



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, January 18, 2023

Announcing National Poetry Month 2023: JOY

The League of Canadian Poets invites you to celebrate the 25th National Poetry Month this April 2023 with the theme of **JOY**.

In celebration of this theme, LCP has crafted a prose poem of interpretations of joy. We invite all poets and poetry enthusiasts to ask themselves “What does JOY mean to me?” this April 2023.

joy is. reading by a window with a soft blanket. an old plant with a new bloom. a completed to-do-list. the first big snowfall. banana bread in the oven. the squeak of sand under bare feet. a cat purring on my lap. finding the perfect GIF to send to the groupchat. a hot cup of coffee. filling the page with unplanned words. freshly painted nails. still and quiet moments of solitude, when all there is to do is rest. cold, crisp mornings. the careful turn of an old book’s pages. a fresh bowl of ramen. feeling blessed and loved. setting a personal best. my favourite pair of sneakers. planting vegetables in the garden. sitting on the couch doing nothing, partner on one side, dog on the other. the crack of a home run. a warm cup of milky Earl Grey. a sunset from a plane window.

What does JOY mean to you?

For more information about National Poetry Month, please visit poets.ca/npm.

You can also check out suggestions for how to get involved and celebrate this April here:

poets.ca/get-involved-with-national-poetry-month.

Applications for National Poetry Month Funding are open

Hosting an NPM event this year? We’re now accepting applications from event hosts for our NPM funding program. Thanks to the continued support of the Canada Council for the Arts, we are pleased to once again be able to provide funding directly to poets participating in NPM-themed events. Funding is available to LCP Members as well as general public. The deadline to apply is February 12, 2022. Find our application form and guidelines at poets.ca/funding.

#NPM23 Social Media Graphics, Poster and Bookmark

Coming soon! We are so excited to share National Poetry Month 2023 Poster, designed by Megan Fildes.

Looking to decorate your classroom, community space, library or home with NPM23 fun?

Place your order for National Poetry Month Poster and Bookmark here: [Order yours today!](#)

Poem in Your Pocket Day Returns

On April 28, 2023 we will celebrate [Poem in Your Pocket Day](#) across Canada. The day encourages people to select a poem, carry it with them, and share it with others throughout the day.

NPM Blog

Follow along all April for our special NPM Blog collection *On Joy*, featuring bespoke essays by Canadian poets reflecting on the theme of joy.

Join the #NPM23 Conversation!

Share your NPM activities and join the conversation by tagging us on [Twitter](#) or [Instagram @CanadianPoets](#), and use the official #NPM22 hashtag.

While you're planning, check out some of our resources if you need a place to start: our ["Get Involved" blog post](#) suggests many ways to celebrate April, from hosting an event to setting a 30-day writing challenge; as well as [suggested NPM activities for young readers](#) that can be facilitated by educators, parents, and librarians; and we rounded up a few little ways to work poetry into your day-to-day [here!](#)

Poetry Pause: JOY

All month long, [Poetry Pause](#) will be showcasing poetry about JOY!

Call for Submissions now open! Poetry Pause would like your JOY poems! Deadline: February 28, 2023. This call for submissions is open to LCP Members (at any membership tier) only. Seeking print or spoken word poems. Previously published poems are accepted. [Complete the submission form.](#)

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About National Poetry Month

Established in Canada in April 1998 by the League of Canadian Poets, National Poetry Month brings together schools, publishers, booksellers, literary organizations, libraries, and poets from across the country to celebrate poetry and its vital place in Canada's culture.

About Poem in Your Pocket Day

Each year on Poem in Your Pocket Day, schools, bookstores, libraries, parks, workplaces, and other venues ring loud with open readings of poems from pockets. As a special collaboration, the leading membership-based poetry organizations that sponsor National Poetry Month in North America—the League of Canadian Poets and the Academy of American Poets—have created a guide to inspire and assist with local Poem in Your Pocket Day celebrations.

About the League of Canadian Poets

Established in 1966, the League of Canadian Poets is a national non-profit organization dedicated to supporting, engaging, and promoting poets and poetry in Canada. For more information, visit [Poets.ca](#).

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