



Mayoral Proclamation

Poetry Month – April 2017

WHEREAS, poetry is an essential part of the arts and humanities and affects every aspect of our life, including education, the economy, and community pride and development; and

WHEREAS, National Poetry Month, established in 1996, is a celebration of poetry across the United States, and

WHEREAS, the recognition of April as National Poetry Month, is a way to introduce our community to the pleasures and benefits of reading poetry, and to bring poets and poetry to the public in immediate and innovative ways; and

WHEREAS, Takoma Park has a long tradition of supporting poetry as evidenced by the establishment of its Poet Laureate program in 2005; the Poetry Walk developed by current Poet Laureate Merrill Leffler; the monthly “Third Thursday Poetry” reading series and the “Writing a Village” workshops developed by past Poets Laureate Donald Berger and Anne Becker; and the annual Favorite Poem Evening sponsored by the Friends of the Library; and

WHEREAS, poetry has enhanced and enriched our lives in so many ways.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kate Stewart, Mayor of the City of Takoma Park, Maryland, on behalf of the Council, staff and residents, hereby proclaim April 2017 as Poetry Month in Takoma Park, and encourage everyone to recognize the important role poetry plays in our community.

Dated this 19th day of April, 2017.

Kate Stewart, Mayor