



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Maryland State Poet Laureate Position

The Maryland State Arts Council is seeking nominations for the honorary position of State Poet Laureate.

The Poet Laureate position was formally established by the Maryland General Assembly in 1959 (Chapter 178, Acts of 1959; Code State Government Article, sec. 13-306) and authorizes the Governor to appoint a citizen of the State as Poet Laureate of Maryland.

Eight Poet Laureates have served for the State since the inception of this Act in 1959. Past Poet Laureates include (in order of service): Maria B. Coker, Vincent Godfrey Burns, Lucille Clifton, Reed Whittemore, Linda Pastan, Roland Flint, Michael Collier and most recently, Michael Glaser.

Term of Service

The Poet Laureate of Maryland is an honorary State position in which the individual selected will serve at the discretion of the Governor for up to a four-year term renewable by the Governor's consent.

Responsibilities & Duties

The Poet Laureate will provide public readings for the citizens of Maryland, ensuring that people in all geographic regions of the State have access to at least one reading during the term of service. As an honorary position the Poet Laureate will not receive compensation, though limited reimbursement for expenses incurred in the performance of duties is available.

Eligibility

Nominees must meet the following requirements:

- Nominee must be a six month legal resident of the State;
- Nominee must be available and able to travel throughout the State;
- Nominee must demonstrate 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;
- Nominee must have received critical acclaim as demonstrated by special honors, awards, or other recognitions.

Who May Nominate

Poet Laureate nominations may come from any organization or individual in the State of Maryland. Self-nominations are acceptable.

Nomination Information

Nominations must include the following information in the order listed below:

- Cover letter from nominator providing the following:
 - Qualifications of Nominator
 - Nominator's contact information including:
 - Name
 - Address
 - Title
 - City, State, Zip
 - Phone
 - Fax
 - E-Mail
 - Nominated Poet's contact information including:
 - Name
 - Address
 - Title
 - City, State, Zip
 - Phone
 - Fax
 - E-Mail
- Short Biography of Nominated Poet (limit 2 pages);
- Summary (1 page) indicating why nominator considers the work of the nominated poet to be of the highest quality;
- Written verification that nominator has contacted nominated poet and that nominated poet has reviewed the expectations of the position and agrees to the nomination;
- A sample of up to five works by the nominated poet (samples will not be returned).

Incomplete nominations will be deemed ineligible.

Nomination Deadline

Nominations must be postmarked before midnight on December 1, 2008. Applications will not be accepted via fax or e-mail. Nominations should be sent to:

**Maryland State Arts Council
Attention: Poet Laureate Selection Committee
175 W. Ostend Street, Suite E
Baltimore, MD 21230
Poet Laureate Review Committee**

A diverse committee of qualified individuals who represent various arts and humanities communities throughout the state will convene to review nominations for the position of Poet Laureate of Maryland. The Committee will forward their recommendation to the Governor for final review and appointment.

The selection of the Poet Laureate is expected in January 2009.

For further information regarding the Maryland Poet Laureate position please contact Janel Cohen, Poet Laureate Selection Coordinator, at 410-767-8832 or e-mail jcohen@msac.org.

Department of Business and Economic Development
Division of Tourism, Film and the Arts
Maryland State Arts Council
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If you need assistance in using this publication, please contact the MSAC office at 410-767-6555 or TDD/TTY: 410-333-4519

Large-print and audiocassette versions are available upon request.

Readers and Foreign Language interpreters will be arranged with two weeks advance notice.

This publication is available to download from the Internet. The MSAC's web site address is <http://www.msac.org>

The Maryland State Arts Council is an agency of the Department of Business and Economic Development, Division of Tourism, Film and the Arts

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