

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 emphasizes the importance poetry has on our children's education; and

WHEREAS, poetry, as an essential part of the arts and humanities, affects every aspect of life in America today, including education, the economy, and community pride and development, enriching the lives of all Americans; and

WHEREAS, in alignment with Coconut Creek's Vision 2030, the City is committed to promoting the arts, culture, and entertainment to ensure a high quality of life for our community members; and

WHEREAS, through the City's commitment to promoting the arts, culture, and entertainment, the City appointed its first Poet Laureate, Laura McDermott Matheric, on September 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, as an advocate for the arts and education within our community, the City's Poet Laureate is committed to fostering a love for literature and writing and enhancing the cultural landscape of our City; and

WHEREAS, poetry has produced some of the nation's leading creative artists, including Laura, and has inspired other artists in fields such as music, theatre, film, dance, and the visual arts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Commission of the City of Coconut Creek, Florida, hereby proclaims the month of April 2024 as

“NATIONAL POETRY MONTH”

to celebrate the cultural riches our community has to offer and recognize the important role poetry plays in creating and sustaining this great City with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto
set our hands and caused the seal of
the City of Coconut Creek to be affixed
this 11th day of April 2024.**