

For Immediate Release

## Calling All Poets Second Annual Arts Festival Poetry Contest Underway

Cambridge, Ontario. March 25, 2009... Local poets and wordsmiths will have an opportunity to show off their creative, literary sides again this year at the Cambridge Arts Festival slated for Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup>. A call for entry is underway and the April 3<sup>rd</sup> deadline is just around the corner.

Contestants are invited to submit up to three poems. The entry fee is \$5 for one poem or \$10 for three. Three winning poems will be selected from two age categories: youth (ages 14-17), and adult (ages 18 and older). The winning poets will be invited to read at the Cambridge Arts Festival and have their pieces published in the festival's program.

Submission guidelines and entry forms are available at all branches of the Cambridge Libraries; the Cambridge Centre for the Arts, 60 Dickson St.; and all three Cambridge Seniors Centres (the David Durward Centre, 62 Dickson St.; the Allen Reuter Centre, 507 King St.; and the Ted Wake Lounge, 31 Kribs St.). The forms are also available online at [www.cambridgeartsfestival.com](http://www.cambridgeartsfestival.com).

Last year's winners included local poets April Bulmer and Andrew Johnson-McCormick. Bulmer, a 2006 Bernice Adams Award nominee, has published 10 books of poetry. Her work has appeared in more than 50 magazines including prestigious journals such as The Malahat Review, ARC, Contemporary Verse 2, and The Anglican Theological Review. Johnson-McCormick, a Southwood Secondary School student, is the winner in the Youth Division of the Cambridge Libraries' Poem-A-Day Contest in 2007 and 2008. He won first prize in the Stephen Leacock Student Humorous Short Story Award in 2007, the youngest person ever to win that honour.

The Cambridge Arts Festival has a long tradition of community engagement. Since 1995, the Festival has provided an opportunity for local artists to showcase their talents in dance, literary, music, performance, and visual art. For its audience, this interactive free festival is a chance to learn about these art forms through workshops, demonstrations and hands-on activity. The highly anticipated 2009 festival, sponsored in part by the City of Cambridge, will be held on Saturday, June 6 at Cambridge Civic Square.

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The City of Cambridge is one of the fastest growing areas in the country. It is strategically located astride highway 401 in Southwestern Ontario, part of Canada's Technology Triangle. In 2009, the population reached over 126,000 people. With a multicultural mix and a strong foundation of support services, Cambridge has a diverse economic base with leading industries in manufacturing, automotive, high technology, pharmaceutical, business and financial services and hospitality/retail. The Corporation of the City of Cambridge is an employer with a work environment that offers the opportunity to provide service to the community through creativity and innovation, and with opportunities for career growth and advancement. Based on the 2007 BMA Management Consulting Inc Municipal Study, the City of Cambridge is one of only four municipalities in the province that is debt free.

For more information on the area or the corporation visit [www.cambridge.ca](http://www.cambridge.ca)

The City of Cambridge press room is located at

[http://www.cambridge.ca/the\\_office\\_of\\_the\\_chief\\_administrative\\_officer/corporate\\_communications\\_marketing](http://www.cambridge.ca/the_office_of_the_chief_administrative_officer/corporate_communications_marketing)

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