

State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** Vermont is enriched by artists who live among its residents as neighbors, colleagues, and friends; and
- WHEREAS,** Vermont has supported the creative output of its diversity of artists for more than two generations; and
- WHEREAS,** Vermont has a rich poetic tradition and throughout its history has been home to numerous nationally and internationally recognized poets; and
- WHEREAS,** it is appropriate for Vermont to recognize and promote poets and poetry as one of the many artistic disciplines that enhance Vermont's quality of life; and
- WHEREAS,** Robert Frost was declared Poet Laureate in 1961 upon the adoption of Joint House Resolution 54 by the General Assembly, a position he retained for 25 years following his death in 1963; and
- WHEREAS,** in 1988, Governor Madeleine Kunin established a new position by signing Executive Order No 69 and, in 1989, subsequently named Galway Kinnell as the first State Poet for a term of four years; and
- WHEREAS,** every four years since the Vermont Arts Council has convened a distinguished panel of humanists, poets, historians, and Vermonters to nominate a new poet to the Governor; and
- WHEREAS,** Bianca Stone is a poet and teacher who was born and raised in Vermont, and currently lives in Brandon, Vermont; and
- WHEREAS,** Bianca Stone received a BA from Antioch College, a Masters of Fine Arts from New York University, and currently teaches classes on poetry and poetic study; and
- WHEREAS,** Bianca Stone has authored five books, including poetry collections *What is Otherwise Infinite*, *The Möbius Strip Club of Grief*, and *Someone Else's Wedding Vows*; and
- WHEREAS,** Bianca Stone is the granddaughter of former Vermont Poet Laureate Ruth Stone, and she currently works at the Ruth Stone House, which maintains the physical property and cultural legacy of her grandmother; and

WHEREAS, Bianca Stone’s work has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic*, *Poets and Writers*, *The Nation*, and elsewhere; and

WHEREAS, Bianca Stone also hosts the *Ode & Psyche Podcast*, and is the editor-at-large for *ITERANT* magazine.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby name

BIANCA STONE

Vermont Poet Laureate



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 1st day of May, A.D. 2024.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Philip B. Scott', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Philip B. Scott
Governor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brittney J. Wilson', is written over a horizontal line.
Brittney J. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs