



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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WESTPORT CT: The Westport Arts Advisory Committee has announced the search for a Poet Laureate for the Town of Westport.

Candidates are invited to submit an application and supporting materials to be reviewed by a selection committee made up of representatives from the Office of the Superintendent of Schools, the Westport Library and the Arts Advisory Committee. Guidelines and the application form are available on the Town of Westport's Arts Advisory Website, <https://www.westportarts.org> and at the Westport Library's Reference Desk.

The role of the Town of Westport Poet Laureate is to elevate poetry in the consciousness of Westport, Connecticut residents and to celebrate and continue the Town's vibrant literary history. The program will be administrated and managed by the Westport Arts Advisory Committee, serving by appointment of the First Selectman.

Objectives for the position include:

- **Promote Poetry as a form of communication, inspiration and entertainment in the life of town residents.**
- **Expand and promote the community's awareness and appreciation for poetry, spoken word, and writing in general.**
- **Advocate for poetry, literature, and the arts, and contribute to the Town of Westport's literary legacy through public readings and participation in civic events.**
- **Summon a spirit of celebration, reflection and healing.**
- **Utilize Westport's natural and human resources to promote poetry in the community.**

Eligible Candidates for Town of Westport Poet Laureate must be a poet with a wide range of experience and knowledge, a resident of the Town of Westport, above 21 years of age available and willing to collaborate with the library, school district and town cultural institutions to develop and present poetry related activities and events that address the objectives of the program. Applications are due on May 31, 2019.

The Town of Westport Poet Laureate is an honorary, non-compensated position and shall serve for a term of two years.

For more information visit: <https://www.westportarts.org>. Inquiries may be made via email with the subject line POET to: [waac@westportct.gov](mailto:waac@westportct.gov)

The Westport Arts Advisory Committee was founded in 1994 and is committed to increasing public awareness of the Town of Westport's cultural resources: its artists, artworks and institutions. The committee members are appointed by the First Selectman to serve a two-year term. For more information, visit: <http://www.westportarts.org>