

# Poetry and Civic Life

## Poet Resource Guide

### Tips

**Sign up for agency e-news** to get immediate notice of opportunities  
**Mark your calendar** with program application deadlines  
**Read guidelines** and send/call-in questions in advance  
**Attend application information** sessions or contact program staff  
**Prepare work samples** early and triple check all uploaded items before submitting  
**Submit completed application** at least 30-minutes+ in advance of deadline time

## Agency

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### 4Culture

Seattle, WA  
4culture.org  
(206) 296-7580

### Artist Trust

Seattle, WA  
artisttrust.org  
(206) 467-8734

### ArtsWA / Washington State

#### Arts Commission

arts.wa.gov  
(360) 753-3860

### Ellensburg Arts Commission

Ellensburg, WA  
ci.ellensburg.wa.us/400/Ellensburg-Arts  
(509) 962-7252

### Olympia Poetry Network

Olympia, WA  
olympiapoetrynetwork.org  
olypoetrynet@gmail.com

### Seattle Arts & Lectures

Seattle, WA  
lectures.org  
(206) 621-2230

### Seattle Office of Arts & Culture

Seattle, WA  
seattle.gov/arts  
(206) 684-7171

## Opportunities

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Arc Artist Fellowship  
Heritage Projects  
Open4Culture  
Recovery fund  
Art Projects

Arts Innovator Award  
Fellowship Awards  
GAP Awards

State Poet Laureate  
Poetry Out Loud (Youth)  
Arts in Education  
Governor's Arts & Heritage Awards

Poet Laureate  
Project Grants

Workshops  
Monthly Readings + Open Mic  
Monthly featured poems (members only)

Youth Poet Laureate  
(opens late March 2022)

Civic Poet (opens May 2022)  
CityArtist (Literary: every odd year)  
Artists Up Scholarships for Mentoring  
smART ventures  
Youth Arts / Arts in Parks

**Residencies/Other Sources:** Artsmith • Bloedel Reserve • Centrum • City of Literature • Cascadia Residencies • Hedgebrook • Jack Straw Cultural Center / Writer's Program • Mineral School • Hugo House • Till/Smoke Farm • Town Hall Seattle • Helen R. Whiteley Center • Willapa Bay Artist-in-Residence

**More resources on the other side >>>**

# Civic Engagement or Social Practice?

## Definition and Elements

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An aspect of the Civic Poet & Poet Laureate role as ambassador is through 'civic engagement or social practice.' This differs from a solo studio practice. **What does this look like and how does it take shape and unfold?**

- **Approach, priorities, and networks** drive the project and are uniquely different for each poet or partner(s).
- **Projects can include a mix of disciplines**, take place in traditional or non-traditional venues, generate a product (such as a publication or artwork), a convening or conversation, a report, a public event, or other.
- **Opportunities can inform, promote, enhance, or advance** an issue or agenda from a range of topics or areas like—but not limited to—education, environment, equity, food access, health, political, social, or other.
- **Ventures can be short or long-term, simple, or complex** and can be a one-time or extended opportunity with a full range of budget sizes.
- **Potential partners** can include—but are not limited to—community/social/health service non-profits, corporations and small businesses, K-12 or higher educational institutions, neighborhood associations, government agencies (city, county or state), or other.
- **The work involves managing people, project, and paperwork.** Recommended skill set includes—but not limited to—collaboration, communication, organization, negotiation, facilitation, project and partnership development, shared leadership, presentation, and evaluation.
- **Funding agency may provide a range of support to leading poet:** promotions, web site, social media, travel stipend, intern assistance, and more. Commission funds can be spent on artist fees, supplies/materials, or other expenses. Poet determines which ventures will be 'donated time' and which are paid.

## Funding

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- **State Arts and Humanities Councils**, such as ArtsWA and Humanities WA
- **City and County** arts funding agencies, such as Seattle Office of Arts & Culture and 4Culture
- **Foundations**, such as Ford, Knight, Kresge, Lambert, and Robert Rauschenberg
- **American Academy of Poets** / Fellowship
- **National Endowment for the Arts** / Our Town Funding Program

## Information & Resources: Arts & Culture

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- Americans for the Arts / Annual Conference
- Animating Democracy
- ArtPlace / Place-making
- Creative Time / Annual Summit
- Grantmakers in the Arts Conference

## Information & Resources: College, University & Community Programs

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- Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity
- California College of the Arts / Social Practice and Public Forms (Public Art)
- Carnegie Mellon University / Center for the Arts in Society
- Otis College of Art & Design: Public Practice Program
- Portland State University: Interdisciplinary MFA in Art & Social Practice
- The Moore College of Art & Design: MFA in Community Practice