



Announcing the Search for the Next Youth Poet Laureate of Sonoma County

Sonoma County California Poets in the Schools plans to follow the lead of the nation, the state and sister counties (Alameda, Los Angeles and Ventura) in acknowledging a student who has achieved excellence in poetry, allowing them to be a leader for the county in raising the profile of poetry and developing its audience.

Specifics

- This student should be between the ages of 13 and 19.
- They must be a county resident who expects to remain in the county between August of 2021 and July of 2022.
- They should also have demonstrated their commitment to literary arts and community engagement through participation in volunteer and community service, clubs, after school activities, and extra academic activities.
- California Poets in the Schools will administer this program as a regional partner of Urban Word.
- The Youth Poet Laureate will serve a one year term and is expected to participate in at least four public functions.
- YPL will receive a \$500 stipend and an optional publishing contract for a chapbook of their work, or an anthology that includes their work and that of other finalists.

Procedure

- **YPL** nominations may come from any organization or individual.
- Application (available at <https://www.californiapoets.org/youth-poet-laureate-program>) must be submitted by July 15th to californiapoets@gmail.com
- Applications can be sent by mail to: California Poets in the Schools - Youth Poet Laureate Submission, PO Box 1328, Santa Rosa, CA 95402
- We can mail an application to individuals upon request. Please email meg@cpits.org to request.
- With the application, three of the student's poems must be submitted, totaling no more than ten pages.
- For finalists, an adult sponsor will be required to provide a letter of support.
- A committee of respected local poets will review applications and choose finalists.
- Finalists will be asked to attend a judging session so that their ability to present their poems effectively (as well as writing good poems) can be assessed.
- The winner will be announced in August, 2021.

For more information, please contact meg@cpits.org