



PLYMOUTH POET LAUREATE PROGRAM GUIDELINES FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Is this a job?

A: The Plymouth Poet Laureate is an honorary community leadership role. The Poet Laureate is not an employee affiliated with any organization or government agency.

Q: How much does this role pay?

A: The Plymouth Poet Laureate will not receive a paycheck, however an honorarium in the amount of \$2500 will be awarded to the chosen applicant; \$1250 per year. Additionally, upon request for the Poet Laureate to attend a private event, it is permissible for the Poet Laureate to assess an appearance fee not to exceed \$50.00. The Poet Laureate may negotiate travel costs to be covered upfront or reimbursed. The Poet Laureate may not assess a fee for performance at the Thanksgiving Day Parade, Fourth of July Celebration, Waterfront Festival or local Inauguration of elected officials. The Poet Laureate is not obligated to assess a fee for an appearance request.

Q: What is expected of the Poet Laureate?

A: The Selection Panel encourages applicants who are creative, kind and community focused. The purpose of the Poet Laureate Program is to educate and celebrate their host-community. Negative or disparaging comments about the community or members of the community will not be tolerated. To that end, the Poet Laureate may do as much or as little as her/his schedule allows. There are four "Signature Events" the Poet Laureate must attend and participate: Thanksgiving Day Parade, Fourth of July Celebration, Waterfront Festival, and if requested, Inauguration Day. The members of the Selection Panel will remain engaged with the Poet Laureate to provide assistance, however the Panel will defer to the Poet Laureate to exercise creative control over the outreach, programs, content and events s/he conducts.

Q: Do I have to live in Plymouth in order to apply or be nominated?

A: The Poet Laureate program is open to current and former residents, business owners and employees of local businesses who have an active and sustained relationship with the community. The Poet Laureate must be proximate to the community so s/he may be engaged in community events throughout the year.

Q: What if I cannot fulfil my full term?

A: If the Poet Laureate is unable to fulfill the full 2 year term, then the honor is awarded to the runner-up known as Laureate-in-Waiting. The honorarium will be pro-rated and the Poet Laureate's distinct

medal reassigned to the Laureate-in-Waiting, who will be the new Poet Laureate. The Laureate-in-Waiting has no official duties, assignments or honorarium.

Q: What if I am a student, scholar, fellow and/or travel extensively throughout the year. Does my absence prevent me from being able to apply or serve?

A: In some cases, the Poet Laureate may be unable to attend a Signature Event. If possible, the Laureate-in-Waiting will be asked to fulfil the role for the specific event. Persistent absence may cause the Panel to meet with the Poet Laureate to determine ability to continue to serve. In the event of a resignation or vacancy, the Panel will award the Laureate-in-Waiting as the new Poet Laureate.