



Town of Shelburne, Vermont

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P.O. BOX 88 5420 SHELBURNE ROAD SHELBURNE, VT 05482

Clerk/Treasurer
(802) 985-5116

Town Manager
(802) 985-5111

Zoning & Planning
(802) 985-5118

Assessor
(802) 985-5115

Recreation
(802) 985-5110

FAX Number
(802) 985-9550

Shelburne Poet Laureate Program

Purpose: An increasing number of Poet Laureate programs have been successfully implemented in communities across the U.S. This is because, more and more, the process of community development is being seen as an art as well as a science. Part of the art is bringing people together on an emotional and spirit level to work together to solve problems. Another part is to help residents who may disagree on methods to recommit to the health and well-being of their community. Poetry has the ability to transcend the structures of our language and connect with us others in a way we couldn't otherwise.

Appointment of a Shelburne Poet Laureate: As a joint venture of the Shelburne Town Manager and Library Director, the Town of Shelburne created a Poet Laureate program in order to achieve the purpose articulated above and to capture and celebrate the essence of the Shelburne community as well as support poetry and the literary arts.

The Town Manager and Library Director invite you to submit nominations for the appointment of a Shelburne Poet Laureate in 2016. Self-nominations will be accepted.

Criteria

This two-year appointment will be made by the Shelburne Selectboard based on the recommendation of the Town Manager, Library Director, and one Community Member with literary expertise who is chosen by the Town Manager and Library Director. The panel will make its recommendation based upon how well the nominated poet meets the following criteria. The Shelburne Poet Laureate is a poet:

- who is at least a part-time resident of Shelburne,
- whose poetry manifests a high degree of excellence,
- who has produced a body of work, and
- who has a long association with Shelburne.

The selected poet must agree to participate in official events such as Town Meeting, to conduct poetry readings at the Pierson Library and other locations, to lead events during National Poetry Month (April), and to allow selected poems to be published on the Town's websites and marketing materials. The Poet Laureate will provide a poem by December 31st each year to be printed in that year's Town Report. The Poet Laureate shall receive an honorarium of \$250 for the two-year term provided by the Town of Shelburne.

Finalists will be required to submit a letter of interest and a portfolio of their work to the panel.

Estimated Timeline

Deadline for nominations: December 7, 2015

- December 2015: nominations reviewed and finalists selected
- January 2016: completed works of finalists reviewed and finalists interviewed
- February 2016: poet recommendation made to Selectboard
- March 2016: appointment until April 1, 2018

Submit a Nomination

Nominations can be submitted online or by using a printed form and mailing or dropping off at the Pierson Library. Nominations should include:

- the name and contact information (if known) of the nominated poet
- a short statement explaining why the particular poet should receive the appointment
- the name and address of the person making the nomination

Questions regarding nominations should be directed to: Lara Keenan, Library Director, keenan@shelburnevt.org, 802.264-5017

Poet Laureate Nomination Form 2016

* Required

Nominated Poet Information

First and Last Name*

Mailing Address 1

Mailing Address 2

City

State

Zip

Telephone

Email Address

Website Address

Title of published book by nominated poet (if applicable)

Publisher

Date published

Title of a second published book by nominated poet

Publisher

Date published

Indicate in 250 words or less why the nominated poet should receive the appointment*



Information about Person Submitting Nomination

First and Last Name

Mailing Address1

Mailing Address 2

City

State

Zip

Telephone

Email

Never submit passwords through Google Forms.