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**Jason Cheseborough**

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30th June, 2024

**Coconut Creek City Commission**

Mayor Welch and fellow Commissioners  
4800 W Copans Rd.  
Coconut Creek, FL 33063

Dear Mayor and fellow City Commissioners,,

My name is Jason Cheseborough. I would like to formally apply for the position of Poet Laureate of Coconut Creek.

I'm a graduate of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, Class of '95. I attended, then named, Broward Community College from 1995 to 1997. I did not graduate. I have always excelled in being able to write, so much so I took creative writing for two semesters while at BCC.

I have been writing poetry on and off since high school really, but really fell back into it, starting in 2023, after having gone to workshops and events hosted and run by Laura McDermott-Matheric, the current Laureate of Coconut Creek. She is someone I've learned so much from. I was a part of the Poem Depot at this year's Butterfly Festival in February. As an amateur and certainly not a professional or a student, to be included in that event was an incredible honor; a spiritual moment. I will have my first works published shortly by the Broward County Library in the anthology "Poetry in the Park: Nature of Place". The anthology will be released on July 20th, 2024. I will also be joining a writing group that will be forming in August at the Broward North Regional Library. I'll be able to hone my skills with other writers in the group. My poetry is considered prose poetry, not very much rhyme to it. I shoot from the hip and try to create a "word painting" for the reader. I am adept at elegies, and there's nothing I love more than getting inspiration from a sunset.

I'm interested in becoming the poet laureate of Coconut Creek, to keep building upon what Laura McDermott-Matheric has created, and to show my love of nature that's found in this community that I've lived in for 17 years. Poetry can move people, and I think the city should continue to keep their

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commitment to the literary arts and the written word moving forward, whereas the state may fall short in this endeavor.

**REFERENCES:**

Christina O'Brien, former classmate and long time friend, Phone# 954-464-0027, email: [syren24@aol.com](mailto:syren24@aol.com)

Megan Nicole Rustin, current manager,, Phone# 847-977-0469, email: Meganrustin@gmail.com

**DECLARATION:**

I hereby declare that the information provided in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Sincerely,

**Jason Cheseborough**

Videos:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/10rv41K87Z8vZ8qMrZZKkQfAn5jONDcEk/view?usp=drivesdk>

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/117o6P\\_G4I9TVAcGRt6pIV-sIWPLMSXGU/view?usp=drivesdk](https://drive.google.com/file/d/117o6P_G4I9TVAcGRt6pIV-sIWPLMSXGU/view?usp=drivesdk)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1194NrUCYD4ZesTAbSi3o-z9Rx42dVO04/view?usp=drivesdk>

Good evening,

My name is Jason Cheseborough, and I am formally applying for the position of poet laureate of Coconut Creek.

Please reference the attached application, sample poems, and Google Drive video links of a couple works I've written this year.

If you have any questions please reference my information listed in the attached application form.

Also, if the video links do not work, please let me know.

I look forward to hearing from you soon!

Thank you for your time, and have a great week,

Jason Cheseborough

Coconut Creek resident since 2007

### *Celestial Moments*

The sun and moon danced today.  
An interstellar waltz.  
Two heavenly bodies meeting as one.  
Albeit, briefly.  
The sun wrapped its arms around the moon, and pulled her in close.  
As close as the one you love.  
The moon sauntered in front of the sun, approaching ever closer to her distant suitor.  
The sun's light was blurred by the silhouette of the approaching satellite.  
The sun, knowing full well this meeting was fleeting at best, allowed the moon to cover its light,  
to take the spotlight.  
All lovers want their significant others to shine in light and dark.  
The moon danced for all, and the sun watched in awe.  
The slow dance of centuries culminates in the moon passing by the sun, in a blink of the  
universe's eye.  
The extraterrestrial tango nears its end.  
The sun relinquished its grip on the one who it longed to hold for eons.  
The moon looks back, kisses the sun goodbye, and begins the journey back to her place of  
belonging.  
Romeo releases Juliet.  
They return home, awaiting for the time again, to be one in the sky.  
I wanted to be the sun in your sky.  
Because you were the moon in mine.

Jason Cheseborough 4/8/2024

1-22-2023

# **RAYS**

The sun rose this morning, and we weren't together to see it.  
It rises, as you rise, to new heights in your life.  
I want to be a part of the rays in your soul that give way to joy and happiness.  
But there's a block, a wall, a cloud of uncertainty that fills our sky.  
The sun will push through those clouds and bring light to your days ahead.  
Your rays of life will shine for all to see, and those who can not look, are missing the power of that light.  
The sun rose this morning, and all I want is to see it with you.

Jason Cheseborough 1/2023

## The Pillow

I woke up clutching a pillow again.  
This inanimate object, making up for your missing body.  
I hold it tightly in my sleep as I dream, awash in a sea of memories.  
But it's not you.  
It won't recant the stories of whatever we did that day.  
It won't tell jokes as we're about to go to bed.  
It won't accidentally elbow me in the face in the midst of a drunken slumber.  
It won't sleep diagonally, practically knocking me out of the bed.  
It won't have its dogs hop into bed; no more doggie kisses and belly rubs.  
It won't hog the covers.  
It certainly won't snore (although I'd relish the sound now).  
It won't smell of your perfume; a scent that hypnotizes me.  
It won't cuddle, it won't caress, it won't hold me.  
It won't wish me sweet dreams.  
It won't kiss me goodnight.  
Because it's not you.  
The pillow is empty promises and things unfulfilled.  
Yet, I cling to it, cause you're gone, and I have nothing left to hold.

Jason Cheseborough 1/23/2024

## Poet Laureate Reference Questions

Applicant's name: Jason Cheseborough    Date: 7/29/2024

Reference: Christina O' Brien, Friend

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1. How do you know the applicant?

Friends since they met in High School in 1992

2. Can you describe the applicant's poetic style?

Free-form, flowing in nature. Very deep and thought provoking.

3. Have you heard the applicant recite a poem in a live environment?

Yes X

No

4. If yes, please describe the experience.

Poetry in the Park, he read two of his original poems that were featured in the book.

5. Why do you think the City should name the applicant as the next Poet Laureate?

He brings alot to the table. He thinks and writes outside the box, deeper then most. "How does every movement or interaction evoke emotion." He helps others find their inner-voice, and he helps others grow through his art.

## Poet Laureate Reference Questions

Applicant's name: Jason Cheseborough    Date: 7/29/2024

Reference: Megan Rustin, Manager

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1. How do you know the applicant?

Co-worker/Manager

2. Can you describe the applicant's poetic style?

Heartfelt. Very detailed.

3. Have you heard the applicant recite a poem in a live environment?

Yes X

No

4. If yes, please describe the experience.

He was very comfortable. He is very passionate.

5. Why do you think the City should name the applicant as the next Poet Laureate?

He is very dedicated, excited, and passionate about poetry. He speaks to his co-workers constantly about it.