

Application for the Position of City of Albany Poet Laureate for 2022–2023

Poets who live or work in the City of Albany, California, are invited to apply for the position of Poet Laureate.

Submissions open: January 20, 2022

Application deadline: March 31, 2022

What is the Poet Laureate Program?

The position of Poet Laureate is given to an Albany poet who is currently producing, sharing, and promoting poetry in our community. The Poet Laureate represents the City of Albany and its commitment to the poetic arts.

The City of Albany Poet Laureate Program is administered by the Albany Arts Committee.

The Poet Laureate receives an annual stipend.

The Poet Laureate is chosen by a selection committee that includes poets and educators.

What does the Poet Laureate do?

The Poet Laureate writes poems throughout each year and participates in community events, education, and readings. Each year the Albany Poet Laureate is expected to:

- publicly present to the City at least 3 new poems per year on public occasions of the Poet's choice (such as Arbor Day, Memorial Day Services, July 4th, Dinner with Albany, Thanksgiving)
- hold at least one free public youth poetry event per year, which may include workshops during or after school, poetry slams, or readings
- offer a public reading of the Poet's work and (if desired) that of other poets
- help judge submissions to the City's annual Fall into Haiku program
- [optional] participate in and plan other poetry-related programs or activities contingent on funding or sponsorship

Length of Appointment

The appointment of Poet Laureate is for 2 years.

Payment

For each year of appointment, the Poet Laureate receives \$1,000. Supplementary payment may be provided to compensate the Poet Laureate for time and materials related to additional (optional) programming.

Qualifications

To be eligible to serve as Poet Laureate the candidate must:

- live and/or work in Albany currently, and for at least 6 months prior to the application deadline (“work” means holding a regular paid or voluntary position in Albany for at least 20 hours a week)
- have presented poems publicly for at least 5 years in magazines and books or in online postings or performance
- have a record of active contribution as a poet, as acknowledged by their peers and by community involvement in the form of teaching, judging, or performance

To apply

Submit 1 digital (email) or 6 hard copy sets of the following materials:

- your resume and contact information
- evidence that you meet the above qualifications (photocopies of published works, statement of residence or employment, news clips, web printouts, YouTube links, etc.)
- 2 personal or professional references (maximum 300 words each)
- no more than 20 pages of printed selections from your work, published or unpublished
- a personal statement not to exceed 500 words about why you are interested in the position and what activities and goals you want to pursue during your appointment
- [optional] a video, recording, or YouTube or other link of you reciting your work

Deliver your submission to:

Albany Poet Laureate Program
c/o Albany Arts Committee
1249 Marin Avenue
Albany, CA 94706

Email digital files and links to:

KMcCarron@albanyca.org