

Proclamation

- Whereas,* poetry is one of the earliest forms of cultural creation and storytelling, defining us as humans and shaping our cultures for thousands of years; and
- Whereas,* the Academy of American Poets established the month of April as National Poetry Month in 1996, marking the 30th annual celebration; and
- Whereas,* National Poetry Month seeks to highlight the extraordinary legacy and ongoing achievement of American poets; introduce Americans to the pleasures and benefits of reading poetry; bring poets and poetry to the public in immediate and innovative ways; make poetry an important part of our children's education; and
- Whereas,* as 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,* poetry enhances and enriches the lives of all Americans; and
- Whereas,* the words of a poet can reach across cultures, places, times, and people, to more deeply connect us to one another and our place in the world; and
- Whereas,* poetry, as an essential part of the arts and humanities, affects every aspect of life in America today, including education, the economy, and community pride and development; and
- Whereas,* poetry has produced some of the nation's leading creative artists and has inspired other artists in fields such as music, theatre, film, dance, and the visual arts.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that I, David Lesser, Mayor of the City of Manhattan Beach, California, on behalf of the City Council and the residents of Manhattan Beach, do hereby proclaim April, 2026 as

National Poetry Month

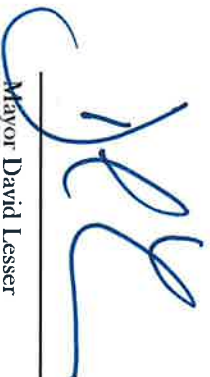
I call upon all public officials, educators, teaching artists, librarians, students, and all the people of the City of Manhattan Beach to observe this month, to celebrate the cultural riches our community has to offer, and to recognize the important role of poetry in creating and sustaining this great nation with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs.

Dated this 2nd day of April 2026.

ATTEST:



City Clerk Liza Tamura



Mayor David Lesser

