

WHEREAS, April is observed in the United States as National Poetry Month; and

WHEREAS, April 23<sup>rd</sup> has been declared UNESCO's International Day of the Book; and

WHEREAS, April 23<sup>rd</sup> is observed in the United States, the United Kingdom, and Ireland as World Book Night; and

WHEREAS, Madison, Indiana was home to Sarah T. Bolton, who has been called the "Pioneer Poet Laureate of Indiana"; and

WHEREAS, Madison was a regular haunt of James Whitcomb Riley, known during his lifetime as "The Hoosier Poet"; and

WHEREAS, Madison is currently home to published poets, both established and emerging; and

WHEREAS, On April 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of this year, Madison will be the site for Poetpalooza 2012: A Tri-State Poetry Summit, hosting 16 acclaimed poets from Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio, including two current and three former State Poets Laureate; and

WHEREAS, The beauty of Madison and its natural environs provide inspiration for the inner poet in all of us;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Damon Welch, Mayor of the City of Madison, Indiana do hereby proclaim the week of April 23<sup>rd</sup> through 30<sup>th</sup> as **The Week of the Poet** in Madison, Indiana.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Madison to be affixed this 17<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2012.