

NEWS RELEASE

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Calling all poets! Apply to be Nanaimo's next Youth Poet Laureate

Deadline for applications is Monday, October 15, 2018 (4:00 pm)

We're calling all youth poets to apply to be Nanaimo's next Youth Poet Laureate.

In 2017, the City selected Kailey DeFehr as Nanaimo's first Youth Poet Laureate for a two-year term. We are now seeking applications for the next Youth Poet Laureate (ages 13-21 years) (term to begin in January 2019).

"Drawing on the amazing success of the City's Poet Laureate Program, we have been extremely pleased with Kailey DeFehr's time as Nanaimo's Youth Poet Laureate. There are so many skilled poets in Nanaimo, and finding young poets who are dedicated to encouraging and inspiring those in our community is very important", said Chris Barfoot, Culture & Heritage Coordinator.

The purpose of a Youth Poet Laureate is to serve as a "young people's poet" and to raise awareness of poetry, the literary arts and the positive impact literature and poetry can have on community life.

"I'm excited that Nanaimo is continuing with the Youth Poet Laureate Program. We are one of a few cities within Canada to have a youth poet laureate" said Councillor Jerry Hong, member of the Nanaimo Youth Advisory Council. "This program has the ability to empower youth to express their artistic talents through poetry".

All applications for the Youth Poet Laureate position must be received by Monday, October 15, 2018 (4:00 pm). Terms of reference for this position are attached for information.

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