

Marisa Moks-Unger
526 Lincoln Avenue
Erie, Pennsylvania 16505
June 30, 2016

Poet Laureate Search Committee
Erie County Council Office
Erie County Courthouse
140 West Sixth St., Room 114
Erie, Pennsylvania 16501

Dear Poet Laureate Search Committee Members,

Enclosed please find a completed application packet that expresses my desire to be the next Poet Laureate. The packet includes a resume of my work in the field of poetry, sample poetry, proposed project, and budget.

Poetry is a very powerful art form. We have university readings throughout the city and an active poetry scene in downtown Erie. It is exciting to see how we can do even more as a county to promote the appreciation and experience of poetry. An invigorating way to potentially expand poetry's reach into the community includes:

- Reflective visual art-inspired (Ekphrastic) poetry workshops, presented in both live and virtual formats, to explore the power of visual art to stimulate the creation of poems within the young adult through senior citizen sectors of the community.
- A book of poetry created from the workshops and virtual writing sessions.
- Three or more readings of original work from the book's contributors.

Finally, social media, such as the already active ECPL Facebook page, will be used regularly and frequently. In doing so, I will personally encourage, inspire, and entice the great expanse of regional poets and the general public to participate in this socially invigorating symbiosis of public and private artwork and the rendering of the poetry that is derived from these ekphrastic sessions. It is my intention to bridge visual and written expressions for the greatest impact upon poets, including school students, adults, and senior citizens. After all, poetry is for everyone.

I look forward to hearing your response to this application.

Sincerely,


Marisa Moks-Unger

Marisa Moks-Unger
Poet

Education

Brandman University, Irvine, California, EDRU9635, Integrating Art in Learning, 2015
Gannon University, Erie, Pennsylvania, English, MA, 2006, Secondary English, Cert Prep, 2008
University of Central Florida, Orlando Florida, English, BA, Creative Writing, 1985

Experience

Writer/Editor, We Write It Right, Provides web content and resume services, 2015-Present
Creative Writing Workshop Leader, Various poetry and prose topics, 2012- Present
Social Activist, Coordinates and organized large-scale poetry events, 2011-Present
Secondary English Instructor, Erie School District, 8th – 12th grades, 2006-2015

Selected Publications of Poetry

Chapbooks

Mud and Stars, Night Ballet Press, Cleveland, Ohio, 2015
Our Favorites, Poets Hall Press PHP#2 November, 2012 “Until”, “During Polka Hour”

Anthology

“Communion” *LipSmack 5* Nightballet Press, 2016
“On Devil’s Bridge” and “Blood and Bones” in *Hessler Street Fair. 2015*, 2016
“Buoyancy” and “Final Chapter” in *The Guest House*, 2013
“Date Night at Bertrand’s Bistro on North Park Row” in *Dwelling in Possibility*, 2010

Journals

“Blood and Bones” *Guide to Kulcher Literary Magazine*, Spring, 2015
“Union Dues” *Pressure Press Presents*, Winter, 2014
“Veneration” *Midwestern Gothic Literary Journal*, Fall, 2014
“At the Station for the Spiritually Declining” and “Unglued” in *Totem*, Gannon Press, 2006

Webzines/Film

Crisis Chronicles Press Cyber Lit Magazine featured poem: “Date Night at Bertrand’s Bistro on North Park Row” in *Dwelling in Possibility: Voices of Erie County*, 2010
Poet Interview/Reading of Various Poems, Tom Weber Films, *The Trouble with Poets*, 2015

Recent Public Readings

Erie, PACA Virtuoso Tour, Let the Art and Poetry Flow, Poets Hall, Woman of Word
Detroit, Soul Collective of Collaborative Arts
Cleveland, Deep Cleveland Poetry Series, Mahall’s First Monday Reading, Guide to Kulture
New York City, Newyoricana Poetry Café, STARK Open Mic, The National Art Gallery

Poetry Organizations

Academy of American Poets, Poets House, the International Women Writers’ Guild