



2024–2026 GUIDELINES FOR NOMINATIONS AND APPLICATIONS

The Indiana Arts Commission (IAC) is in search of a poet to help tell the story of the Hoosier state. **The Poet Laureate’s role is to connect Hoosiers with poetry and spread the joy of the art form to all parts of the state.** The IAC is looking for a poet that is a strong advocate for Indiana, has a well-defined creative practice, and is community-oriented to serve as the Indiana Poet Laureate for the 2024-2026 term.

ABOUT THE POET LAUREATE PROGRAM:



Established in 2005, **the Poet Laureate program is meant to bring poetry to every corner of the state.** According to the bylaws of the position, the Poet Laureate is responsible for making appearances at schools and libraries, offering advice to the IAC concerning ways to further the art of poetry in Indiana, and representing Indiana and the art of poetry to the community and public.

The Poet Laureate Receives...

- 1.) Statewide recognition for their Poetic work
- 2.) A stipend of \$5,000 per year
- 3.) Connection to other Poets Laureate, writers across the state, and the Arts Commission

The Poet Laureate gives back...

- 1.) Community visits to bring poetry to every corner of the state
- 2.) Engagement with underserved communities through poetry
- 3.) The advancement of the art of poetry to the community and the public

The role of Poet Laureate is an honorary position with an expectation of approximately one hour per month of service to IAC activities. Outside requests of the Poet Laureate's time and talents for events and appearances will be negotiated by the Poet Laureate on a case-by-case basis. Financial compensation for this work is intended to cover the time required to provide a few public events across the state. In addition to general public events, the Poet Laureate may pursue programming that aligns with their vision of poetry's impact on the state. Details for such work will be determined after selection of the Poet Laureate.



WHO MAY APPLY:

The IAC encourages community members to nominate poets for the position and for all eligible candidates to self-nominate. Poets of all subgenres and styles will be considered. [To nominate an individual for the Poet Laureate position, fill out this form](#) by August 11, 2023 with the name of the poet and contact information for the IAC to reach out to the poet with an application. To nominate yourself for poet laureate, turn in an application by following the instructions below.

Eligibility Criteria:

- 18 years of age or older
- Must reside in the state of Indiana for at least three years prior to the appointment and must continue to live in Indiana during the appointed term (January 1, 2024- Dec. 31, 2026)
- Have a robust body of publicly accessible work, including at least one high-quality collection of poetry or a substantial history of spoken word performances
- Must submit application accurately, with all materials, by the deadline (Sept. 1 2023)

An ideal candidate for Poet Laureate is a Hoosier who is:

- An ambassador of poetry who, if appointed, can use the position as a platform to illuminate not only their own work, but the work of other writers in Indiana.
- A community-oriented poet with the desire to spread the joy of poetry, literature, literacy, and storytelling across the state.
- A demonstrated leader that shows a commitment to promoting awareness of poetry through community engagement with an interest in and capability of listening, engaging, and incorporating diverse people and perspectives.
- Someone who can inspire the next generation of writers and readers.

-A self-starter who can organize events, activating Hoosier involvement of the arts, and creating avenues for writers and readers to connect.

WHAT YOU NEED TO APPLY:

1.) A CV/Resume/ Website that details work history, publications, awards, volunteer work, and any other past experiences that relate to the Poet Laureate position

**The IAC will offer CV/Resume assistance for those interested in applying for the position. Email tfranco@iac.in.gov for more information*

2.) An artist statement that details your poetry practice, community involvement, and purpose for applying to be the Poet Laureate

3.) A work sample of up to 5 poems, not to exceed 10 pages (or, if submitting spoken word performances, a video recording not to exceed 15 minutes)

How to apply:

To nominate yourself for the position of Poet Laureate of Indiana, fill out this form which will lead you to the application.

About the IAC:

The IAC is funded by the Indiana General Assembly and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. The IAC advocates for engagement with the arts to enrich Indiana's people and places and works to ensure equitable access so that all can benefit.

Contact:

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