



PROCLAMATION

**NATIONAL POETRY MONTH**

and the

APPOINTMENT OF POET LAUREATE

**ENID OSBORNE**

APRIL 2017

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

*WHEREAS, the City of Santa Barbara recognizes the value of the Office of Arts and Culture's participation in the Poetry Out Loud National Recitation Competition through a partnership with the California Arts Council, National Endowment for the Arts & National Poetry Foundation; this program helps local high school students master public speaking, build self-confidence, and learn about their literary heritage; 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 2005 to honor local literary excellence and the spoken word by utilizing poetry to celebrate and elevate community events; and*

*WHEREAS, the City of Santa Barbara hereby appoints **Enid Osborne** as the 2017-2019 Poet Laureate to steward appreciation of poetry and the written word in the community through events and programs at the Santa Barbara Public Library and elsewhere throughout April and the ensuing two-year appointment;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, **HELENE SCHNEIDER**, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Santa Barbara, do hereby proclaim April 2017 as **National Poetry Month**, and congratulate Santa Barbara's newest **Poet Laureate, Enid Osborne**.*

*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 11<sup>th</sup> day of April 2017.*

  
MAYOR HELENE SCHNEIDER

