

## COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA RESOLUTION PROCLAMING APRIL 2012 **CALIFORNIA**

AS NATIONAL POETRY MONTH IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors formed the County Arts Commission in 1977 to serve as the regional cultural development agency as a State and Local Partner of the California Arts Council to support and encourage access to the arts for all county residents; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors acknowledges the vibrant role artists play in enriching our local quality of life and expression of our regional culture; 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 Arts Commission, in partnership with Paul J. Willis, City Poet Laureate and other presenters have organized free public poetry events throughout the month including 1st Thursday Downtown Cultural Nights that include poetry readings by Santa Barbara Poets throughout the City; and

WHEREAS, Santa Barbara County recognizes the value of the Arts Commission's 6 years of participation in the Poetry Out Loud National Recitation Competition through a partnership with the California Arts Council, National Endowment for the Arts, and the National Poetry Foundation. This program helps high school students master public speaking, build self-confidence, and learn about their literary heritage; and

WHEREAS, Santa Barbara County was represented at the Poetry Out Loud State Competition in Sacramento March 25th and 26th by Dos Pueblos Sophomore Madeleine Centrella.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors proclaims April 2012 as National Poetry Month in Santa Barbara County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State day of April, 2012 by a unanimous vote of all members present. of California, this 3rd

Supervisor - 1st District supervisor - 4th District Supervisor - 5th District

District