



## Oklahoma State Poet Laureate 2021-2022 Nomination Guidelines

On behalf of the Office of the Governor, the Oklahoma Arts Council manages nominations for the honorary position of Oklahoma State Poet Laureate. A tradition that originated hundreds of years ago, poets laureate have historically been conferred by governments to make public appearances at poetry readings, lectures, literary, and other events to promote a greater appreciation of poetry. In addition to the United States Poet Laureate, appointed by the Librarian of Congress, most U.S. states have established a poet laureate program.

Nominations for Oklahoma State Poet Laureate are accepted by the Oklahoma Arts Council during even-numbered years. Submissions are accepted from poetry societies, libraries, local arts and humanities councils, colleges and universities, and writers' groups. Organizations may submit only one nomination.

The Oklahoma Arts Council coordinates the work of the Oklahoma State Poet Laureate Nomination Review Committee, which submits recommendations to the Governor for appointment consideration. Per statute, selection of the Oklahoma State Poet Laureate is made by the Governor. The Oklahoma State Poet Laureate serves a two-year term.

### Eligibility

The nominee must be a distinguished poet who is a resident of Oklahoma throughout his/her term and has a published body of work that includes at least one original book (not self-published). The nominee should be committed to outreach and the promotion of poetry statewide. The nominee must also indicate agreement to be nominated.

### Compensation

Subject to availability of funding, direct compensation in the form of honoraria may be provided to the Oklahoma State Poet Laureate by the Oklahoma Arts Council. Additional opportunities for compensation may be available through programs featuring the Oklahoma State Poet Laureate that are administered by organizations eligible for Oklahoma Arts Council grant funding. Organizations and programs must meet Oklahoma Arts Council grant eligibility criteria.

### Nomination Review Committee

The Nomination Review Committee consists of individuals with expertise in literary art forms, including poets, university professors, former state poets laureate, and others. The final determination and appointment is made by the Governor.

### Deadline for Nominations

Nominations must be postmarked no later than August 31, 2020.

### Oklahoma Poets Laureate

1923 Violet McDougal  
1931 Paul Kroeger  
1940 Jenny Harris Oliver  
1941 Della I. Young  
1942 Anne R. Semple  
1945 Bess Truitt  
1963 Delbert Davis  
1966 Rudolph N. Hill

1970 Leslie A. McRill  
1970 Rudolph N. Hill (Emeritus)  
1977 Maggie Culver Fry  
1995 Carol Hamilton  
1996 Betty Shipley  
1997 Joe Kreger  
2001 Carl Sennhenn  
2003 Francine Ringold

2007 N. Scott Momaday  
2009 Jim Barnes  
2011 Eddie Wilcoxon  
2013 Nathan Brown  
2015 Benjamin Myers  
2017 Jeanetta Calhoun Mish



## Oklahoma State Poet Laureate 2021-2022 Nomination Form

To nominate an individual for the honorary position of 2021-2022 Oklahoma State Poet Laureate, please review the program guidelines, provide the following information, and return all required materials postmarked no later than August 31, 2020.

Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Nomination submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please have the nominee sign below to indicate his/her agreement to be nominated:

Signature of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

The Oklahoma State Poet Laureate program is facilitated by the Oklahoma Arts Council on behalf of the Office of the Governor. Although recommendations for the appointment are submitted to the Governor by the Oklahoma State Poet Laureate Nomination Review Committee, per statute the appointment authority rests solely with the Governor.

### **Required Documents**

- Completed nomination form
- One-page narrative that explains why the nominee should be selected as Oklahoma State Poet Laureate. Be mindful that the role of the Oklahoma State Poet Laureate is to engage the public.
- A resume that lists education, publications, awards, and recent activities such as poetry readings and workshops.
- Samples of nominee's work: 8 to 12 poems photocopied on 8 ½" x 11" paper. Include a copy of the title page of the publication in which they appeared.

### **Optional Attachments**

- Copies of newspaper articles and/or published reviews of nominee's work (on 8 ½" x 11" paper)
- Letters of recommendation

*Note: Because we must photocopy nomination packets for the Nomination Review Committee, please do not include copies of the nominee's books, and please do not staple nomination materials or enclose them in a notebook, folder, or sleeve.*

Mail nomination form and materials to:

Oklahoma State Poet Laureate Nomination Review Committee  
c/o Joel Gavin  
Oklahoma Arts Council  
PO Box 52001-2001  
Oklahoma City, OK 73152-2001

**Nominations must be postmarked by August 31, 2020.**

Questions about the Oklahoma State Poet Laureate program may be directed Joel Gavin, Director of Marketing and Communications, at (405) 521-2037 or [joel.gavin@arts.ok.gov](mailto:joel.gavin@arts.ok.gov).