



2019 - 2020 State Writer Nomination Form

Deadline: January 11, 2019

NOMINEE CONTACT INFORMATION:

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Telephone:

Email:

Website (if applicable)

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

1. Attach or enclose a one-page nomination statement in response to the selection criteria
2. A biography or resume that demonstrates why this person should be considered for the position
3. Letters of support (limited to three) are welcome, but not required
4. Do not submit manuscripts

CHECK LITERARY GENRE(S):

☐ Fiction

☐ Poetry

☐ Creative Non-Fiction

☐ Drama

NOMINATOR CONTACT INFORMATION:

If the committee needs more information, they will contact the nominator listed below.

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Telephone:

Email:

**COMPLETED NOMINATION FORM AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED
TOGETHER AS ONE NOMINATION PACKET BY December 15 at 4:00 p.m.**

Email nominations as one PDF to: andrea.noble-pelant@alaska.gov or send via mail to:
Alaska State Council on the Arts, 161 Klevin #102, Anchorage, AK 99508

About The Alaska State Writer Laureate Program

In the early 1960s, the Juneau Poetry Society created the Poet Laureate Program to honor an Alaska poet and poetic literature. Since then, the program has evolved into the Alaska State Writer Laureate program, the only program in the U.S. that honors all genres of writing.

Every two years, the Alaska State Council on the Arts solicits nominations for this honorary, unpaid position. We appreciate the commitment and passion that the selected State Writers have brought to Alaska during their respective terms. As illustrated by the names of the people who have held this position in the recent past (a complete list is on our website) it is obvious that this title, while voluntary, is one that is critical not only to the citizens of Alaska, but also to the field of writers and readers throughout our state and nationally.

During their term, each State Writer will complete a project of their choosing that will advance the literary arts in Alaska. Fairbanks playwright Anne Hanley (2002-2004) wrote a regular poetry column in the Anchorage Daily News. Jerah Chadwick, a poet from Unalaska (2004-2006) put together a terrific poem-a-day program during National Poetry Month. Poet and novelist John Straley from Sitka (2006-2008) taught writing workshops to at-risk students. Nancy Lord (2008-2010) visited numerous communities across the state conveying her passion for writing, books and libraries. Peggy Shumaker (2010-2012) developed the Alaskan Writers Directory www.alaskanwritersdirectory.com In addition, John Straley and Nancy Lord wrote and published books during their tenure.

The Duties of Alaska's State Writer Laureate include:

- Development and completion of a statewide Literary Arts project that provides a vital service in the promotion of literary arts in Alaska communities
- Participation in Literary Arts Advisory Committee teleconferences
- Quarterly activity reports and a final report due September 30, 2018
- Attendance at the Governor's Awards for the Arts and Humanities, January 2017

Other duties may include:

- Attendance at Alaska Literary Arts conferences, related public events, and receptions
- Attendance at the National State Writer conference or equivalent literary arts conference

The Alaska State Writer will receive:

- Recognition by the Alaska State Legislature
- Funding support for travel and expenses, plus access to funding for presentations, workshops, lectures and readings, based on available funds

Conditions:

- All rights to work produced during the term will be retained by the author
- A State Writer is not eligible for a Governor's Award for the Arts and Humanities during tenure
- Travel and project budget is limited to funds available each fiscal year

State Writer Laureate Criteria and Eligibility Requirements

Criteria

- Literary excellence: mastery in style, form, and genre
- Exemplary professionalism: exceptional talent in published works, depth of career
- History of advancing literary arts in Alaskan communities and service to Alaskan communities
- Public presentation or teaching experience
- Significant body of published work over time in Alaska
- Ability to travel, teach and present workshops during two-year term

Limitations

Applicants must:

- Be at least 18 years old
- Currently be a citizen of the United States and legal resident of Alaska
- Intend to remain a resident of Alaska throughout the two-year term
- Live within the borders of the state at least 18 months over the 24-month period
- Not be a full-time student enrolled in a college or university degree program

Eligibility Requirements

Writers are eligible for Fiction if they have published a minimum of one of the following:

- At least five different short stories, works of short fiction, or excerpts from novels in two or more literary journals, anthologies, or publications which regularly include fiction as a portion of their format.
- A volume of short fiction or a collection of short stories.
- A novel or novella.

Writers are eligible for Creative Nonfiction if they have published a minimum of one of the following:

- At least five different creative essays (such as personal essays or memoirs)
- A volume of creative nonfiction.

Poets are eligible for Poetry if they have published a minimum of one of the following:

- A volume of 48 or more pages of poetry
- Twenty or more different poems or pages of poetry in five or more literary journals, anthologies, or publications, which regularly include poetry as a portion of their format. Up to 16 poems may be in a single volume of poetry of fewer than 48 pages. This volume, however, may count as only one of the required five places of publication.

Playwrights are eligible for Drama if:

- Written work was selected and produced for stage or screen within the last five years.

Non-Eligible Submissions

The following writing types may not be used to establish eligibility:

Collaborative Work

Scholarly Writing

Instructional Writing

Interviews

Journalism

Book Reviews

Student Publications

Editorials

Self-Publications: work that has appeared in a publication for which you are the editor, publisher, or staff.

Vanity Press Publications: includes publications that do any of the following: requires individual writers to pay for part or all of the publication costs; asks writers to buy or sell copies of the publication; publishes the work of anyone who subscribes to the publication or joins the organization through membership fees; publishes the work of anyone who buys an advertisement in the publication; or publishes work without competitive selection.

Please do not submit manuscripts.