



SUNLAND-TUJUNGA POET LAUREATE APPLICATION

Due Date: February 2, 2020

REQUIREMENTS

- 1) All applicants must be at least 18 years old and active members of the local poetry community. The candidates should be residents of the Foothills, from Lake View Terrace to La Canada Flintridge, inclusive of Sunland, Tujunga, Shadow Hills, La Crescenta, and Montrose. They must show a history of participation in the local poetry community and will be expected to actively engage with the activities of Village Poets of Sunland-Tujunga.
- 2) All applicants must be able to demonstrate an engagement in poetry activities through publication and participation in poetry readings, especially as a featured poet.
- 3) The applicants must agree to serve as Poet Laureate for a term of two years, and during this period organize and participate in volunteer activities, poetry readings, publications, and other projects contributing to the promotion of poetry and the arts in the community, especially the area of Sunland-Tujunga.
- 4) The Poet-Laureate of Sunland Tujunga must commit himself/herself to attending the Passing of the Laurels Ceremony on April 26, 2020, as well as a similar ceremony at the end of the term in office, held in April 2022.
- 5) The Poet-Laureate must demonstrate engagement with the local poetry world by attending at least six of the eleven monthly readings of the Village Poets in Tujunga, CA, as well as other readings, such as Wide Open Readings at the ST Library. See: Villagepoets.blogspot.com.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name _____ Address _____
Phone _____ Email _____
Website _____

ATTACHMENTS

Please provide the following:

1. List of publications and featured readings.
2. A sample of poems (approx. five poems, with two about Sunland-Tujunga).
3. History of community service.
4. One paragraph discussing a favorite poet.
5. One paragraph describing how you as Poet Laureate would promote poetry.

Submit this form (the first page only) with a sample of poems, other items 1-5 from the above list and a check for \$15.00 payable to Little Landers Historical Society (Memo Line: Village Poets of Sunland-Tujunga) and send to:
Poet Laureate Selection Committee c/o Maja Trochimczyk
P.O. Box 4288 Sunland, CA 91041-4288.

POET LAUREATE DUTIES

Becoming Poet Laureate of Sunland-Tujunga is not only a great honor, it is a commitment to the community. The Poet Laureate is expected to use his or her talents and means to make the community more aware of poetry.

While there are no specified duties for the Poet Laureate, the Poet Laureate of Sunland-Tujunga is expected to hold a reasonable public presence in the community.

Each Poet Laureate provides community service according to his or her special skills. In the past, Sunland-Tujunga Laureates have read poetry at community events, festivals, fairs, and public schools; they have written commemorative poems for exhibitions, meetings, and special events. They have taught poetry workshops, organized poetry readings and community festivals, as well as have given speeches and a variety of readings in California and beyond.

Each Laureate has produced at least one book during his/her term in office. The most recent books were published by Moonrise Press of Sunland, and a Village Poets Anthology is planned for 2020, to commemorate the 10th anniversary of Village Poets Monthly Readings.

DEADLINES AND THE TIMELINE

January 1 to February 2, 2020 – Application Period

February 2, 2020 – Application Deadline (postmark)

February 20, 2020 – Notification of Finalists by mail, or email (postmark)

First Week of March, 2020 – Interviews and Readings of Finalists

In-person Interviews and Readings of Finalists before the Committee, (attendance is required for all finalists)

March 20, 2020 – Notification of the Selected Poet Laureate

Notification of the Poet Laureate for 2020–2022 by phone, email or mail (postmark)

April 26, 2020 – Induction and the Commencement of Poet Laureate Term

Passing of the Laurels Ceremony. The event includes music and poetry performances and the presence of government representatives, along with the community.

POETRY AND LITERATURE COMMITTEE

The Committee is organized by past Poets Laureate and includes representatives of Village Poets, Little Landers Historical Society, and the McGroarty Arts Center: Joe DeCenzo (Chair), Marlene Hitt, Dorothy Skiles, Maja Trochimczyk, Elsa Frausto, Pamela Shea, and two others, selected by community organizations.

If you have questions regarding the Poet Laureate program, please email maja@moonrisepress.com. Please check our website www.villagepoets.com or our blog villagepoets.blogspot.com for further information.

POETS LAUREATE OF SUNLAND TUJUNGA

[Marlene Hitt, 1999-2001](#)

[Joe DeCenzo, 2004-2006](#)

[Damien Stednitz, 2008-2010](#)

[Dorothy Skiles, 2012-2014](#)

[Katerina Canyon, 2001-2004](#)

[Ursula T. Gibson, 2006-2008](#)

[Maja Trochimczyk, 2010-2012](#)

[Elsa S. Frausto, 2014-2017](#)

[Pamela Shea, 2017-2020](#)