



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
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Agenda Item Number: {{item.number}}

Agenda Date: April 9, 2024

In Control: San Antonio Arts Commission

DEPARTMENT: Department of Arts and Culture

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Krystal Jones

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

2024 – 2027 Poet Laureate Investiture Ceremony

SUMMARY:

The City of San Antonio’s Department of Arts and Culture announced Eduardo “Eddie” Vega as the new Poet Laureate. Vega will serve as the City’s seventh Poet Laureate for a three-year term spanning April 1, 2024 – March 31, 2027. A public investiture ceremony will be held at City Council Chambers in the Municipal Plaza Building, 114 W. Commerce, on Monday, April 15 at 6:15 p.m. to officially appoint Vega to the position.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Vega works as a Director at Holy Cross of San Antonio. He has published two full-length collections of poetry: Chicharra Chorus and Somos Nopales. He is the recipient of the Literary Arts Grant from the Luminaria Artist Foundation and was named best local poet by the San Antonio Current in 2022. During the pandemic, he founded and continues to direct and host the

Mouth Dakota Poetry Project, a biweekly open mic for poets of any skill and experience levels. This honorary position focuses on promoting literary and poetic arts and literacy in the community.

The United States Poet Laureate was established in 1937 and the State of Texas has appointed a Poet Laureate since 1932. In 2012, San Antonio was the first major Texas city to appoint a Poet Laureate. Past San Antonio Poet Laureates include: Carmen Tafolla (2012 - 2014); Laurie Ann Guerrero (2014 - 2016); Jenny Browne (2016 - 2018); Octavio Quintanilla (2018 - 2020); Andrea “Vocab” Sanderson (2020 - 2023); Nephtalí De León (April 2023 - August 2023)

ISSUE:

This is an announcement only.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This is an announcement only.

ALTERNATIVES:

This is an announcement only.

RECOMMENDATION:

This is an announcement only.