

***RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING
APRIL AS NATIONAL POETRY MONTH
IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY, AND
RECOGNIZING ORCUTT ACADEMY STUDENTS
FOR THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS IN “POETRY OUT LOUD”***

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, numerous presenters, including the County of Santa Barbara and the Santa Barbara City Poet Laureate, are offering free public poetry events throughout the month including *1st Thursday* Cultural Nights that include poetry readings by Santa Barbara Poets throughout the County and in conjunction with the Santa Barbara Public Library; and

WHEREAS, the regional Poetry Out Loud National Recitation Competition program, through a partnership with the California Arts Council, National Endowment for the Arts & National Poetry Foundation, helps local high school students master public speaking, build self-confidence, and learn about their literary heritage; and

WHEREAS, over 2000 high school students countywide from 7 local high schools participated in the Poetry Out Loud event; the entries were students from Dos Pueblos, Cabrillo, Carpinteria, Laguna Blanca, Orcutt Academy, Pioneer Valley and Santa Maria high schools; and

WHEREAS, Orcutt Academy High School students, Chloe Sheley and Derek Sportsman, finished in the top two places at the county competition held in Santa Barbara on February 15, 2017, which illustrates Orcutt Academy’s commitment to outstanding literary education; and

WHEREAS, Santa Barbara County was represented at the Poetry Out Loud State Competition in Sacramento the weekend of March 12, 2017 by Chloe Sheley, from Orcutt Academy, who was one of 43 students from 39 other Counties across California.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the month of April be proclaimed as National Poetry Month in Santa Barbara County, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, AND HEREBY ORDERED, that this Board of Supervisors offers congratulations to both Orcutt Academy students for their exceptional finishes and representation at the Poetry Out Loud competitions in the year 2017.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California, this 11th day of April 2017, by unanimous vote of all members present.