



# Application for Candidacy

## I. About the Position

The Galena Poet Laureate will celebrate the heritage, uniqueness, diversity, and achievements of the City of Galena through the appreciation and art of poetry. All full-time residents of the City of Galena who are 25 years of age and older are welcome to apply.

**Honorarium:** \$500 per year of term (\$1,000 total provided by the Galena Public Library)

**The Poet Laureate will actively engage with the community to do the following:**

- Serve a two year term and remain a full-time resident of Galena for that term.
- Produce at least three original works during term.
- Organize one project which will have a lasting effect on the City of Galena.
- Attend at least one City Council meeting each year of term to perform a poem.
- Collaborate with the Galena Public Library, the Galena Center for the Arts, and the Galena School District on at least one program per organization during term in order to engage with demographics throughout the community. Could include readings, workshops, installations, projects, consulting, etc.
- Enhance the experience of local events with poetry, such as community festivals, parades, ribbon cuttings, grand openings, and public cultural events.

**Requirements:**

- Applicant must be a full-time resident of Galena who plans to remain so for the duration of the two year term.
- Applicant must be 25 years of age or older.
- This application must be completed.
- A cover letter which demonstrates the desire to actively engage with and build community through the art of poetry across all demographics must be attached to this application.

- A resume demonstrating applicant's most recent work and volunteer experience must be attached to this application.
- Two poems demonstrating a mastery of form and commitment to the craft must be attached to this application.
- Submit application to the Galena Public Library, 601 S. Bench St., Galena, IL 61036, c/o Larissa Distler.

**Additional non-required criteria that will also be considered:**

- Published work either in book form, print periodical, established online journal, or other platform.
- Past recognition in the form of critical acclaim, awards, etc . . . for the applicant's poetry, writing, and/or community engagement efforts.
- Recordings of poetry readings and/or other applicable performance/public speaking engagements.

**Selection Process and Timeline:**

- A selection committee has been assembled to select Galena's Poet Laureate. This committee has representatives from the Galena Public Library, the Galena City Council, the Galena Center for the Arts, and the Galena School District.
- Applications will be accepted between February 1 - 28, 2024.
- Candidates who meet the basic qualifications will be considered first on the basis of their written application.
- Finalists will be invited for a personal interview and poetry reading between March 22 and April 4, 2024.
- The selection committee will make a decision on April 11, 2024.
- The Poet Laureate will be announced at an Appointment Ceremony, date and time TBD.
- 2024-2026 term will begin on May 1, 2024.

Applications received after February 28, 2024 will not be considered.

Applicants retain the rights to their original materials submitted as a part of this application.

The selected Poet Laureate will retain the rights to original materials produced in their official capacity.

Contact Larissa Distler at the Galena Public Library with any questions, [distlerl@galenalibrary.org](mailto:distlerl@galenalibrary.org).

## **II. Required Materials**

For this application to be considered complete the following must be attached:

- Cover Letter
- Resume
- Two poems, not exceeding 200 lines each

### III. Personal Information

First and Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Pronouns \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Social Media/Website (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Residential Address \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a full-time resident of Galena who plans to remain a full-time resident for the next two years? (circle one)    Yes    No

Are you 25 years of age or older? (circle one)    Yes    No

What, if any, schedule limitations would affect your ability, on certain days or times, to participate in public events, presentations, or programs? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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### IV. Additional Non-Required Criteria

Have you published poetry or writing in any public format such as a book, magazine, online platform, etc? \_\_\_\_\_

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Have you received past recognition, critical acclaim, awards, etc for your poetry, writing, and/or community engagement efforts? \_\_\_\_\_

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Do you have experience with performance and/or public speaking? If so, please give examples. .

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Link to video of poetry reading or other applicable performance/public speaking. If you have a video in a different format, please let us know. \_\_\_\_\_

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By signing below, I certify that my application for the position of Galena Poet Laureate is voluntary, the writing samples I have submitted are my own work, that I understand the requirements and expectations of the Poet Laureate position, and that all responses are expressed truthfully and accurately to the best of my ability.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Submit completed application** to the Galena Public Library, 601 S. Bench St., Galena, IL 61036, c/o Larissa Distler