Welcome to our interactive Poetry in the Classroom Calendar, designed to inspire ideas for bringing poetry into your classroom throughout the 2019–2020 academic year. Click the linked icons and text to discover related resources.

For more than five decades, we’ve been dedicated to serving K–12 teachers through our programs and resources. Today, we’re the only poetry organization that offers materials for teachers overseen by an education expert. Our Educator in Residence, Dr. Madeleine Holzer, ensures that our education content is of the highest quality.

Visit our website, Poets.org, and find over 3,000 biographies of poets, over 10,000 poems discoverable by theme and occasion, plus lesson plans, short essays on poetic terms, guides to poetic schools and movements, and more...

- Browse Our Lesson Plans
- Read Essays on Teaching Poetry
- Sign Up for Teach This Poem and Our Educator Newsletter
- Create a Poetry Anthology to Share with Students
- Participate in the Dear Poet Project
- Celebrate National Poetry Month
- Sign Up for Poem-a-Day
- Find Poetry Near You
- Read Poems for Kids
- Browse Poetry Resources for Teens

We hope you have a great school year. And we’re sincerely grateful for all that you do! Here’s hoping our calendar makes it a little easier.

**THEMES:**
- **Back to School**
- **National Hispanic Heritage Month**
- **National Translation Month**

**News from the Academy of American Poets**
- **National Poetry Month Poster Request Form Opens**
- **National Poetry Month Poster Contest Begins**

- **2** Labor Day
- **8** International Literacy Day
- **8** National Arts in Education Week Begins
- **10** **BIRTHDAY** H. D. (b. 1886)
- **15** **BIRTHDAY** Claude McKay (b. 1889)
- **17** **BIRTHDAY** William Carlos Williams (b. 1883)
- **22** Banned Books Week Begins
- **23** First Day of Autumn
- **24** National Punctuation Day
- **25** **BIRTHDAY** Shel Silverstein (b. 1930)
- **26** **BIRTHDAY** T. S. Eliot (b. 1888)
**THEMES:**  
- Native American Heritage Month  
- Thanksgiving

**November**

**Themes:**

- Native American Heritage Month  
- Thanksgiving

**News from the Academy of American Poets**

- Fall-Winter American Poets Magazine Released

**BIRTHDAY**

- 1  Stephen Crane (b. 1871)
- 4  C. K. Williams (b. 1936)
- 9  Anne Sexton (b. 1928)
- 15  Marianne Moore (b. 1887)
- 17  Jupiter Hammon (b. 1711)
- 23  Paul Celan (b. 1920)
- 28  William Blake (b. 1757)

**Election Day**

- 5

**Veterans Day**

- 11

**Thanksgiving**

- 28
THEMES: ❖ Winter

1 Rosa Parks Begins the Montgomery Bus Boycott, 1955
   World AIDS Day
4 BIRTHDAY Rainer Maria Rilke (b. 1875)
5 BIRTHDAY Christina Rossetti (b. 1830)
7 Attack on Pearl Harbor, 1941
8 BIRTHDAY James Tate (b. 1943)
9 BIRTHDAY John Milton (b. 1608)
10 BIRTHDAY Emily Dickinson (b. 1830)
13 BIRTHDAY James Wright (b. 1927)
15 BIRTHDAY Muriel Rukeyser (b. 1913)
16 Boston Tea Party, 1773
19 President Obama Signs the Native American Apology Resolution, 2009
21 First Day of Winter
25 George Washington Crosses the Delaware River, 1776
26 BIRTHDAY Jean Toomer (b. 1894)
30 BIRTHDAY Rudyard Kipling (b. 1865)

THEMES: ❖ New Year

News from the Academy of American Poets
❖ Dear Poet Project Begins

❖ 1 New Year’s Day
6 BIRTHDAY Carl Sandburg (b. 1878)
7 BIRTHDAY Robert Duncan (b. 1919)
10 BIRTHDAY Philip Levine (b. 1928)
16 BIRTHDAY Robinson Jeffers (b. 1887)
17 BIRTHDAY Laura Riding Jackson (b. 1901)
18 The National Day
19 BIRTHDAY Edgar Allan Poe (b. 1809)
20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
22 BIRTHDAY George Gordon Byron (b. 1788)
23 National Handwriting Day
25 BIRTHDAY Robert Burns (b. 1759)
27 BIRTHDAY Lewis Carroll (b. 1832)
THEMES: ✿ Valentine’s Day
  ✿ Black History Month

📅 1 BIRTHDAY Langston Hughes (b. 1902)
  World Read Aloud Day
📅 2 BIRTHDAY James Joyce (b. 1882)
📅 14 Valentine’s Day
📅 17 Presidents’ Day
📅 18 BIRTHDAY Audre Lorde (b. 1934)
📅 20 World Day of Social Justice
📅 21 BIRTHDAY W. H. Auden (b. 1907)
📅 22 BIRTHDAY Edna St. Vincent Millay (b. 1892)
📅 26 Tell a Fairy Tale Day
📅 27 BIRTHDAY Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (b. 1807)

