


Loudoun Youth Poet Laureate Program

The LYPL partners with the NYPL, one of the nation's leading programs celebrating exceptional youth poets who use their voices to inspire  change

How it works

The NYPL celebrates our nation's top youth poets who are committed to artistic excellence, civic engagement, and social impact. Teen writers (ages 13-19) submit a portfolio of their original poetry and a CV that showcases their artistic excellence and community impact. The Loudoun Youth Poet Laureate is a local Youth Poet Laureate position that participates in several local convenings, workshops and performances each year.

Currently, the National Youth Poet Laureate Program serves programs in more than 70 cities, states, and counties, and has been featured in every major news outlet in the country including CNN, PBS, NPR, BBC, NY Times, LA Times, Washington Post, and The Guardian. Youth Poets Laureate have graced the stages of City Halls, the Library of Congress, the White House & the U.S. Capital.

Rules & Eligibility

1

Loudoun's submissions for the Youth Poet Laureate opens in September 2024 to young writers ages 13-19 (at the time of submission). We encourage submissions from young writers and poets. All are eligible.

Please visit our website to submit your LYPL application.

<https://loudouncommunitypress.org/loudoun-ypl>

2

In order to participate, all entries must be submitted online at:

<https://loudouncommunitypress.org/loudoun-ypl>

3

SUBMISSION MATERIALS - Our judging rubric identifies teen writers who have exhibited artistic excellence and a commitment to civic engagement, youth leadership and social impact.

Submissions must include:

- Contact information
- Basic demographic information
- 3 poems in one document uploaded as either PDF or Word doc
- CV/resume information

In order to collect the CV/resume information, we have made it easier by creating text fields for contestants to “celebrate themselves” and enter information regarding school/extracurricular participation, community and civic engagement, awards & accolades, and more. We no longer require contestants to upload a CV/resume document.

There are also additional survey questions that will not affect the scores, but help us develop a better picture of our field, and the young people that we serve.

4

ALL entries are adjudicated by a diverse panel of judges – most of whom are writers, poets and community leaders. Our judging rubric considers both the strength of the poetry portfolio and the CV/resume items noted in the application. Loudoun YPL finalists will be announced in late November. The Loudoun Youth Poet Laureate commencement ceremony will be held in April.

Accessibility

The National Youth Poet Laureate Program and Urban Word are committed to the inclusivity of all programming, submissions, and performances. Accessibility is considered at all levels, from the development of program materials to the planning of competitions.

The National Youth Poet Laureate Program must not exclude, or limit participation based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, or disability in compliance with federal law and regulations, in terms of both facilities and programs.

About the Program

Founded in 2008, the National Youth Poet Laureate Program is an initiative of Urban Word. In 2024, Loudoun Community Press launched the Loudoun Youth Poet Laureate Program, a new chapter of the National Youth Poet Laureate Program. Loudoun Community Press was founded in 2020 as a non-profit educational and arts organization that provides publishing opportunities for adolescents and teens residing in Loudoun County.

This activity is not sponsored or endorsed by Loudoun County Public Schools

For more information visit

youthlaureate.org

Loudouncommunitypress.org