

FACT SHEET

POET LAUREATE of MARYLAND



About the Maryland Poet Laureate:

- The Poet Laureate will provide public readings for the citizens of Maryland (at least one reading in each geographic region during the term of service).
- The Poet Laureate position was formally established by the Maryland General Assembly in 1959.
- The Poet Laureate is Governor appointed and must be a citizen of Maryland.
- Poet Laureates serve up to a four-year term renewable by the Governor's consent.
- 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 Whittmore, Linda Pastan, Roland Flint, Michael Collier and most recently, Michael Glaser.

About Poet Laureate Opportunities

- Accompany the Governor and provide readings at public events and receptions
- Appearances and readings in schools, universities, and libraries around the state
- Present lectures and/or poetry writing workshops
- Participate in Maryland Artist Teacher Institute
- Be an active member of the Maryland Humanities Council's Speaker's Bureau.
- Connect with literary organizations and festivals across the state
- Commission new works in honor of special occasions, venue openings, dedications

About Stanley Plumly:

- Maryland Distinguished University Professor since 1998.
- Founder of the Master of Fine Arts Program in Creative Writing at the University of Maryland, College Park.
- He has taught at more than a dozen of the most prestigious universities in the country.
- Author of nine books of poetry, including *Old Heart* (Norton, 2008), which won the *Los Angeles Times* Book Award and was a finalist for the National Book Award in 2007.
- Most recently authored *Posthumous Keats* (Norton, 2008), a "personal biography" of the English poet, John Keats, which has received widespread critical acclaim by reviewers for *The New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Washington Post*, *The New Yorker*, among others, and his poems, essays, articles, and reviews have appeared in many of the country's best periodicals and newspapers.
- Recipient of eight Pushcart Prizes, the Paterson Poetry Prize (2007), an Academy Award in Literature from the American Academy of Arts and Letters (2002), and a fellowship from the Rockefeller Foundation (2001).