



## LETTER of RECOGNITION

**Perie Longo**

**Poet Laureate for the City of Santa Barbara**

*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, the City of Santa Barbara commissioned the Poet Laureate Review Committee of the City Arts Advisory Committee to nominate a poet laureate in order to direct proper attention and honor to the spoken word by utilizing poetry to celebrate and elevate community events; and*

*WHEREAS, the Committee selected Perie Longo, who has inspired generations of students and appreciative audiences throughout the community with public recitations of sensitivity and intelligence, and a focus on the therapeutic powers of poetry; and*

*WHEREAS, Perie Longo has served with California Poets in the Schools as a poet-teacher, teacher trainer, and area coordinator of Santa Barbara County since 1984, has taught poetry writing to children in Santa Barbara area schools for more than 25 years, and has led poetry writing workshops for the Santa Barbara Writers Conference and the Santa Barbara Summer Poetry Workshop; and*

*WHEREAS, Perie authored three books of poetry, With Nothing Behind but Sky: a journey through grief, 2006; The Privacy of Wind, 1997; and Milking the Earth, 1986, and a CD of 23 selected poems Looking for Jamal, while her poems have been published in various poetry journals including California State Poetry Quarterly, The Prairie Schooner, Rattle, Rivertalk, Studia Mystica, Santa Barbara Magazine, and The Lucid Stone; and*

*WHEREAS, for the Douglas Family Preserve, she wrote the dedication poem and her words, literally, are carved in stone,*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARTY BLUM, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Santa Barbara, California, do hereby bestow upon PERIE LONGO the honor of serving as the City's Poet Laureate for a two-year term commencing April 3, 2007.*

*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 3rd day of April, 2007.*



**MARTY BLUM, MAYOR**

120.04

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