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Press Release

For Immediate Release April 5, 2017

WHAT: Annual Poetry Contest

WHEN: April 1-30, 2017

WHERE: Online at www.fresnolibrarypoetry.org

DETAILS: Fresno County Public Library (FCPL) kicked off its **18th Annual Poetry Contest** kicked

on April 1 to run through the 30th, in celebration of National Poetry Month. In addition to the contest, many poetry-related events are planned at library branches throughout the month of April. All are invited to submit their poems and find a schedule of events at

www.fresnolibrarypoetry.org.

Prizes, donated by the Friends of the Library, will be awarded for first, second and third place in four separate categories. The four categories are $3^{rd}-6^{th}$ grade, $7^{th}-8^{th}$ grade, $9^{th}-12^{th}$ grade and adults 18 years or older. Winners will be named at an awards ceremony hosted by current California Poet Laureate, Dana Gioia, at Bitwise South Stadium, 700 Van Ness Ave, Fresno on May 20^{th} starting at 1:00 PM.

This year is the first year that entries in the Adults category can be submitted in English and/or Spanish. The Library has secured the services of bilingual judges for this specific purpose.

"The overwhelming submission of poems from previous years is a statement that Fresno is home to many gifted poets. We eagerly anticipate receiving many beautiful poems from Fresno County residents again," states Kelley Landano, Interim County Librarian.

For further information, please call (559) 600-READ (7323) or visit the Library's website at www.fresnolibrary.org.