

## 2019 Queens Poet Laureate Applicant Requirements

Candidates for 2019-2022 Queens Poet Laureate must:

1. **Currently reside in Queens and have lived in Queens for at least the past two years.** Finalists will be asked to provide proof of their two-year residency.
2. **Submit up to 10 pages of poetry.** Some of this work sample should be inspired by or relate to the borough of Queens although that not need not be its primary focus. Poems in your work sample can be published or unpublished. If published, please indicate where the poems appeared. If you're a bilingual poet, you're welcome to apply, but your work sample must be in English and you must be able to orally present your English-language poetry.
3. **Include a poetry-focused resume of 1 to 2 pages** listing your major publications. Poet Laureate candidates must demonstrate a significant publication record in English. We want to know if you have published poetry collections or chapbooks and if your poetry has been included in recognized journals, anthologies, online poetry websites or recorded spoken word presentations. We also want information on your public readings and any grants, fellowships, awards or other poetry-related recognition you may have received.
4. **Write an essay (500 words maximum) on why you want to be Queens Poet Laureate.** What is your creative vision for the position and what do you hope to accomplish over the three-year term? Tell us your ideas for conducting outreach to the highly diverse population of Queens. What would you bring to the role that makes you the ideal candidate?

**The Judging Process:** Applications will be pre-screened by the Queens Poet Laureate Administrative Committee, then reviewed by a five-member panel of judges with relevant experience. The judges will select three semi-finalists to meet in person with the five judges and the members of the Administrative Committee, who will collectively make the selection. The Queens Poet Laureate will be appointed by the Queens Borough President at a Borough Hall event to which the media and others will be invited.

### Expectations of the Queens Poet Laureate

- This is an honorary, unpaid position. It is a three-year time commitment. The Queens Poet Laureate is expected to promote an appreciation of poetry throughout the borough. Examples of outreach include readings at public schools, libraries, community centers, parks, or borough arts events.
- In partnership with the Queens Public Library, the Queens Poet Laureate will conduct poetry readings at Queens public libraries.

- The Queens Poet Laureate is required to collaborate on at least one annual event sponsored by the Queens Borough President's Office and is encouraged to participate in a variety of community events.
- The Queens Poet Laureate must keep the Queens Borough President's Office informed of his/her schedule of readings through a designated liaison.