

## THE ACADEMY OF AMERICAN POETS' GOALS FOR NATIONAL POETRY MONTH:

- To highlight the extraordinary legacy and ongoing achievement of American poets
- To introduce more Americans to the pleasures of reading poetry
- To bring poets and poetry to the public in immediate and innovative ways
- To make poetry a more important part of the school curriculum
- To increase the attention paid to poetry by national and local media
- To encourage increased publication, distribution, and sales of poetry books
- To increase public and private philanthropic support for poets and poetry

## ONLINE POETRY COLLECTIONS:

[www.poets.org](http://www.poets.org) (The Academy of American Poets website)  
[www.poems.com](http://www.poems.com)  
[www.emule.com/poetry](http://www.emule.com/poetry)

Poems and realaudio recordings of Minnesota poets and poets visiting Minnesota at  
[www.startribune.com/bookmark/genre.html](http://www.startribune.com/bookmark/genre.html)

Starbuck Classical Poetry Port offers poetry, articles, and forums devoted to traditional poets from Shakespeare to Dickinson [www.starbuck.com](http://www.starbuck.com)

100 of the greatest poems:  
[www.poetry.com/greatestpoems/list.asp](http://www.poetry.com/greatestpoems/list.asp)



## LESSON PLANS AND STUDENT ACTIVITIES:

magnetic poetry site at <http://prominence.com/java/poetry/>

an anthology created from magnetic poetry

[www.muwp.org/anthology2k1](http://www.muwp.org/anthology2k1)

Click on *Table of Contents*, select *Plotting Poetry*

At the Poetry Alive! website, you can purchase their performance poetry CDs or book one of their high-energy shows. They also publish some student poems and have a list of great links for students:

[www.poetryalive.com/students/funpage.html](http://www.poetryalive.com/students/funpage.html)

Yahoo! also has a good collection of links for students promoting Poetry Month

<http://promotions.yahoo.com/promotions/poe>

fun sites for younger students and lesson ideas for their teachers:

[www.gigglepoetry.com](http://www.gigglepoetry.com)

[www.kristinegeorge.com](http://www.kristinegeorge.com)

[www.night.net/tucker](http://www.night.net/tucker)

poetry lesson plan ideas

[www.teachervision.com/lesson-plans/lesson-6657.html](http://www.teachervision.com/lesson-plans/lesson-6657.html)

New York Times poetry crossword puzzle

[www.nytimes.com/learning/teachers/xwords/19990401.html](http://www.nytimes.com/learning/teachers/xwords/19990401.html)

## POETRY PLAY-OFFS

Mark Riccardi turns the March Madness basketball play-offs into a poetry event. In his school last years 4 teachers "competed" with their classes in the March Madness Poetry Tournament. Fellow teacher Cari Ashford explains, "We each were assigned as the East, North, South, or West brackets. Therefore we did not have to go through all 64 poems, but rather each "unit" looked at 16. In our classes we read 2 poems each day and voted. It was up to the individual teacher how they wanted to do this. In the beginning I just read the poems and allowed the students to vote. As we moved further into the tournament we took more time to discuss the poems.

Each unit came up with their winner...thus The Final Four. Then all 4 units met in the auditorium one morning. Each unit had someone perform their winning poem, and then everyone voted.

It was fun to celebrate poetry in such a way. " - Cari Ashford [minnashford@yahoo.com](mailto:minnashford@yahoo.com)

For a template for play-off brackets

<http://teacherweb.com/CT/RHAM/MrsLebel/MarchMadness2.doc>

for the 64 poem tournament, copy 2, tape them in the middle and add 2 more lines