

Call for Entries 45th Bucks County Poet Laureate Competition 2021



The search is on for the 45th Annual Bucks County Poet Laureate

The Bucks Laureate Program is one of the oldest in the country. It also holds a High School Poet Contest every Spring and sponsors an annual writers' conference. The Bucks County Poet Laureate Program is seeking the 2021 Laureate. The postmark deadline for submission to the competition is Friday, September 10, 2021.

The winner of the competition will receive a \$500 honorarium, a plaque from the county commissioners, and a Fall reading at Bucks County Community College with the previous year's laureate Jane Edna Mohler.

The 2021 final judge will be Maggie Smith, author of *Good Bones*, *The Well Speaks of Its Own Poison*, *Lamp of the Body*, the national bestseller *Keep Moving: Notes on Loss, Creativity, and Change*, and *Goldenrod*. Smith's poems and essays are widely published and anthologized, appearing in *Best American Poetry*, the *New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, *The Paris Review*, *Ploughshares*, the *Washington Post*, the *Guardian*, and elsewhere. In 2016 her poem "Good Bones" went viral internationally and has been translated into nearly a dozen languages. Public Radio International called it "the official poem of 2016."

Preliminary judge will be Ernest Hilbert, author of *Sixty Sonnets*, *All of You on the Good Earth*, *Caligulan*, and *Last One Out*. He lives with his wife and son in Philadelphia where he works as an antiquarian bookseller.

Entrants to the Competition must be Bucks County Residents and 18 years or older. Poetry of any kind is welcome. The entry requires 10 poems, any style, form, or length. All work must be original, published or unpublished, typewritten or word-processed, one poem per page, in black ink.

Poems and entry form must be submitted online at bucks.edu/poetlaureateentry.

For more information contact
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