Dear Poet-Teacher Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Poet-Teacher. We are looking for talented teachers with diverse backgrounds to further our mission in their local geographic regions:

*California Poets in the Schools empowers students of all ages throughout California*

*to express their creativity, imagination, and intellectual curiosity through writing,*

*performing and publishing their own poetry. We train and coordinate a multicultural network of published poets, who bring their passion and craft to public and private schools, juvenile halls, hospitals, libraries and other community settings.*

Please note that applications are reviewed at the beginning of each school semester, though acceptance into the program and timelines for training may vary depending on your experience, the availability of poet-teacher trainers, and the demand in your area.

1. When you have completed this Poet-Teacher application, please return by:

Email it to: [info@cpits.org](mailto:info@cpits.org)

or

Mail a hard copy to our central office at:

California Poets in the Schools

P.O. Box 1328

Santa Rosa, CA 95402

2) Your application will be filed at the CalPoets central office and a copy will be sent to your Area Coordinator (manager of your geographic region) to decide which poet is best suited for specific local programs.

3) If you are accepted for the training program, you will:

a) have an orientation with your Area Coordinator or area trainer, and

b) be trained by working in the classroom with experienced Poet-Teachers.

4) Following the training period, your status will be reviewed by your Area Coordinator. Training includes: a. Observation of ten classroom sessions with a master Poet-Teacher and b. Completion of ten written lessons plans. At this stage you will be either formally accepted to CalPoets, asked to continue training, or asked to leave the program.

If accepted, your status will be that of an **independent contractor**. While your Area Coordinator can help and advise you on how to seek residencies, it will be up to you to secure jobs in the schools. Usually CalPoets has some “seed money” to get you started in your first residency and many Area Coordinators write regional grants that need staffing but this is not guaranteed.

Yearly membership is required of all Poet-Teachers who are affiliated with CalPoets.

As a member, your benefits include access to CalPoets regional multicultural workshops and the annual statewide conference; a copy of the statewide anthology; newsletters; participation in poetry readings; a network with other poets; access to CalPoets matching funds and CalPoets multicultural classroom training. Membership fees are tiered: New Poet-Teachers (first year only - $25 and returning Poet-Teachers - $100). Once you have been accepted into the training program, your membership will be due and payable and should be then be sent to CalPoets central office before your training begins.

Please contact the CalPoets’ central office by email ([info@cpits.org](mailto:info@cpits.org)) or at 415-221-4201 if you have any questions.

I have read and agreed to the above:

Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please email or mail a signed copy of this application to the CalPoets central office.

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**CALIFORNIA POETS IN THE SCHOOLS POET-TEACHER APPLICATION**

**NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_DATE:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**ADDRESS:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**SS# \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ PHONE:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**email address\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Please answer the following questions.**

1. How did you learn about California Poets in the Schools ?

2. What experiences have you had as a Poet-Teacher? What grade levels have you taught?

3. Where have you been published and/or given readings of your work?

4. What experiences have you had working for/or in your community, either with arts education or some other related actiity?

5. Are you bilingual/multicultural? What languages and level of fluency?

6. Why is poetry important?

7. Briefly describe your approach to teaching poetry?

8. Please comment on the importance of writing in your life.

9. All Poet-Teachers must participate in a training program. Are you willing to travel outside your area to take this training? If so, how far would you be willing to travel?

10. Is there anything else you would like to add:

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**Completing Your Application**

1. **Please be sure to sign and date your application in the space provided at the top of page 2 and return as noted below:**

Email to: [info@cpits.org](mailto:info@cpits.org)

or

Mail hard copy to our central office at:

California Poets in the Schools

P.O. Box 1328

Santa Rosa, CA 95402

**2. Please send a current resume with your literary/publication history and four or five of your recent poems.**

Thank you for your interest in California Poets in the Schools. We will be in touch with you but please don’t hesitate to call to inquiry about the status of your application.