



County of Sonoma

State of California

Date: September 13, 2022

Item Number: _____

Resolution Number: _____

4/5 Vote Required

Resolution of the Board of Supervisors, County of Sonoma, State of California, Congratulating Ada Limón on being the Nation's 24th Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry 2022-2023

WHEREAS, Ada Limón grew up in Sonoma, California, of Mexican and European ancestry and now lives in Lexington, Kentucky where she writes, teaches remotely in the Master of Fine Arts program at Queen University of Charlotte, and hosts the critically acclaimed poetry podcast, The Slowdown in which she introduces and reads poems by a wide range of poets; and

WHEREAS, The Library of Congress has had a poet consultant since 1937 and in 1985, an act of Congress officially established the role that is now known as Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry and the position is appointed annually; and

WHEREAS, in July 2022, Ada was named by the Library of Congress as the nation's 24th poet laureate joining a line of distinguished poets and will take up her duties in the fall, opening the library's annual literary season on September 29, 2022 with a reading of her work in the Coolidge Auditorium; and

WHEREAS Ada dates her passion for poetry to a reading of Elizabeth Bishop's poem "One Art"; and

WHEREAS, she was the first employee at Readers' back in 1991 where she started working at the age of fifteen; and

WHEREAS, Ada earned a Master of Fine Arts degree from New York University and is the recipient of fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the New York Foundation for the Arts, the Provincetown Fine Arts Work Center, and the Kentucky Foundation for Women; and

WHEREAS, Ada is the author of six volumes of poetry, including *The Carrying*, which won the National Book Critics Circle Award for Poetry and before that, *Bright Dead Things* was nominated for the National Book Award, the National Book Critics Circle Award, and the Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award; and

WHEREAS, Ada Limón often invokes what she calls her ancestors, the family who have brought her to where she is today and in her newest book of poetry, *The Hurting Kind*, released from Milkweed Editions in May 2022, which looks to nature and family history, she pays tribute to her grandparents, one gone, one still alive; and

WHEREAS, Ada is described as a poet who connects where her accessible, engaging poems ground us in where we are and who we share our world with. They speak of intimate truths, of the beauty and heartbreak that is living, in ways that help us move forward; and

WHEREAS, in response to the appointment as poet Laurette, Ada Limón humbly expressed that the “recognition belongs to the teachers, poets, librarians and ancestors from all over the world that have been lifting up poetry for years.”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma do hereby congratulate Ada Limon on being the Nation’s 24th Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry 2022-2023.

Supervisors:

Gorin:

Rabbitt:

Coursey:

Hopkins:

Gore:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

So Ordered.