



THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING APRIL 2025 AS

NATIONAL POETRY MONTH

WHEREAS, in 1996, to support American poets of all ages in their careers and to foster the appreciation of contemporary poetry, the Academy of American Poets established the month of April as *National Poetry Month* – the largest literary celebration in the world; and

WHEREAS, Ada Limón, the 24th Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry for the United States, attests to “poetry’s immense power to reconnect us to the world, to allow us to heal, to love, to grieve, to remind us of the full spectrum of human emotion;” and

WHEREAS, poetry enhances and enriches our communities, fosters critical thinking, discipline, creativity, self-expression, and problem-solving skills, and inspires other artists in the fields of music, theatre, film, dance and the visual arts; and

WHEREAS, *National Poetry Month* seeks to highlight the extraordinary legacy and ongoing achievement of American poets, introduces citizens to the pleasures and benefits of reading poetry, brings poets and poetry to the public in immediate and innovative ways, and connects the next generation of creative minds with the art of poetry; and

WHEREAS, poetry is an essential part of civic life – a beloved and vital component of San Mateo County’s rich cultural history and contemporary landscape; and

WHEREAS, on April 23, 2013, the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors approved the establishment of the post of San Mateo County Poet Laureate to elevate poetry into the consciousness of San Mateo County residents and, since then, Poets Laureate have amplified the role of poetry and the literary arts across the County; and

WHEREAS, the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors has named Antonio De Jesús López as the fifth San Mateo County Poet Laureate to serve as ambassador and advocate for poetry, literature, and the arts throughout San Mateo County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, hereby designates April 2025 as *National Poetry Month* and calls upon public officials, educators, librarians, and all the people of San Mateo County to observe this month, to celebrate the cultural riches our community has to offer, and to recognize with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs the essential role poetry plays in our lives.

Dated: April 8, 2025

SUPERVISORS:

DAVID J. CANEPA, PRESIDENT

JACKIE SPEIER

NOELIA CORZO

RAY MUELLER

LISA GAUTHIER

ATTEST: _____
DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS