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APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR 2020-2022 WASHINGTON STATE POET LAUREATE

POSITION ACTS AS PRIMARY SPOKESPERSON, SUPPORTER, AND PROMOTER OF POETRY IN THE STATE; APPLICATIONS DUE JULY 26

STATEWIDE – Applications are now being accepted for Washington State’s next poet laureate. The poet laureate serves to build awareness and appreciation of poetry – including Washington’s legacy of poetry – through public readings, workshops, and presentations in communities throughout the state. The new laureate will serve from February 1, 2018, to January 31, 2020.

Washington joined several other states in appointing an official state Poet Laureate in 2007. The position is sponsored by The Washington State Arts Commission (ArtsWA) and Humanities Washington, with the support of Gov. Jay Inslee.

Current Laureate Claudia Castro Luna has held hundreds of poetry workshops and readings across Washington State since February 2018. Castro Luna, a Washington State Book Award-nominated poet and creator of [Washington Poetic Routes](#) digital project, is in the second year of her two-year term. A list of his upcoming events is available via [Humanities Washington’s website](#) and the [state poet laureate’s blog](#).

Selection of the Washington State poet laureate is governed by state regulation and coordinated by ArtsWA and Humanities Washington. The state poet laureate is appointed by the Governor to serve a two year term. To be considered, applicants must meet all eligibility requirements and [submit an application online](#). **Applications must be submitted electronically by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, July 26.**

The poet laureate will receive \$10,000 per year for professional services, up to \$1,500 per year for travel and services, and up to \$2,000 per year additional for related program costs.

ABOUT HUMANITIES WASHINGTON

Humanities Washington sparks conversation and critical thinking using story as a catalyst, nurturing thoughtful and engaged communities across our state. For more about Humanities Washington, visit humanities.org.

ABOUT ARTSWA

ArtsWA, the Washington State Arts Commission, was established by the legislature in 1961. Its mission is to collaborate with artists and arts organizations statewide to conserve, promote, and develop artistic resources. For more information about ArtsWA, visit arts.wa.gov.

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