



# 2024 Application Process



This program is championed by Urban Word NYC

## **Eligibility:**

To be eligible, all Nebraska Youth Poet Laureate (YPL) applicants must be between the ages of 13-19 and reside in the state of Nebraska.

## **YPL Benefits:**

The YPL will receive \$1,000, up to \$2,000 towards a civic-engagement project of their design, year-long guidance from a creative and civic mentor, and at least 6 public readings in Nebraska. They will also have the opportunity to publish a chapbook of their poetry under the Nebraska Writers Collective press.

Also, being Nebraska's YPL makes them eligible to compete in the regional and national Youth Poet Laureate competitions.

## **Submission Requirements:**

All you need is a portfolio of 5 poems, a resumé, a headshot, and a completed 500-word essay answering:

If appointed the 2024-25 Nebraska Youth Poet Laureate, tell us what civic-engagement project you would design with a \$2,000 budget. Be sure to include your motivation or inspiration behind this plan, the community you would be serving, and your connection to that community.

## **File Format:**

When applying, **save and upload all files as:**

**YOUR LAST NAME\_POEMS** (ex: POINDEXTER\_POEMS)

**YOUR LAST NAME\_RESUME** (ex: POINDEXTER\_RESUME)

**YOUR LAST NAME\_ESSAY** (ex: POINDEXTER\_ESSAY)



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## Application Terminology:

By *laureate*, we mean an honored and creative leader. An admired and sought-after representative of the Nebraska poetry community.

By *civic engagement*, we mean any consistent commitment to strengthening and promoting the quality of life in the Youth Poet Laureate applicant's community or school. They might frequently write letters to the editor about injustices in their town, testify against harmful legislative bills, or organize neighborhood cleanup days. We hope their civic-engagement project benefits and advances members of their community, like 2020 Nebraska YPL Mimi Yu's mobile mural project which is meant to represent the local business owners of color on 27th St of Lincoln, NE and the goods and services they've contributed to that city through each generation.

By *resumé*, we mean a single page document that highlights your qualifications for this position. Think of this as a brag sheet, a place to show our judges all the ways you have succeeded in education, leadership, skills, interests, experiences, and awards/achievements.

## Where to Submit:

Follow the instructions and submit your application at [https://bit.ly/Nebraska\\_YPL\\_2024](https://bit.ly/Nebraska_YPL_2024).

## Deadlines and Important Dates:

- Thursday, February 1, 2024: Nebraska YPL Contest OPENS!
- Thursday, February 29, 2024: Nebraska YPL Application Process CLOSES! (@ 11:59pm C/T)



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**Questions or barriers to submission?**

Please send them our way!

Feel free to email us at [info@newwriters.org](mailto:info@newwriters.org) with any questions or concerns.

## 2024 Presenting Partner



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