



# Proclamation



## POETRY MONTH 2019

**WHEREAS**, the Academy of American Poets established the month of April as National Poetry Month in 1996; and

**WHEREAS**, National Poetry Month seeks to highlight the extraordinary legacy and ongoing achievement of American poets; introduce the pleasures and benefits of reading poetry; bring poets and poetry to the public in immediate and innovative ways; and make poetry an important part of our children's education; and

**WHEREAS**, National Poetry Month, under the leadership and direction of the Academy of American Poets, is now the largest literary celebration in the world; and

**WHEREAS**, Poem in Your Pocket Day was initiated by the Mayor of New York City in 2002, becoming a national effort in 2008, and will be celebrated this year on April 18<sup>th</sup> with the hope that people will pick a poem to carry throughout the day and share with others; and

**WHEREAS**, poetry enhances and enriches the lives of all Americans and, as an essential part of the arts and humanities, affects every aspect of life, including education, the economy, and community pride and development; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Carrboro established the position of Poet Laureate in 2002, the current Poet Laureate being Fred Joiner, and

**WHEREAS**, Carrboro Board of Aldermen meetings are opened with the reading of a poem; and

**WHEREAS**, the ArtsCenter in Carrboro will host a Poet's Circle from 6:00 – 8:00 PM. on Tuesday, April 9; and

**WHEREAS**, the Carrboro Recreation and Parks Department produces the "West End Poets Newsletter," a publication that highlights poetry readings, groups, workshops and events; and also hosts a "Poets Open Mic Night" at the Oasis in Carr Mill Mall on the first Tuesday of every month with the next being Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> from 7:00 – 9:00 PM; and

**WHEREAS**, to celebrate National Poetry Month, a "Poetry on Your Plate" event will be hosted at the Century Center in Carrboro on Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 - 7:00 PM.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor of the Town of Carrboro, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim **the month of April 2019** as "**Poetry Month**" in Carrboro. I invite public officials, educators, librarians, and all the people of Carrboro to set aside time to read poetry and to attend a poetry-related program being offered this month in Carrboro.

This the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April 2019.

Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor