club earned first place in their second poetry bout on Sunday, February 28, advancing to a second preliminary round.

In the second preliminary round, the Parker Poetry Club received first place and was the only Junior High School team to advance to the semi-finals, held at the Steppenwolf Theatre, Monday, March 1. Despite a strong performance, the team did not advance to the final four.

Coaches of the club are staff members Adewale Apata, Tiffany Washington, and Nisa Perez.