

# 11<sup>th</sup> POETRY NOW

January 29, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Attn: Entertainment, Arts & Culture Editors

## CALLING ALL POETS SUBMISSIONS NOW OPEN FOR THE 11<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL BATTLE OF THE BARDS

**TORONTO, ON** — The Toronto International Festival of Authors (TIFA) has announced that submissions are now open for the **11<sup>th</sup> Annual Battle of the Bards**, presented with media partner [NOW Toronto](#). The popular competition pairs poetry with performance, showcasing a diverse range of voices, themes and poetic genres. The event will take place **Wednesday, April 3, 2019 at 7:30pm** in [Harbourfront Centre's Brigantine Room](#).

The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Battle of the Bards will follow its successful long-running format of staging 20 emerging and established poets head-to-head. Each poet will be given three minutes to read their work, which can range from comical to contemplative. Of the 20 poets, one will win an invitation to read at the **40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary edition of the Toronto International Festival of Authors (October 24 – November 3, 2019)** and have their book and Festival event advertised in *NOW Magazine*.

The winner will be selected by a judging panel composed of **Geoffrey E. Taylor**, TIFA Director, and established poets **Andy McGuire** (*Country Club*) and **Alison Pick** (*Strangers With The Same Dream*). The event will be hosted by *NOW's* **Susan G. Cole**.

Poets who wish to read their work in the competition must have their publishing representative **submit an entry form at [FestivalofAuthors.ca/PoetryNOW](#) by March 1 at 5pm**. The 20 reading finalists will be selected by random draw from all eligible submissions, and announced on **March 12**. Publishers will be notified by **March 4**.

Poets must have at least one published title to their name to be eligible. In keeping with TIFA's mandate to promote new literature and new voices, participants' books must have been published within the past five years and be currently in print with a trade publisher. For full submission criteria



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and guidelines visit [FestivalofAuthors.ca/PoetryNOW](http://FestivalofAuthors.ca/PoetryNOW).

## **Social Sharing**

**Twitter** | Calling all poets! @FestofAuthors is now accepting submissions for The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Battle of the Bards. Enter for your chance to take the stage! <http://bit.ly/2WczUfs> #PoetryNOW

**Facebook** | Calling all poets! @FestofAuthors is accepting submissions for the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Battle of the Bards. Apply by March 1 for your chance to take the stage. <http://bit.ly/2WjHmpi>

## **About Toronto International Festival of Authors**

The Toronto International Festival of Authors (TIFA) is Canada's oldest and largest festival of words and ideas. Since 1974, it has hosted over 9,000 authors from more than 100 countries, including 22 Nobel Laureates and countless other award winners. Mandated to cultivate and advance the art of literature, TIFA connects curious readers of every kind with leading authors and provides forums to showcase Canadian talent to the world. TIFA presents events and programmes all year round and will celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> edition of the Festival Oct. 24 – Nov. 3, 2019. TIFA is based at Harbourfront Centre.

[FestivalofAuthors.ca](http://FestivalofAuthors.ca) | @FestofAuthors

## **About NOW**

Celebrating over 37 years as Toronto's leading independent media voice, NOW provides approximately half a million weekly readers with 24/7 coverage of everything cultural and political in our city. As the go-to source for local news, reviews, event listings and much more, NOW creates inclusive networks between all communities. Visit [nowtoronto.com](http://nowtoronto.com) for more info.

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