**TOWN OF BROOKLINE INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR POET LAUREATE POST
– Applications accepted through March 1 –**

Brookline, MA – In early 2012, the Board of Selectmen inaugurated the Town of Brookline Poet Laureate Program. Our current Poet Laureate, Jan Schreiber, will end his tenure on March 31, 2017.

Brookline Commission for the Arts, which coordinates the program, is now accepting applications for the town Poet Laureate. The deadline for submitting applications is March 1. The town will appoint the poet to a two-year term, which begins April 1. The appointment will be announced before April, National Poetry Month.

The Poet Laureate’s mission is to enhance the town’s cultural life, promote awareness and appreciation of poetry and the literary arts, and connect members of the community through poetry. The poet’s duties include public performances, outreach to Brookline schools, libraries and community centers, and initiating projects to energize the town’s residents to the spirit and power of the written and spoken word. The position has an annual stipend of $2,000, which is generously underwritten for the 2017-19 term by Bay State Federal Savings Foundation and Brookline Booksmith.

The program is open to residents of Brookline who have a substantial body of work, including published poems, and demonstrated a commitment to the community. A full description of the program and Poet Laureate’s duties is available on the BCA website (brooklinearts.org).

Applications may be submitted through March 1, 2017. Applicants should submit a letter of interest that outlines their reasons for applying and their vision for the post; a current CV; and a selection of representative poetry to commission administrator Gillian Jackson, at brooklinearts@gmail.com no later than March 1 or by mail to Selectmen’s Office, 333 Washington St, Brookline, MA 02445 postmarked no later than Feb 26.  Application form and guidelines are available on the BCA website or by contacting Ms. Jackson at 617-730-2135.

A selection committee, composed of commissioners and Brookline residents, will convene in March to review applications, make a selection and submit it to the Board of Selectmen for approval. Residents interested in joining this committee should contact Ms. Jackson at brooklinearts@gmail.com by February 15.