



ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Office of Arts & Culture Post Office Box 2369 Santa Barbara, CA 93120

SANTA BARBARA POET LAUREATE

Guidelines for Nominations

Statement of Purpose:

The City of Santa Barbara is seeking nominations for the position of Santa Barbara Poet Laureate. The person selected shall seek to advance awareness of and appreciation for literary arts and humanities within the greater Santa Barbara community. As both a local resident and a distinguished poet, the Poet Laureate shall represent and celebrate the diversity and history of Santa Barbara. As a spokesperson for the City's literary community, the Poet Laureate shall endeavor to promote the artistic achievements of the City of Santa Barbara and shall actively participate in ceremonial, educational and cultural activities in the community at various times throughout his or her term of service. Beginning in 2017, the Santa Barbara Public Library will serve as the official office of the Poet Laureate.

Term of Service:

The Poet Laureate for the City of Santa Barbara is an honorary position. The individual selected will serve a two-year term, commencing in April. Nearing the end of the Poet Laureate's term and prior to initiating the nomination process, the Poet Laureate Review Committee may extend an invitation to the sitting Poet Laureate to serve a second (consecutive) term, based on his or her performance. A Poet Laureate may not serve more than one term, unless invited by the committee to serve an additional consecutive term. The Poet Laureate will have thirty days to respond. If he or she elects not to accept the committee's invitation, the Poet Laureate must wait an intervening term prior to being re-nominated.

The City will award the Poet Laureate an honorarium of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) per year, which shall encompass all civic or official work performed or produced in this position.

Term Expectations

As a condition of appointment, the Poet Laureate will participate in a minimum of four annual public functions each year as determined by the City in conjunction with the Office of Arts & Culture and the Santa Barbara Public Library. These would include, for example, the inaugural meeting each year of the Santa Barbara City Council, Summer Solstice, Old Spanish Days, and other significant festivals or community events. Additionally, the Poet Laureate shall aim to be actively involved with local schools, and shall endeavor to create or facilitate workshops and readings that will bring the Poet Laureate into contact with students. To the extent possible, the Poet Laureate also will establish programs to coincide with his or her term of service to promote

community awareness of the literary arts and to encourage community members to develop their own creative interests.

Who May be Nominated:

Eligible nominees must meet the following requirements:

- Be a current resident of or work in the City of Santa Barbara and its environs, (defined as being within the First, Second or Third Supervisorial District), with at least five concurrent years of residency or employment.
- Be available to travel throughout the greater Santa Barbara community
- Be a recognized poet who meets the review criteria listed below

Review Criteria:

- A proven history of substantial publication of individual poems and/or books, including at least one work that is not self-published or by a vanity press
- An established history of activity in the Santa Barbara literary community, i.e., readings, publications, public presentations, and/or teaching
- Critical acclaim as demonstrated by special honors, awards, or other recognition

Who May Nominate:

Santa Barbara Poet Laureate nominations may come from any organization or individual. **Self-nominations will not be accepted.**

The Poet Laureate Review Committee:

The Poet Laureate shall be appointed by the Mayor of the City of Santa Barbara based upon the recommendation of the Review Committee. This Review Committee shall consist of members of the City of Santa Barbara's Arts Advisory. They will make the selection based upon the criteria as set forth above. Additionally, there shall be advisory members of the Review Committee, who shall include the City Council member serving as liaison to the Arts Advisory Committee, a representative from the *Santa Barbara Public Library* as well as one representative chosen from the Santa Barbara literary community.

Nomination Deadline: Friday, March 3, 2017:

Nominations must be sent to the **Santa Barbara Poet Laureate Review Committee** at the following mailing address. Material submitted will not be returned.

All material must be clearly addressed to the **Santa Barbara Poet Laureate Review Committee.**

Mailing Address:

Santa Barbara County Office of Arts & Culture
P.O. Box 2369
Santa Barbara, California 93120

For further information on the Santa Barbara Poet Laureate position, please contact:

Santa Barbara County Office of Arts & Culture
Phone: (805) 568-3990 or email: info@sbac.ca.gov

**SANTA BARBARA POET LAUREATE
Nomination Materials/Required Attachments**

All nominators must submit seven (7) copies of the following information:

1. A brief letter that provides:

- a. A summary of why the nominator considers the nominated poet's work to be of the highest quality and most representative of the Santa Barbara community
- b. The background or qualifications of the nominator or the nominating organization
- c. Contact information for the nominator and the nominated poet, including mailing address, phone numbers and e-mail address
- d. A statement verifying that the nominator has contacted the nominated poet and that the poet has reviewed the expectations of the position and agrees to the nomination.

2. The name and a short biography of the poet nominated

- a. A summary of the poet's significant awards and published works should be included
- b. The poet's resume (two-page maximum) may be attached

3. A sample of up to five (5) poems by the nominated poet, citing the source for each (including the title of the work from which it was taken, the publisher and the publication date).

Failure to provide all required materials results in automatic ineligibility.

Deadline for Nominations:

Friday, March 3 by 5 p.m.

Questions:

Contact the Office of Arts & Culture at 805.568.3990 for further information.

Rev. 1.19.17