THEMES: ✿ Women’s History Month
  ✿ Spring

📅 1 BIRTHDAY Robert Lowell (b. 1917)
📅 2 BIRTHDAY Dr. Seuss (b. 1904)
📅 3 BIRTHDAY James Merrill (b. 1926)
📅 4 National Grammar Day
📅 6 BIRTHDAY Elizabeth Barrett Browning (b. 1806)
📅 8 International Women’s Day
📅 12 BIRTHDAY Jack Kerouac (b. 1922)
📅 14 Pi Day
📅 17 St. Patrick’s Day
📅 19 First Day of Spring
📅 20 World Storytelling Day
📅 21 World Poetry Day
📅 26 BIRTHDAY Robert Frost (b. 1874)
📅 27 BIRTHDAY Frank O’Hara (b. 1926)
📅 31 BIRTHDAY Octavio Paz (b. 1914)
THEMES: • National Poetry Month!
• Arab American Heritage Month

News from the Academy of American Poets
• Spring-Summer American Poets Magazine Released

❖ 3 BIRTHDAY George Herbert (b. 1593)
❖ 4 BIRTHDAY Maya Angelou (b. 1928)
❖ 7 BIRTHDAY William Wordsworth (b. 1770)
❖ 9 BIRTHDAY Charles Baudelaire (b. 1821)
❖ 13 BIRTHDAY Seamus Heaney (b. 1939)
❖ 15 Abraham Lincoln Dies, 1865
❖ 16 BIRTHDAY U.S. Poet Laureate Tracy K. Smith (b. 1972)
❖ 17 Haiku Poetry Day
❖ 18 Paul Revere’s Ride, 1775
❖ 19 Earth Day
❖ 22 National Library Week Begins
❖ 23 BIRTHDAY William Shakespeare (b. 1564)
❖ 29 Children’s Book Week Begins
❖ 30 Dear Poet Letters Due

Featured Resources for National Poetry Month
• Visit Poets.org for More Ways to Celebrate

❖ Have your class participate in our multimedia project Dear Poet.
❖ Download our guide to celebrating Poem in Your Pocket Day.
❖ Display the new National Poetry Month poster.
❖ Read “How to Read a Poem” by Edward Hirsch.
❖ Host a student spoken word event at your school.
❖ Have your students read and write sonnets.
❖ Read an excerpt of The Life of Poetry by Muriel Rukeyser.
❖ Sign up for Poem-a-Day to keep reading all year long.
❖ Share your activities with us on social media:
  #NationalPoetryMonth
❖ Lesson Plans for Introducing Poetry
❖ Lesson Plans about Ars Poetica Poems
❖ Lesson Plans for Spring
THEMES: ❖ Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month
❖ Get Caught Reading

❖ 1 May Day
❖ 3 World Press Freedom Day
❖ 4 National Teacher Appreciation Week Begins
❖ 7 BIRTHDAY Robert Browning (b. 1812)
❖ 9 BIRTHDAY Mona Van Duyn (b. 1921)
❖ 10 Mother’s Day
❖ 12 BIRTHDAY Edward Lear (b. 1812)
❖ 16 BIRTHDAY Adrienne Rich (b. 1929)
❖ 18 International Museum Day
❖ 20 BIRTHDAY Allen Ginsberg (b. 1926)
❖ 24 Brooklyn Bridge Opened, 1883
❖ 25 BIRTHDAY Ralph Waldo Emerson (b. 1803)
❖ Memorial Day
❖ 28 BIRTHDAY May Swenson (b. 1913)
❖ 30 BIRTHDAY Countee Cullen (b. 1903)
❖ 31 BIRTHDAY Walt Whitman (b. 1819)

THEMES: ❖ LGBTQ Pride Month
❖ Graduation

❖ 2 BIRTHDAY Thomas Hardy (b. 1840)
❖ 3 BIRTHDAY Allen Ginsberg (b. 1926)
❖ 5 BIRTHDAY Federico García Lorca (b. 1898)
❖ 7 BIRTHDAY Gwendolyn Brooks (b. 1917)
❖ 13 BIRTHDAY W. B. Yeats (b. 1865)
❖ 14 Flag Day
❖ 21 Father’s Day
❖ 27 BIRTHDAY Lucille Clifton (b. 1936)
❖ 30 BIRTHDAY Paul Laurence Dunbar (b. 1872)

Summer Reading
❖ Sign up for Teach This Poem to receive curated anthologies of poems on popular themes.
❖ Browse other summer reading activities.