

North Haven Youth Poet Laureate Program

Mission - The Youth Poet Laureate will serve as an ambassador to inspire civic engagement, promote literary excellence, and instill an appreciation for the genre of poetry in our community

1. Goals of the Youth Poet Laureate

- Encourage the reading and writing of both poetry and the written word
- Raise awareness of the power of literature, poetry, the spoken word, and collaborative art form
- Celebrate and support emerging poets and spoken word artists
- Provide access to poetry and literary arts to all sectors of the community

2. Objectives

- Promote reading, writing and understanding of poetry in our community, especially among the youth
- Participate in poetry workshops
- Read original poems at public events
- Collaborate with the Adult Poet Laureate
- Represent North Haven in the Youth Poet Laureate organizations

3. Youth Poet Laureate Committee

The Youth Poet Laureate Committee members will be appointed by the North Haven Memorial Library Board. Duties of the committee include:

- Select the Youth Poet Laureate
- Oversee the Youth Poet Laureate's duties and responsibilities

4. Terms of Service -

- The term of the North Haven Youth Poet Laureate is two years
- The Youth Poet Laureate of North Haven is an honorary position and carries no stipend
- Work to be presented in a public forum is subject to review
- The Youth Poet Laureate will report to the Teen Librarian or Library Representative

5. Eligibility

- To be considered, a nominee must be a resident of North Haven and between the recommended ages of 13-18 years old and attending high school
- If selected, the Youth Poet Laureate will be subject to background check
- If under 18 years of age, parental/guardian consent must be given for the minor to apply for/serve as the Youth Poet Laureate, and for the minor to have a background check

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6. Application Process

All nominees must submit the following information by the deadline:

- A signed copy of this form
- A signed copy of *The North Haven Youth Poet Laureate Application Form and Required Materials* (see below)
- Three original poems that showcase your content, craft, and voice
 - Submissions should be no more than 5 pages
- A recommendation letter from an adult who is familiar with your writing, academic achievements, and/or community involvement
- An artist statement: Introduce yourself! Tell us who you are and what poetry means to you. Your statement should be 250 words *maximum*
 - If applicable, please include a separate paragraph listing any publications, awards, community service, or work experience
- Name and contact info of your legal guardian, unless you are 18 years old by February 1, 2023

7. For more information, please call the North Haven Memorial Library at 203-239-5803

By signing, I agree that I have read the above requirements and can commit to the required duties of the Youth Poet Laureate of the North Haven Memorial Library, if I am accepted.

Applicant's name (print): _____

Applicant's signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

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North Haven Youth Poet Laureate Application Form and Required Materials

Please submit this application, along with the following documents, to poetlaureate@northhavenlibrary.net, or you may drop off print copies in person to the library. Applications will be accepted from December 1, 2022 – January 14, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

- Three original poems that showcase your content, craft, and voice
 - Submissions should be no more than 5 pages
- A recommendation letter from an adult who is familiar with your writing, academic achievements, and/or community involvement
- An artist statement: Introduce yourself! Tell us who you are and what poetry means to you. Your statement should be 250 words *maximum*
 - If applicable, please include a separate sheet listing any publications, awards, community service, or work experience
- Name and contact info of your legal guardian, unless you are 18 years old by February 1, 2023

Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Personal Email:		
Phone Number:		Birthdate:
(If applicable) Parent/Guardian Name:		
Parent/Guardian Email:		
Parent/Guardian Phone:		

Please be sure the applicant’s name appears on every page submitted. Handwritten materials will not be accepted. Materials will not be returned to the applicant. I, _____, authorize my name to stand for nomination for the position of Poet Laureate of North Haven, Connecticut, affirm that I currently reside in North Haven and am in the recommended age group. If under 18 years of age, I have my parent/guardian’s permission to apply for and serve as North Haven’s Youth Poet Laureate if chosen, and my parent/guardian grants permission for a background check to be run on me if chosen. I also verify that the representations made in this application are true and complete and that the work samples submitted with my application are my own work.

Applicant’s signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

Applications must be received no later than 5:00 pm on 1/14/2023. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

Youth Poet Laureate Job Description/Requirements

During their term, the Youth Poet Laureate is expected to:

- Attend the Board of Selectmen’s meeting when the North Haven Youth Poet Laureate is officially named
 - Read one piece of original poetry at the meeting
- Meet/check in with Teen Librarian monthly. (Email is acceptable for check-ins)
- Attend/write and read poetry for at least one, preferably two or more per year, local community events, including, but not limited to:
 - Inauguration
 - Memorial Day Parade
 - Library Summer Reading Fest
 - Greater New Haven Italian American Heritage Festival
 - Pride Flag Raising
 - School Events
 - Tree lighting
- Under the guidance of the Teen Librarian, the following is required once per year:
 - Visit an elementary or middle school classroom
 - Work with at least one class on a poetry-related project
 - Run a poetry contest for K-12 during the summer
- Complete 10 hours per year on poetry-related projects.
 - Minimum requirements:
 - Attend at least one Connecticut Poets Laureate meeting or workshop per year.
 - Apply for Connecticut Poet Laureate OR submit at least one poem for publication to a recognized Poetry publisher.
 - Other:
 - Work with North Haven Poet Laureate for mentoring
 - Plan a library program
 - Attend Library’s Teen Advisory Board meeting
 - Read a poem on your school’s morning announcements
 - Publish original work in school newspaper
 - Have fun getting the word out about poetry (Teen Librarian approval required)

The Youth Poet Laureate will earn community service hours for time attending any poetry-related meeting or event facilitated by the library.

Progress throughout will be documented with the Teen Librarian. At the end of each year, the Teen Librarian will confirm that requirements are being met.

Any requests from outside groups for the Youth Poet Laureate to attend events must go through the Teen Librarian.

By signing, I agree that I have read the above requirements and can commit to the required duties of the Youth Poet Laureate of the North Haven Memorial Library, if I am accepted.

Applicant’s name (print): _____

Applicant’s signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ Date: _____