City of Santa Barbara

LETTER of RECOGNITION

NATIONAL POETRY MONTH – APRIL 2008

***WHEREAS**, the City of Santa Barbara is widely recognized as an arts center, providing a spiritual home for creative activity, and for writers, in particular; and*

***WHEREAS**, since 1996 the Academy of American Poets has designated April as National Poetry Month to highlight the extraordinary achievements and ongoing legacy of American Poets and increase visibility, presence, and accessibility of poetry in our communities and culture; and*

***WHEREAS**, the City of Santa Barbara recognizing of the value of poetry established a Poet Laureate position in order to direct proper attention and honor to the spoken word by utilizing poetry to celebrate and elevate community events; and*

***WHEREAS**, current City Poet Laureate Perie Longo will be leading the community through poetry-focused events and programs throughout the month of April; and*

***WHEREAS**, the City of Santa Barbara recognizes the value of the Arts Commission's participation in the Poetry Out Loud National Recitation Competition through a partnership with California Poets in the Schools, and California Arts Council; A program that helps high school students master public speaking, build self-confidence, and learn about their literary heritage.*

***NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARTY BLUM,** by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Santa Barbara, California, do hereby declare April as National Poetry Month in Santa Barbara.*

***IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Santa Barbara, California, to be affixed this 1st day of April 2008.*

Marty Blum

MARTY BLUM, MAYOR

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