

Proclaiming Laura Read – Spokane’s 2nd Poet Laureate

WHEREAS, the month of October 2015 was Create Spokane Arts month; and

WHEREAS, Create Spokane Arts month also includes the selection of Spokane’s Poet Laureate every two years; and

WHEREAS, Thom Caraway has served as Spokane’s Poet Laureate from 2013 to 2015; and

WHEREAS, Thom Caraway has gone beyond the requirements of the Poet Laureate position by doing more than 200 community readings and events and publishing the poetry of community members in the Railtown Almanac; and

WHEREAS, Laura Read, author, poet, and instructor, has been named Spokane’s 2nd Poet Laureate; and

WHEREAS, Laura Read is the author of the 2010 chapbook, “The Chewbacca on Hollywood Boulevard Reminds Me of You,” which won the Floating Bridge Prize, awarded by the Seattle-based Floating Bridge Press; and

WHEREAS, Read’s first poetry collection, 2012’s “Instructions for My Mother’s Funeral” was published by the University of Pittsburgh Press and won the 2011 Donald Hall Prize in Poetry; and

WHEREAS, Laura Read has also works as an Instructor of Composition, Literature, and Creative Writing at Spokane Falls Community College and teaches Creative Writing to Native Youth Mentors at the Salish School of Spokane;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Spokane City Council that we hereby salute the Spokane’s first Poet Laureate, Thom Caraway, for his incredible work of furthering the arts in Spokane and proclaim **Laura Read** the City of Spokane’s new Poet Laureate. Thank you Laura, for your service to our community and your willingness to further the arts in Spokane for the next two years!

I, Ben Stuckart, Spokane City Council President,
do hereunto set my hand and

cause the seal of the City of Spokane
to be affixed this 2nd day of November in 2015

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ben Stuckart". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'B' and 'S'.

Ben Stuckart
Spokane City Council President