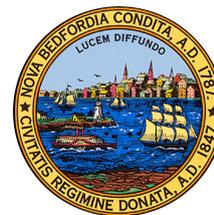




City of New Bedford

poet laureate



G U I D E L I N E S A N D A P P L I C A T I O N

I. Program Purpose:

The purpose of the New Bedford Poet Laureate Program is to honor outstanding New Bedford poets and promote participation in the literary arts of the City. New Bedford is home to a wealth of distinguished and diverse literary artists, who through their work and service, represent New Bedford's values, storied history and boundless potential.

II. Eligibility Criteria:

1. The Poet Laureate must be a legal resident of Massachusetts and have lived in the City of New Bedford for at least 3 years.
2. The Poet Laureate will be available to serve a 3-year term, commencing April 1, 2014.
3. The Poet Laureate has made significant contributions to the literary community.
4. The Poet Laureate will have a demonstrated commitment and a willingness and ability to participate in Poet Laureate responsibilities, and the intent to live in the City of New Bedford for the duration of the appointment.
5. Preference will be given to poets with publishing credits.
6. The Poet Laureate must be 18 years of age or older.
7. The Poet Laureate must have a willingness to serve as an ambassador and to engage the citizens of New Bedford in poetry through public readings, workshops, visiting schools, and other means.

III. Responsibilities of the New Bedford Poet Laureate:

1. The Poet Laureate will raise public awareness of poetry through readings, appearances, workshops, and other public displays of poetry.
2. The Poet Laureate will engage with New Bedford Public Schools to enhance the teaching of poetry in the classroom.
3. The Poet Laureate will provide poetry-related content to the New Bedford Cultural Council's Facebook page and the City of New Bedford's website and Facebook page so that citizens can engage with his or her works, be apprised of events, and explore the Poet Laureate's recommended readings.
4. The Poet Laureate will organize poetry workshops at local New Bedford libraries.
6. The Poet Laureate will create poems for specific occasions as requested by the Mayor.
7. The Poet Laureate may help organize an annual city-wide poetry event.
8. The Poet Laureate is an honorary title, a recognition of poet's body of work and ongoing contribution to the cultural/literary life of the city. The honoree should not view the position as spokesperson for the city or expect "as of right" inclusion in City events or occasions. Inclusion of the Poet Laureate in or commissioning of work for such occasions/events will be at the discretion of the Mayor.



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G U I D E L I N E S & A P P L I C A T I O N

IV. Honorarium:

The New Bedford Poet Laureate will not receive an honorarium or reimbursement for expenses and will not be a City employee. The Poet Laureate is encouraged to accept honorariums or remuneration from host organizations. No poet should have to decline the Laureate position due to financial constraints.

V. Application Requirements:

1. A completed application form, and a letter assuring that the poems are the poet's own and the materials submitted are true and complete.
2. Work samples, not to exceed 6 pages, no less than 12 point font, no more than one poem on each page. The poet's name must appear on each page. The work sample must contain any information that indicates where the poem has been published or performed, or any awards for merit.
3. Resumé or curriculum vitae not to exceed two (2) pages.
4. A statement of maximum one page that outlines why you are interested in serving as the New Bedford Poet Laureate in 2014– 2017. If relevant, please outline any ideas for a cultural or public outreach project that you wish to undertake during the program term.
5. Explanation of what he/she would do in the role of Poet Laureate, not to exceed one (1) page.
6. E-mail address (or self-addressed stamped envelope) if applicant wishes to be notified of final selections. Application materials will not be returned.

VI. Support:

The NBCC will dedicate Facebook posts on behalf of the Poet Laureate of his/her works and events and provide opportunities for the Poet Laureate to communicate with New Bedford citizens virtually through New Bedford Local Cultural Council's Facebook page and the City of New Bedford's website and Facebook page.

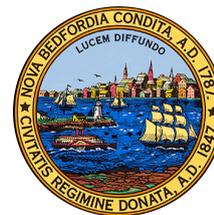
VII. Selection Process:

1. The Selection Committee will review all applications, which will be scored on a 100 point scale, with up to 70 points for artistic quality of the work samples, experience, and other professional accomplishments, and up to 30 points for the quality of the proposed outreach project.
2. The Committee may require an interview with finalists in person, however finalists will be required to submit a video of themselves reading one of their poetry selections. The finalists will be notified by email from Charles Perry, Jr., Poet Laureate Sub-Committee member, and videos are to be emailed to him and to us at cperry47@hotmail.com.
3. The selection process will take place in two parts:
 - a. review of submitted materials with selection of three (3) finalists, and
 - b. the review of submitted video to the selection committee.



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G U I D E L I N E S & A P P L I C A T I O N

VIII. Selection Committee:

Mayor Jon Mitchell has called upon the New Bedford Cultural Council (NBCC), which includes two published and respected poets, several artists, educators and community volunteers to assist in the nomination and selection process. A special sub-committee will be responsible for reviewing the applications and interviewing candidates of which 3 finalists will be forwarded to the Mayor for final selection.

The Selection Committee is composed of current active members from the New Bedford Cultural Council. The NBCC Poet Laureate Committee is organized and administered by the NBCC and the Mayor's Office of the City of New Bedford. Current board members of the NBCC Selection Sub-Committee are not eligible to apply for the Poet Laureate position.

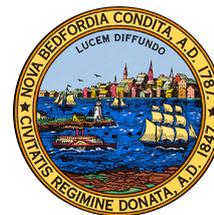
NBCC Poet Laureate Sub-Committee: Josh Amaral, David Goncalves, Jill Horton-Simms, Charles Perry, Jr., Hank Gatlin and Alison Wells.

- **Please submit six (6) completed Application packets to:**
- **New Bedford Cultural Council – Poet Laureate**
- **P.O. Box 2027**
- **New Bedford, MA 02741**
- **For questions or more information please email:**
- **newbedfordcc@gmail.com, attn Jill Horton-Simms, Chair**
- **Deadline for Completed Applications**
- ▶ **Application packages must be hand delivered by April 10, 2014 to the Mayor's Office, City of New Bedford, Room 311 by 4 p.m.**
- ▶ **The Poet Laureate will be informed of his or her selection by April 25, 2014.**
- ▶ **Poet Laureate selection will be announced publically on April 28, 2014 at the Renaissance School.**
- ▶ **The Poet Laureate term will begin on May 1, 2014.**



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A P P L I C A T I O N

New Bedford Cultural Council PO Box 2027, New Bedford, MA 02740 Email: newbedfordcc@gmail.com

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name _____

Nominee's Organization (if any) _____ Title _____

Mailing Address _____

Cell # _____ Work # _____ Home # _____

email _____

Website _____

How long have you resided in New Bedford? _____

Are you a U.S. Citizen? _____ Massachusetts Resident? _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Are you at least 18 or older? _____

If selected, the Office of the Mayor of New Bedford and his designees have my permission to use my work sample or a portion thereof, my likeness, and my biographical information for publicity purposes Yes _____ No _____

SIGNATURE

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined information contained in this nomination and accompanying documents and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, they are true and correct.

Printed Name _____

Signature _____ Date _____