



# Proclamation

## National Poetry Month

April 2026

**Whereas**, the Academy of American Poets established the month of April as National Poetry Month in 1966. National Poetry Month seeks to highlight the extraordinary legacy and ongoing achievement of American poets; introduce Americans to the pleasure and benefits of reading poetry; 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. Poetry, as an essential part of the arts and humanities, affects every aspect of life in America today, including education, the economy, community pride and development; and

**Whereas**, the City of Manteca established the position of poet laureate to Tara Rico in April 2024. The city's poet laureate program aims to enhance the vibrancy of Manteca by promoting poetry and encouraging community engagement with the literary arts; and

**Whereas**, poetry enhances and enriches the lives of all Americans. 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 art; and

**Now, Therefore**, I, Gary Singh, Mayor of the City of Manteca, on behalf of City Council, do recognize April 2026, as National poetry month and encourage all residents to celebrate the cultural riches our community has to offer.

**DATE:** April 7, 2026

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Mayor Gary Singh