

PIEDMONT



LAUREATE

2016 MYSTERY FICTION

## 2016 PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND APPLICATION GUIDELINES

The City of Raleigh Arts Commission, Durham Arts Council, Orange County Arts Commission, and United Arts Council of Raleigh & Wake County announce the opening of the application process for the position of Piedmont Laureate for 2016. Applications for the position are due **September 30th, 2015 by 4:00 p.m.**

### MISSION

The Piedmont Laureate program, co-sponsored by the City of Raleigh Arts Commission, Durham Arts Council, Orange County Arts Commission, and United Arts Council of Raleigh & Wake County, has as its primary goal *“to promote awareness and heighten appreciation for excellence in the literary arts in the Piedmont region.”* The program is dedicated to building a literary bridge for residents to come together and celebrate the art of writing, enriching the lives of all our citizens.

### PROGRAM GOALS

The Piedmont Laureate will be appointed for one year and will offer the following activities in Wake, Durham, and Orange counties:

- ✦ Present readings at designated public sites (libraries, arts centers, schools, universities, and other community gathering places);
- ✦ Encourage creative writing for all age groups (by offering workshops or other types of outreach);
- ✦ Promote literature at select public events;
- ✦ Bring attention to literature in less traditional settings; and
- ✦ Propose original activities to expand appreciation of the literary arts.

### SELECTION PROCESS

The Piedmont Laureate will be selected by a committee appointed by the sponsoring agencies. Each year the program will be open to writers creating work in a selected literary genre (poetry, novels, plays, etc.). **For the 2016 cycle, applications will be accepted from authors of mystery fiction. Mystery fiction is a genre of fiction (novel or short story) usually involving a mysterious death, event or a crime to be solved within a close circle of suspects. Each suspect must have a credible motive and reasonable opportunity to have committed the act.**

The application process will be open to all writers residing in Wake, Durham, or Orange counties who meet the guideline criteria. The program guidelines and application form are available on the Piedmont Laureate website: [www.piedmontlaureate.com](http://www.piedmontlaureate.com). Upon review of all applications, the finalist(s) will be invited to meet with the committee. The 2016 Piedmont Laureate, whose appointment will run from January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016, will be notified in December 2015 and announced in January 2016.

### LAUREATE PROFILE

The Piedmont Laureate must be 18 years of age or older and must have resided in Durham, Orange or Wake counties for at least one year. Candidates should maintain residency in one of these counties for the duration of their appointment as Laureate.

***Candidates will demonstrate:***

- ✦ Exemplary writing skill;
- ✦ Significant body of published work;
- ✦ Comfort with public presentation and interaction; and
- ✦ Availability and willingness to travel in Durham, Orange and Wake counties for scheduled readings, workshops, and other public events.

**RECOGNITION**

The Piedmont Laureate will receive an honorarium of \$5,500 (distributed in two payments). Additionally, the Laureate will be recognized at various area events and receive media coverage related to the Laureate program.

**EXPECTATIONS**

Specific outreach activities for the 2016 Piedmont Laureate, planned in conjunction with the sponsoring agencies (5 activities per agency), will reflect the program’s stated goals, including:

- ✦ Public readings and other creative writing activities;
- ✦ Participation at select public functions;
- ✦ Media appearances (not to exceed 6); and
- ✦ Creation of at least one original activity to expand appreciation of literature.

Additionally, the Piedmont Laureate will be encouraged to offer suggestions for future projects that will inspire public engagement and support of the literary arts.

Past Piedmont Laureate appearances have included talks with book clubs, writers groups and students, “meet the author” appearances at bookstores and libraries, remarks at city/county councils/commissions and special events. Typical appearances last between 20-60 minutes.

**APPLICATION**

**Deadline: Wednesday, September 30th, 2015 by 4 p.m.**

**Ten (10) copies of the following materials, single-sided, no staples, 3-hole punched, must be received by the deadline:**

- ✦ Completed application form;
- ✦ Letter of interest (1-2 pages) detailing how you would contribute as Piedmont Laureate based on the position description and the goals of the program;
- ✦ Work samples of mystery fiction: two samples of published mystery fiction with a minimum of 1500 words and a maximum of 3500 words. These samples can be excerpts from longer works;
- ✦ Resume not to exceed 3 pages, with an emphasis on literary achievements;
- ✦ Two (2) letters of support; and
- ✦ Authors may submit (optional) up to 2 critical reviews of work.

***No materials will be returned and the selection committee reserves the right to ask for additional information as needed.***

**SPONSORS**



PIEDMONT



LAUREATE

2016 MYSTERY FICTION

**2016 Application Form for Authors of Mystery Fiction**

*Deadline: All materials must be **received** by September 30th, 2015 by 4 p.m.*

(Form may be completed by pen, if handwriting is legible.)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS (No P.O. Boxes) \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY OF RESIDENCE:  Durham  Orange  Wake

PHONE (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ (Evening) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

WEBSITE \_\_\_\_\_

**TITLE OF WORK(S) SUBMITTED AS WORK SAMPLE(S)**

(Please also list where work has appeared in print and date(s) of publication, if available.)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

I certify that I am the sole author of the work sample(s) submitted, and that I have been a resident of Durham, Orange or Wake County for at least one year.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Submission Checklist**

**(10 copies of each complete application – single sided – no staples – 3 hole punched):**

- Completed application form       Work samples       Letter of Interest
- Resume       Letters of support       Critical reviews (optional)

**INCOMPLETE, LATE AND/OR EMAILED APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE REVIEWED.**

Please refer to the program description and guidelines for additional information. Completed application packets are due **September 30th, 2015 by 4:00 p.m.**

**By Mail**

Office of Raleigh Arts  
Attn: Belva Parker  
PO Box 590  
Raleigh, NC 27602

**Hand Delivery**

Office of Raleigh Arts  
Attn: Belva Parker  
127 West Hargett St., Suite 408  
Raleigh, NC 27601

For additional information, please call 919.996.3610 or email [belva.parker@raleighnc.gov](mailto:belva.parker@raleighnc.gov).