

# SHAWNA POTTER

NON-DEMONINATIONAL ORDAINED CLERGY PERSON

## CONTACT

Shawna Potter  
Ordained Clergy Person  
via the Church of Spiritual  
Humanism

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[shawnapotter.com](http://shawnapotter.com)

## BIO

Shawna Potter has been part of the wedding industry since the early 2000s. Getting an early start, her experience as a professional disc jockey exposed her to many types of weddings, cultures and traditions. Her professionalism and personable nature was noticed by clients and friends alike, leading to her transition as an Ordained Clergy Person. Shawna considers the opportunity to participate in the most profound moment of a wedding ceremony a true blessing.

Shawna isn't just a member of the clergy; she is an activist, artist, musician, actress, a guitar amplifier technician, and has been in a loving and committed relationship with her partner since 2005. She is comfortable in front of a crowd, believes in the right to marriage for all, and knows that sharing your love with friends and family is more important than a piece of paper.

## SERVICES

As a non-denominational Ordained Clergy Person, I specialize in performing ceremonies that are not dictated by ancient texts, but instead are shaped and modeled uniquely for you with my guidance. Do not let this list limit your creativity, as I am open to all expressions of love, remembrance, religion, and honor.

- Marriages - legal and official in the state of Maryland and beyond
- Commitment/Affirmation of Love - for those waiting for the legal right to marry, or those who reject legal marriage altogether
- Hand Fasting - a form of marriage that is confirmed by the joining of the right hands of the bride and bridegroom. The traditional European ceremony is known to have been used both as permanent and trial marriage.
- Renewal of Marriage - for any age or stage of life, whether prompted by a milestone in your relationship or just on a whim
- Baby Namings - share your joy with the world and set them on the right path
- Coming of Age Rituals - task-based, symbolic, or both - it is up to you and your family
- Holiday Feasts - celebrate the sacred reasons to bring people together around a table, without religion
- Fasting - a vow to yourself, a test, or an act towards purification
- Funerals - remember your loved one, gain a sense of closure, and reflect upon your future

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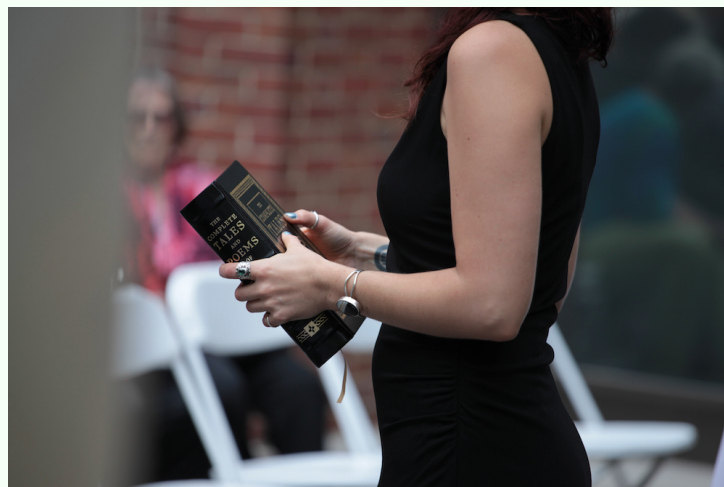
## THE PROCESS

**Free Consultation** – All services I am authorized to provide include a free consultation. This can be done in person or virtually, depending on travel distance. It is important that you feel comfortable with me and trust that I will honor your wishes and execute your vision during this important (and sometimes stressful) time in your life. My goal is to put you at ease and give you one less thing to worry about. During the consult I will sit with you (and your partner, depending on the service) and get a feel for who you are, what you want out of the ceremony and anything else important to those involved. It is here that I can guide you if you are not sure how you want the ceremony to go. This is a great time to raise any concerns, share any homework you've already done for the ceremony, and inform me of any special circumstances (destination wedding, culture-specific dress, costume, or theme, etc).

**Booking** – Each service has an honorarium of \$400 for the day. This includes performing the ceremony and signing any necessary documents directly before or after. Any event over one hour travel distance from Baltimore, Maryland will be an additional \$100 per hour. A 50% deposit is necessary to secure the date and begin the collaboration.

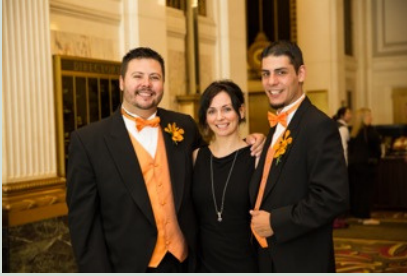
**Collaboration** – After our initial meeting, we begin the process of true collaboration. I will write a rough draft of the script, send it to you for revisions, updates or clarifications, I will use your notes to rewrite it, send it to you again and if all goes well that will be our final version. We will work on it until you are satisfied, including up until the date of the event if necessary!

**Ceremony or Service** – This will be based on our discussions, performed in a timely, professional and personable manner.



## TESTIMONIALS

Shawna, we really can't thank you enough for your participation in our wedding ceremony. You rolled with our plans, and were awesome with our co-officiant. You were so supportive and helped us sort through all of the things we wanted (or didn't want) in our ceremony. Even Sara's dad (who does weddings as part of his job as a pastor) mentioned what a great job you did.  
- Jodie & Sara



Working with Shawna was a wonderful experience. She is very attentive to details and ensures that your story is told through them. Shawna always had a smile on her face, which is very important when your emotions are running all over the place. - Joshua & Alby

When it came to finding an officiant, I was totally lost. Our event coordinator highly recommended we talk to Shawna. I'm so glad we did. During the ceremony, Shawna has the calmest and warmest tone of voice. Our ceremony message sounded so wonderful being read by her, it felt so sincere and beautiful. I am so happy we were able to work with Shawna, it was a wonderful experience! - Alaina & Canon

For our wedding, we envisioned an intimate, personal ceremony with our own vows - but we had no idea how to proceed. Shawna made it all come together. She helped us draft and perfect our ceremony, giving us just the right combination of independence and guidance. All with remarkable patience, as we were still working on it the night before, yet she made us feel it would all be ok - and it was! On our wedding day it was a great comfort to know we had Shawna at our side. Her presence as our officiant was perfectly suited to the style and vibe of the wedding. So many of our guests commented on what a wonderful job she did, and friends are still quoting our vows to us six months later! Shawna really celebrated us as a couple, and in many ways, helped us celebrate ourselves. - Shana & Alexis

Shawna was an amazing person to perform our wedding. She took the time to talk over exactly what my husband and I wanted from and in our ceremony, and everyone who attended was taken by exactly how much what she said reflected us as a couple. - Lindsay & Nick

