



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
Economic Development Division
Urbana Arts and Culture Program

Urbana's Youth Poet Laureate Program 2021 Application Guidelines

**All materials must be submitted online or received by 5:00 pm on Sunday, October 18th, 2020.
Late applications will not be accepted.**

The City of Urbana's Youth Poet Laureate Program celebrates poetry by recognizing an Urbana youth poet who honors and serves our diverse community, and elevates the importance of the creative writing art form through sharing their work with Urbana residents. The Youth Poet Laureate acts as an advocate for poetry, language, and the arts. They create a unique artistic legacy through outreach activities, special programs, and presentations of individual works.

The Youth Poet Laureate is chosen by a selection jury, through a thorough review of the competitive applications received and a unanimous decision-making process.

The Youth Poet Laureate serves a one-year term, with support from Mayor Diane Wolfe Marlin, the Urbana Arts and Culture Program, and the City of Urbana.

Award

The Youth Poet Laureate receives a \$1,000 award and works with the Urbana Arts and Culture Program to host poetry projects or events, as well as participates in the Urbana's Poet Laureate annual poetry showcase, in collaboration with the Urbana Arts and Culture Program.

Eligibility

Applicants must:

- Be between the ages of 13 and 18 years of age at the time of application
- Have resided in the City of Urbana for a minimum of one year prior to applying
- Display a strong commitment to the community
- Be active as an aspiring poet! Applicant's resume and work samples could include any of the following:
 - Works performed and/or presented in a classroom setting for a grade
 - Experience performing and/or presenting poetry in a public setting
 - Participation in a poetry group or organization
 - Be able and enthusiastic to fulfill duties

Application

Applications must include the following:

- Application form;
- A résumé;
- One-page work sample index;
- Four examples of past poetry work (may include video recordings and audio files);
- A proposal, no longer than 1000 words max, that details how the Youth Poet Laureate plans to bring poetry into civic life in the City of Urbana, details any ideas for programs and engagement that would be pursued.

FORMATTING NOTES: All entries must be submitted in a conventional font (such as Times New Roman) at 12-point size. Do not place names or addresses on works of poetry. Photocopied poems from publications are acceptable, however, name and/or address cannot be included.

Application Submission

For the 2021 cycle of the Urbana Youth Poet Laureate Program, applications will be accepted electronically. If an applicant is unable to submit their application electronically, that applicant should reach out immediately to the Arts and Culture Coordinator (artsgrant@urbanaininois.us) to make arrangements.

- **Google Form (preferred)**

Submit your application materials digitally via this Google Form:

<https://forms.gle/5pAwQyiTsNyeWcwD8> Submissions must be made by **5:00 PM CST on Sunday, October 18th, 2020.**

- **E-mail Option**

E-mail your application materials to ArtsGrant@urbanaininois.us by **5:00 PM CST on Sunday, October 18th, 2020.** The subject line should read "Youth Poet Laureate Application – Your Name"