

Dear Olivia,

After many months of working closely together on a variety of projects, it is very exciting to be able to write to you about something completely different, though just as important!

It is my pleasure to recommend Bonnie Long for the appointment of Napa County Poet Laureate. Bonnie is well connected throughout the Valley and has a long-standing record of service to her community. As a longtime member of our library board, her leadership and knowledge of the community has been a huge asset to me and our organization, but more than that I have been impressed with Bonnie's passion for culture and the arts. Her support for the arts has been invaluable at the library as we have worked over the last several years to make our organization more proactive in the promotion of cultural and educational opportunities beyond the scope of traditional library services.

As an artist and writer, Bonnie has supported and participated in many of our library's efforts to expand our reach by sharing her own poetry in our annual poetry celebration in the month of April and celebrating the works of others in literary celebrations throughout the year. I know she welcomes any opportunity to discuss poetry, share her love for it, and use it as a platform to exchange experiences with people of all ages and backgrounds.

I hope that you will strongly consider Bonnie for this position. I know that she would work very hard during her tenure as laureate to inspire creativity and a love for the written word throughout Napa County. Our library through our many partnerships, including that with the Napa County Library and Arts Council Napa Valley, is committed to working with her to ensure a successful program. If I may provide any additional information about Bonnie, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely.

~Jennifer Baker