

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: The Academy of American Poets established the month of April as National Poetry Month in 1996; and

WHEREAS: National Poetry Month seeks 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: Poetry enhances and enriches the lives of all Americans; and

WHEREAS: Poetry is an essential part of the arts and humanities and affects every aspect of life in America today, including education, the economy, and community pride and development; and

WHEREAS: 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 arts; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim April 2019, as

**NATIONAL POETRY MONTH IN ARKANSAS**

across the State, and I urge all citizens to recognize the important role poetry plays in creating and sustaining the arts in our nation.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April, in the year of our Lord 2019.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest:

  
John Thurston, Secretary Of State