

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 21, 2017

Derry Public Library  
c/o Cara Barlow  
64 E Broadway  
Derry, NH 03038

Dear Friends,

I wish I were able to join you today as the Town of Derry celebrates its first Poet Laureate, Robert Crawford. What a fitting tribute to the work of an accomplished and creative writer. Thank you to the Derry Public Library and Derry Town Council for your efforts not only to organize this cultural initiative, but also to show town residents that there are at least *two* renowned poets from Derry named Robert!

Whether drawn to the Granite State by its striking natural beauty or its small-town, close-knit communities, countless authors and poets find inspiration in many facets of New Hampshire life. These influences have provoked some of the most celebrated works in American literature. Perhaps just as important is the inspired text that no one sees by people who view writing as an outlet for deeply personal reflection and creative expression. I am so glad that the Town of Derry will now have someone to marshal this incredible potential and direct it in a way that contributes to the cultural growth of the community and the individual growth of its residents.

Congratulations, Bob, on this well-deserved honor.

I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

Sincerely,



Jeanne Shaheen  
United States Senator