

Poet Laureate for the City of Annapolis

2021-2023

Call to the Community

The Annapolis Art in Public Places Commission (AIPPC) is seeking applications and nominations for Poet Laureate for the City of Annapolis. The Poet Laureate for the City of Annapolis is an honorary position whose role is to promote the literary arts and literacy within the Annapolis community. In addition to the U.S. Poet Laureate appointed by Congress, many states and municipalities in the United States have a Poet Laureate. In 2018, the AIPPC created this position in our city to support a greater appreciation of local people, places, history, and communal belonging through the reading and writing of poetry. The Poet Laureate is the poetic voice of our City, and in undertaking this role, participates in public events, performs and speaks to the public about poetry and literary arts, and reaches out to children and adults through schools, community centers, and libraries to encourage the reading and writing of poetry. The Poet Laureate will be appointed by the Mayor of the City of Annapolis following the recommendation of the AIPPC selection panel.

Guidelines

Eligibility Requirements

Applications from and nominations for poets from all walks of life and writing in all poetry forms are welcome. In order to be considered for the position, applicants and nominees must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Applicant/nominee must either live, work, or attend an academic institution within a Ward of the City of Annapolis (see <https://www.annapolis.gov/DocumentCenter/Home/View/5819>);
- Applicant/nominee must be at least 18 years old;
- The applicant/nominee must be experienced in the field of poetry as demonstrated through a body of work, published or unpublished.

Position Requirements

The term of service for the Poet Laureate will be one year, beginning April 1, 2021, renewable for a second year with agreement of both the poet and the AIPPC. The Poet Laureate is encouraged to nurture appreciation of poetry and literature by conducting public readings, workshops, lectures and presentations in neighborhoods, schools, colleges/universities, and other public settings in geographically diverse areas of the city. The Poet Laureate shall be expected to:

- Have the ability to fulfill her/his term in residence;
- Attend, participate in, and read and/or perform works at selected ceremonial/civic engagement events, including commemorations of important historical events, and public arts events such as City gallery openings or concerts;

- Participate in selected “poetry advocacy” events, especially Poetry Month in April, during which the Poet Laureate shares the art and love of poetry with a non-traditional and/or underserved audience, with a particular focus on children;
- Undertake a community outreach project to make poetry available and accessible to people in their everyday lives; and
- Report on his/her work as Poet Laureate from time to time as needed to the AIPPC.

Award

\$500 annual honorarium. Additionally, the Poet Laureate may be reimbursed for up to \$300 of expenses in undertaking duties of the Poet Laureate, in consultation with the AIPPC.

Intellectual Property

For works the Poet Laureate creates in performance of the duties of Poet Laureate, the Poet Laureate gives the City of Annapolis permission to: publish and exhibit the work; include the works in various city marketing locations including, but not limited to: websites, social media platforms, posters, brochures, and flyers; include the works in a possible anthology of Poet Laureate poems; and retain the works in records/archives for future reference. The City shall retain license to use, reproduce, and compile the work created for the City by the Poet Laureate in his/her official capacity, but the Poet Laureate shall retain all other rights to the work.

Selection Process

In order to be considered, applications or nominations must include the following documents:

- Completed application/nomination form
- Five poems, either published or unpublished, of any style, form, or length.
- Narrative statement briefly describing applicant’s or nominee’s life, career, and poetry (250 words)
- Narrative statement answering the question: “How can a Poet Laureate serve to benefit the people of the City of Annapolis?” Included in the statement should be the poet’s ideas for projects for Poetry Month in April 2022 (500 words).

Applications/nominations must be submitted to the AIPPC via email or postal mail and postmarked by Friday, February 26, 2021 – if sent by email, deadline is 5 pm.

Once the application period has closed, a selection panel drawn from members of the literary community will select finalists for interviews in February. In the interview, applicants/nominees will be asked to read some of their work and answer questions about how they would carry out Poet Laureate activities. The finalist best meeting the requirements of the position will be recommended to the City Mayor for appointment by April 1, 2021. All applicants and nominees will be notified of the selection outcome. The Poet Laureate shall be considered a civic appointment and one of honor.

All selections will be made at the full discretion of the AIPPC selection panel based on the applications received; if no appropriate candidate is identified the panel may decide to not appoint a Poet Laureate for the current term.

For more information visit <https://www.annapolis.gov/PoetLaureate>.

Poet Laureate for the City of Annapolis

2021-2023 Application/Nomination Form

You must sign and submit this Application/Nomination document, with the following as attachments:

1. Five poems, either published or unpublished, of any style, form, or length by the applicant or nominee. In submitting this work, you warrant that the submissions are the applicant/nominee's own work and that to the best of your knowledge they do not infringe on another's intellectual property rights.
2. Narrative statement briefly describing applicant or nominee's life, career, and poetry (250 words)
3. Narrative statement answering the question: "How can a Poet Laureate serve to benefit the people of the City of Annapolis?" Included in the answer should be the poet's ideas for projects for Poetry Month in April 2022 (500 words).

Applications must be postmarked by **Friday Feb. 26, 2021** (if sent by email, deadline is 5 pm) and submitted to the following address:

By email: annapolispoetlaureate@gmail.com
By mail: Art in Public Places Commission
 Pip Moyer Recreation Center (PMRC)
 273 Hilltop Lane
 Annapolis, MD 21403

Name of applicant/nominee _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone number, Day _____ Evening _____
Email address _____
Social media accounts _____

If applicable:

Name of nominator _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone number, Day _____ Evening _____
Email address _____
How do you know the nominee? _____

Does the applicant or nominee live, work, or attend an academic institution within a Ward of the City of Annapolis (view our [Ward Map](#).)

Yes No Please detail: _____

Is applicant or nominee at least 18 years old? Yes No

I submit my application, or am nominating an individual who meets the above criteria, for consideration as the Poet Laureate for the City of Annapolis, and confirm that the information contained herein is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature of Applicant/Nominator

Date