

NEWS RELEASE

North Olympic Library System 2210 South Peabody Street Port Angeles, WA 98362

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: October 17, 2022

Contact: Clair Dunlap, Youth Services Librarian

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Re: Applications now open for first Clallam County Poet Laureate

<u>APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN</u>

Clallam County and the North Olympic Library System (NOLS) are now accepting online applications at nols.org/poet for the first Clallam County Poet Laureate position. Poets age 18 and over who reside in Clallam County and have a passion for bringing poetry to their community are invited to apply for the inaugural position. Submissions close on Friday, December 2.

INFORMATION SESSIONS

To learn more about the application process and position, poets are invited to join an in-person information session at the Port Angeles Main Library on Saturday, October 22 at 2pm or via Zoom on Tuesday, October 25 at 12pm. Visit nols.org/poet or contact your NOLS library branch for the Zoom information.

ABOUT THE POSITION

The Poet Laureate will be selected by a committee of community arts leaders, practitioners, and enthusiasts from across the county. Notification of the appointment will be made by March 2023, and the Laureate will serve a two-year term from April 2023 through March 2025. This

position comes with an annual stipend of \$5,000 (\$10,000 in total), funded by Clallam County, in recognition of the appointed poet's time and energy in participating in or hosting events as well as to support the poet's craft and practice.

The Poet Laureate will bring poetry to residents of the county by participating in events, leading workshops, and championing the community power of the written and spoken word. They will be expected to participate in or host approximately two events per month during their term at locations throughout Clallam County. A major goal of the Clallam County Poet Laureate program is to use poetry to bring a variety of voices and perspectives to culturally diverse audiences throughout the county, and to bring communities together through poetry.

For more information about this program, visit <u>nols.org/poet</u>, email PoetLaureate@nols.org, or call 360.417.8500.

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