

**From:** [Christopher Hickey](#)  
**To:** [Carol Ann Desiderio](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Malden Poet Laureate Announcement tonight 5/9/23  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 9, 2023 3:27:45 PM

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Dear Carol Ann,

I'd like to issue a public comment on the referendum being announced tonight for the vote of whether the city of Malden should have a Poet Laureate:

Dear Council,

My name is Christopher Hickey, and I'm the group facilitator for The Malden Writers' Collaborative. I am excited to hear that the City Council is considering the funding and establishment of a Malden Poet Laureate Title. I believe that the Council should vote unanimously in favor of such a measure as our city would be greatly enriched by supporting the local arts community in this way. Having worked first-hand with many poets in our community, they are a viable source of new ideas, of helping to guide us socially, and for bearing witness to the lives lived in our neighborhood. It is very important for a community to have an individual that embodies the voice of poetry and uses that voice to shine a light on all the aspects that make Malden such a special place to live and create art. Please vote in favor of funding and establishing this opportunity as it will showcase our vibrant arts community and draw more inspired people to make Malden their home.

Thank you for your time.

Warmest regards,  
Chris

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