



Mary Jean McLaughlin
Napa Board of Supervisors
1195 3rd St Suite 310
Napa, CA 94559

Dear Mary Jean McLaughlin and the Napa Board of Supervisors,

Thank you for your consideration regarding the Napa County Poet Laureate. Arts Council of Napa Valley is undergoing a period of significant change, instigated by severe budget cuts to our state funding. We've been able to find opportunity in this time of difficulty, creating new programs and developing our membership base, but we are doing so with reduced staff and resources. The Poet Laureate position is one that is deeply meaningful to the community, and since our resources are so stretched, we are unable at this time to go through the detailed process of selecting a new one with due diligence. We are deeply pleased with Dottie Lee Hansen's service in this position these last two years, and we would like to recommend that she be offered a second two-year term. Arts Council continues to rebuild and refocus, and we believe that in two year's time we will be able to properly select a new Poet Laureate. In the meantime, we would be thrilled to continue with Ms. Hansen at the helm.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to call.

Best,

Michelle Williams
Executive Director