

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, since 1966 National Poetry Month has sought 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 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, Washington state recognizes the value of poetry to the culture and heritage of the state; and

WHEREAS, Tod Marshall the State Poet Laureate, appointed by the Governor, is working to build awareness and appreciation of poetry; and

WHEREAS, State Poet Laureate Marshall has announced a new State Poet Laureate project called Washington 129, an anthology of original poems gathered from the people of Washington; and

WHEREAS, Washington 129 will include one poem for every year of statehood up to 2018 and will include submissions from Washington poets no matter age or level of experience;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim April 2016 to be

National Poetry Month

in Washington, and I call upon public officials, educators, librarians, and all the people of Washington to participate in activities and projects that promote the reading and writing of poetry of all genre; and encourage the citizens of Washington to submit original poetry to be included in the new Washington 129 Anthology.

Signed this 29th day of March, 2016

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jay Inslee".

Governor Jay Inslee

