

**CANTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
POLICY PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A POET LAUREATE**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Canton Board of Selectmen, in meeting duly assembled,  
adopted the following policy this 27th day of August 2014.

**Policy for a Poet Laureate**

It shall be the policy of the Board of Selectman to appoint a Poet Laureate to promote appreciation of the spoken word, writing and the arts in Canton for the enjoyment of residents, education of children, and the economic value of promoting the Town as an arts destination for visitors.

**Appointment and Term**

The Board of Selectmen may appoint a Poet Laureate for a term of four (4) years. The Poet Laureate shall report to the Director of the Canton Public Library. The Selectmen may fill any vacancy that occurs for the unexpired term vacated. The Poet Laureate shall serve without compensation.

**Qualifications**

The Poet Laureate shall be a resident of Canton, possess an enthusiasm for the community, have a strong public service orientation, demonstrate a knowledge and passion for poetry.

**Duties and Responsibilities**

The Poet Laureate may:

1. Expand and promote the community's awareness and appreciation for poetry, spoken word, and writing in general.
2. Serve as a liaison with the Canton Public Library, the Gallery on the Green and others to promote poetry.
3. Be available to read at public occasions.
4. Promote writing and writers in the community.
5. Work with schools to promote poetry and creative learning through language.
6. Sponsor readings and other events that increase awareness of poetry.
7. Instill pride in and appreciation for the community through poetry.