



**National Poetry Day** will take place on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2019. It is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, and the theme is TRUTH.

**National Poetry Day** inspires people throughout the UK to enjoy, discover and share poems. Everyone is invited to join in, whether by organising events, displays, competitions or by simply posting favourite lines of poetry on social media using #NationalPoetryDay.

This year, **Forward Arts Foundation** is pleased to announce new sponsorship for **National Poetry Day** from book wholesaler **Gardners**, and from educational supplier **Browns Books for Students**.

**Schofield and Sims** are also supporting the NPD educational resources and **ALCS** are sponsoring **#MyNPDpoem**, a special schools competition launched at the 2019 CLiPPA ceremony (CLPE Poetry Award).

#### **SPECIAL ACTIVITY FOR 2019 INCLUDES:**

**#MyNPDpoem** [#MyNPDpoem](#) encourages schools everywhere to create poems, performances, displays and their own special poetry anthologies as part of the 25th anniversary celebrations for National Poetry Day.

**#SpeakYourTruthPoem** Supported by poets Nikita Gill, Tony Walsh and Savannah Brown, **National Poetry Day** is showcasing the talent and enthusiasm of young poets by asking anyone aged 18 and above to share a truth that matter via a poem uploaded to YouTube.

**#HomeTruths** campaign: in association with **BBC Local Radio National Poetry Day** is collecting local truths from listeners in 13 different regions in the UK. Stand out truths will be given to specially chosen poets who will turn them into poems to be broadcast by the BBC on **National Poetry Day**.

**Recommended poetry reading:** **National Poetry Day** has curated four lists of recommended poetry: the best new poetry, poetry for children and for young people, together with a list of books recommended for book groups. The lists are featured on bookmarks and special reading group notes will be distributed via the **Reading Agency**.

**Tell Me the Truth About Life:** Celebrating poetry's power to tap into the truths that matter this indispensable collection, curated by Cerys Matthews, features poems nominated by a range of ordinary and extraordinary people. Their choices include contemporary work by Yrsa Daley-Ward, Warsan Shire and Kei Miller alongside classics by W H Auden, Emily Dickinson and Dylan Thomas. Michael O'Mara, 12<sup>th</sup> September. £12.99 hbk.



**The Forward Book of Poetry 2020:** The **Forward Book of Poetry 2020** brings together a selection of the best poetry published in the British Isles over the last year, including the winners of the 2019 Forward Prizes. Foreword by jury chair Shahidha Bari.

**Places of Poetry:** National Poetry Day is delighted to support **Places of Poetry** which invites writers to pin poems of place, heritage and identity to its distinctive digital map of England and Wales. The aim is to gather 5,000 poems by 3<sup>rd</sup> October. Not added a poem yet? There's still time.

**Poetry Postcards:** To mark UNESCO's 'Year of Indigenous Languages' and in celebration of the UK's languages and poetry, Forward Arts Foundation in association with the Scottish Poetry Library and Literature Wales has created a set of six special poetry postcards for National Poetry Day.



**In Poetry, Truth**, a poetry anthology for businesses created in association with **The Reader**. A short collection of poems for use in business, poetry for lunch break, team meeting, to start the day.

**Poetry Booksellers Love:** To celebrate National Poetry Day's 25th anniversary in 2019, the Booksellers Association and Forward Arts Foundation have joined together to announce Poetry Booksellers Love, a list of 25 favourite poetry books from the last 25 years as nominated and voted for by booksellers in the UK and Ireland.

#### **PLUS, FIND OUT MORE ON THE NATIONAL POETRY DAY WEBSITE:**

New educational resources on the theme of truth, free to download.

New TRUTH films by Michael Rosen, Karl Nova, Rachel Rooney, Joseph Coelho and Victoria Adukwei Bulley with new writing resources created by **CLPE** and **NLT**.

New ten-minute poetry writing video and Assembly packs created by Simon Mole and in association with the **National Literacy Trust**.

24 **National Poetry Day Ambassadors** taking poetry into schools across the UK and championing poetry everywhere. The Ambassadors include Michael Rosen; Sarah Crossan; Tony Walsh; Karl Nova, Gruffudd Owen and James Carter.

#### **FREE RESOURCES AND MATERIALS TO DOWNLOAD:**

[TRUTH poems](#) Posters including What's On posters

[Toolkits for schools, bookshops, libraries](#) and anyone interested in running events

The [National Poetry Day blog](#) with news, interviews, poetry and tips

#### **GET INVOLVED**

Add *your* events and celebrations to the National Poetry Day events map: help us log the poetry celebrations and identify the UK's most poetic regions

Share your favourite poems on 3<sup>rd</sup> October using #NationalPoetryDay

Sign up to be kept up to date: [nationalpoetryday.co.uk/join-our-mailing-list-full](http://nationalpoetryday.co.uk/join-our-mailing-list-full)

Or contact: **Andrea Reece, National Poetry Day manager**  
[andrea@forwardartsfoundation.org](mailto:andrea@forwardartsfoundation.org)

#NationalPoetryDay #InPoetryTruth [nationalpoetryday.co.uk](http://nationalpoetryday.co.uk)

