



# Become Nanaimo's Youth Poet Laureate!

## Terms of Reference and Nomination Form

Drawing on the amazing expertise of a new generation of Nanaimo poets and the success from Nanaimo's inaugural Youth Poet Laureate, the City of Nanaimo's next Youth Poet Laureate will seek to give the community access to strong youth voices. Reaching "a variety of youth" populations and encouraging peer to peer education and inspiration, the Youth Poet Laureate will pave the way for future youth to engage on a civic level through their artistic voice.

Mentored by the Poet Laureate, the Youth Poet Laureate will present original work to City Council, the Youth Advisory Council, and the community through a variety of civic events. As well, they will organize community-based youth poetry projects.

### Term and Remuneration

The City of Nanaimo Youth Poet Laureate will be provided a \$400 honorarium and \$100 of project funding, in addition to a year-long mentorship with the City of Nanaimo's Poet Laureate. The term for the Youth Poet Laureate is for two (2) year. Term will begin 2019-JAN-01.

### Eligibility Criteria

In order to be eligible as Nanaimo's Youth Poet Laureate, candidates must be **13 to 21 years of age (youth)** and reside within the City of Nanaimo. Candidates can be nominated by someone else or be self-nominated.

Applicants must include in their submission the following documentation:

- At least three (3) original poems in any format including written, audio or video. If submitting audio or video, please include a written transcript of the poems.
- Letter of intent including an outline of the vision for the Youth Poet Laureate position and at least three (3) sample ideas of projects that they would undertake as Youth Poet Laureate.
- Résumé outlining the community engagement experience related to school, work and/or volunteering.

### Youth Poet Laureate Duties

Nanaimo's Youth Poet Laureate will:

- Participate in the cultural life of the city and serve as a literary youth ambassador for Nanaimo.
- Undertake a community engagement project to engage youth (example: youth-at-risk).
- Perform a poetry reading during at least one (1) City Council meeting and three (3) Nanaimo Youth Advisory Council meetings, and may choose to perform at other public events.
- Create three (3) new original works of poetry.
- Serve as a judge on the panel for the Nanaimo High School Poetry Writing Contest.
- Perform a poetry reading during at least one (1) at the Vancouver Island Regional Library.

## Selection Process

The selection and appointment process for the Youth Poet Laureate will be undertaken by a selection committee consisting of:

- two (2) members of the Nanaimo Youth Advisory Council;
- one (1) member of the Community Vitality Committee, or its equivalent;
- two (2) representatives from the literary community (poets, writers); and,
- one (1) representative from the Vancouver Island Regional Library.

The selected candidate will be recommended to City Council for final approval.

## Selection Criteria

- Demonstrated ability to engage and inspire the community.
- Clear and innovative ideas regarding the vision for the position of Youth Poet Laureate.
- Ease and skill at presenting and performing work to the public.
- Ability to capture their audience through live readings.

Finalists for the Youth Poet Laureate position will be invited for an interview with the selection panel.

## Intellectual Property

All writing, notes and original materials produced during the Youth Poet Laureate's tenure will remain the property of the Youth Poet Laureate.

## Deadline for Applications

Applications must be received **by 4:00 pm on Monday, October 15, 2018**. Deliver completed applications to:

- In Person: c/o Culture & Heritage, 411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo, BC V9R 5J6
- By Mail: c/o Culture & Heritage, 455 Wallace Street, Nanaimo, BC V9R 5J6
- By Email: [cultureandheritage@nanaimo.ca](mailto:cultureandheritage@nanaimo.ca)

## Questions?

Contact the Community and Cultural Planning Department at 250-755-4483 or [cultureandheritage@nanaimo.ca](mailto:cultureandheritage@nanaimo.ca).