



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
Economic Development Division
Urbana Arts and Culture Program

Urbana Poet Laureate Program 2021 Application Guidelines

**All materials must be submitted online or received by 5:00 pm on Sunday, October 18th, 2020.
Late applications will not be accepted.**

The City of Urbana's Poet Laureate Program celebrates poetry by recognizing a resident poet who makes meaningful connections, honors and serves our diverse community, and elevates the importance of the creative writing art form through sharing their work with Urbana residents. The Poet Laureate acts as an advocate for poetry, language, and the arts. They create a unique artistic legacy through public readings and civic events.

The Poet Laureate is chosen by a selection jury, through a thorough review of the competitive applications received and a unanimous decision-making process.

The Poet Laureate serves a one-year term, with support from Mayor Diane Wolfe Marlin, the Urbana Arts and Culture Program, and the City of Urbana.

Award

The Poet Laureate receives a \$2,000 award and spearheads a project or event, as well as hosts an annual poetry showcase, in collaboration with the Urbana Arts and Culture Program.

Eligibility

Applicants must:

- Be at least 21 years of age
- Have resided in Champaign County for a minimum of one year prior to applying
- Display a strong commitment to the community
- Be active as a professional poet (i.e. a poet whose work has been published, performed, and/or presented through a process of editorial or curatorial review)
- Be able and enthusiastic to fulfill duties

Application

Applications must include the following:

- Application form;
- A curriculum vitae or résumé;
- One-page work sample index;
- Four examples of past published work (may include video recordings and audio files);
- A proposal, no longer than 1000 words max, that details how the laureate will benefit, represent, and bring poetry into civic life in the City of Urbana

FORMATTING NOTE: All entries must be submitted in a conventional font (such as Times New Roman) at 12-point size. Do not place name or address on works of poetry. Photocopied poems from publications are acceptable, however, name and/or address cannot be included.

Application Submission

For the 2021 cycle of the Urbana Poet Laureate Program, applications will be accepted electronically. If an applicant is unable to submit their application electronically, that applicant should reach out immediately to the Arts and Culture Coordinator (artsgrant@urbanainlinois.us) to make arrangements.

- **Google Form (preferred)**

Submit your applications materials digitally via this Google Form:

<https://forms.gle/YDRixqoPjSxufMiD9> Submissions must be made by **5:00 PM CST on Sunday, October 18th, 2020.**

- **E-mail Option**

E-mail your application materials to ArtsGrant@urbanainlinois.us by **5:00 PM CST on Sunday, October 18th, 2020.** Subject line should read "Poet Laureate Application – Your Name"