



Calling All Youth Poets!

Date: Tuesday, October 10, 2017

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC — The City of Victoria in partnership with the Greater Victoria Public Library is seeking nominations for the position of Youth Poet Laureate.

Created in 2013 by the Victoria Youth Council, the Youth Poet Laureate position provides the community with access to strong youth voices. The Youth Poet Laureate is tasked with reaching out to vulnerable youth-populations and encouraging peer to peer education and inspiration through new works and by developing a community youth poetry event.

Applicants must be 14 to 24 years of age, reside in the Capital Region, and can **submit their own application or be nominated by someone else**. The application must include three original poems in any format including written, audio or video; a letter of intent outlining the applicant's vision for the Youth Poet Laureate position; three sample project ideas; and a resume noting their community engagement experience related to school, work, or volunteering. Those who wish to nominate a youth poet should inform them in advance so they have adequate time to submit the supporting documents to the nomination package.

The Youth Poet Laureate is an honorary one-year term position from January 1 to December 31, 2018. The position will receive a \$1,750 honorarium and \$1,000 of project funding, in addition to year-long mentorship with Victoria's Poet Laureate Yvonne Blomer. The position is funded by the City of Victoria with project support from the Greater Victoria Public Library.

For submission guidelines, visit: www.victoria.ca/poetlaureate. The deadline for nominations is **Tuesday, October 31, 2017 at 4 p.m.**

Victoria's previous Youth Poet Laureates Aysia Law, Morgan Purvis, Zoé Duhaime, Ann-Bernice Thomas and current Youth Poet Laureate Maita Cienska, have set the stage for up and coming young poets in the Capital City.

Victoria's new Youth Poet Laureate will be announced at a City Council meeting in January. The City of Victoria was the first municipality in Canada to have a Youth Poet Laureate.

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For More Information:

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