**2024 Stamford Poet Laureate Application Form**

### About the competition

The competition, held annually since 2012, is to find a local poet to hold the honorary title of Poet Laureate for one year. Throughout the year the Poet Laureate will work with Stamford Arts Centre, Stamford Town Council and within the community to support the thriving poetry scene and develop opportunities to make poetry part of the life of the town.

**Stamford Youth Laureate**

This post was created in 2022 and runs alongside that of the Stamford Poet Laureate. We are looking for applicants between ages of 16 and 25, please indicate on entry form which role you are applying for.

### How to enter

Competition opens on **March 1st**. Write your poem (on any theme you like) and send it to the address below, along with this entry form, by the closing date **Friday, 12th April 2024 at midday** with a short plan (no more than a side of A4) of what you would like to do with your year as Poet Laureate.

**If shortlisted, you will be invited to perform your poem at the Stamford Poet Laureate Final on Wednesday 24th April 2024 at 7.30pm at Stamford Arts Centre.**

A panel of judges will decide on a winner, including Stamford Deputy Mayor and the current Stamford Poet Laureates.

**Rules**

* The competition is open to anyone 16 years or over.
* Your work must be original.
* Your poem can be of any length but must not take any longer than 4 minutes to perform.
* You must agree to your poem (and if you win, future Poet Laureate work) being published and displayed by Stamford Arts Centre and other local locations and media.
* The decision of the judges is final.

**Duties**

* To be available to attend local events and write poems for specific Town activities. The level of commitment is not too demanding, and you will be well supported!
* To work closely with Stamford Arts Centre to promote and raise the profile of poetry within the community and to be the face of poetry in Stamford.

Please complete the form below along with your poem and email to [karen.burrows@southkesteven.gov.uk](mailto:k.burrows@southkesteven.gov.uk)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| Post applied for- Poet Laureate or Youth Poet Laureate? |  |
| Title of Poem |  |
| Address |  |
| Postcode |  |
| Telephone number |  |
| Email address |  |

**Dates to Remember!**

**Closing date: Friday, 12th April 2024 12 noon**

**Stamford Poet Laureate Final: Wednesday 24th April at 7.30pm**

**Entries and any enquiries to:**

**Karen Burrows, Stamford Arts Centre, PE9 2HL;** [**karen.burrows@southkesteven.gov.uk**](mailto:karen.burrows@southkesteven.gov.uk)