

Poetry and Literature Resources for Parents and Teachers

Library of Congress Open Office Hours (April 2, 2020)

Library of Congress Resources

Poetry and Literature Center Landing Page

The [Library of Congress website](#) features a wealth of poetry and literature resource for parents, educators, and students. Our main [Poetry and Literature landing page](#) leads to a number of [collections and features](#), such as the [Archive of Recorded Poetry and Poetry](#) and the [Poetry of America series](#), that can be used with middle school and high school students.

The Library is home to the [U.S. poet laureate](#), and through the Poetry & Literature pages you'll find links to [national projects created by former U.S. poets laureate](#), such as Billy Collins' [Poetry 180](#), that can be incorporated into remote learning environments.

Resource Guides

The Library makes available a number of [resource guides](#) related to poetry and literature, including a guide on current U.S. poet laureate [Joy Harjo](#), as well as guides to [past poets laureate](#) such as [Robert Frost](#). Since U.S. poets laureate are among the most influential and important poets who have been writing since the mid-20th century, learning more about them and their poetry through these guides is a great way for students to learn about America's literary heritage.

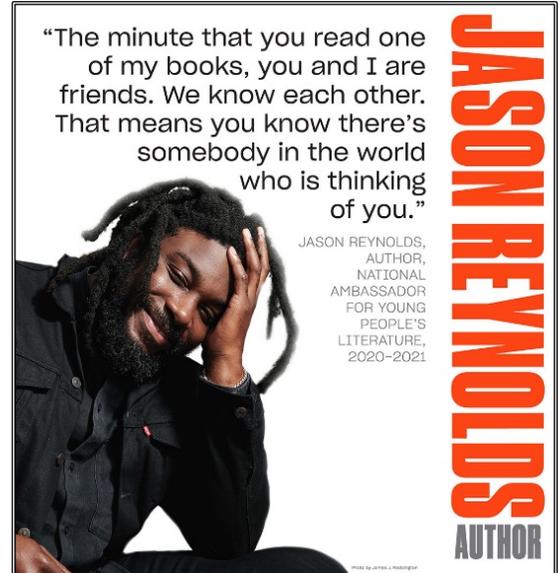
Other guides of interest include one on [Jason Reynolds](#), the current [National Ambassador for Young People's Literature](#), a [Walt Whitman resource guide](#), and a [main poetry resources guide](#) that brings together much of the poetry content available on the Library's website.

Blogs

The Library of Congress's poetry and literature blog, [From the Catbird Seat](#), highlights poetry content on the Library's website, discusses past and upcoming poetry events at the Library, and offers teachers ideas on how to use our poetry resources in the classroom. It's one of the best resources for staying on top of all things poetry-related at the Library. Of particular interest is the blog's monthly ["Teacher's Corner" series](#), in which former Library of Congress Teacher-in-Residence Rebecca Newland offers lesson plans and activity ideas for how teachers can introduce the Library's poetry content to students.

Three recently published *From the Catbird Seat* posts that offer tips and suggested resources for educators looking for remote learning opportunities are:

- ["Hey Hey, it's National Poetry Month!"](#)



- [“‘Dear Poet’: Promoting Poetry and Poets Laureate to Kids at Home”](#)
- [“For Teachers: Identifying Books for Live and Recorded Storytimes with Students”](#)

Also consult the [Teaching with the Library of Congress blog](#) for additional ideas on using Library resources with students. The blog includes many [posts related to poetry and literature](#).



Teacher’s Page

The Library’s [Teacher’s Page](#) is the main portal for teachers looking to introduce Library content into the classroom. Through it you’ll find many [classroom materials](#), including adaptable [poetry and literature lesson plans](#), and [primary source sets](#) such as ones on [found poetry](#) and the [Harlem Renaissance](#).

Library of Congress: Engage!

The new [Library of Congress: Engage!](#) portal is a place where you’ll find resources and ideas for how students, parents, and educators can engage with authors through the Library. One of the resources available through this page is the new *Dav Pilkey at Home* series, which was [recently announced](#). This series is a collaboration between Dav

Pilkey and the Library of Congress to help serve children and families online during the coronavirus pandemic. Be sure to regularly check this portal for new resources you can use with your children and students.

And More....

You’ll find many other resource of interest on our site, including:

- [Today in History](#), which features entries on significant figures or events in American history, including [many entries related to poetry and literature](#).
- Webcasts of [past Library events](#), including programs sponsored by our [Poetry and Literature Center](#) and [National Book Festival author readings](#).
- More than [four-hundred digital collections](#) on all subjects and featuring primary source materials such as manuscripts, sound recordings, maps, photographs, videos, sheet music, digitized books, and more. Many of these collections include materials related to poetry and literature, while there are a number that [focus specifically on poetry or literature content](#), such as the [Walt Whitman Papers in the Charles E. Feinberg Collection](#). Check each collection’s About page for a list of “Expert Resources” associated with the collection, including teacher resources, online exhibits, finding aids, and more.
- [Chronicling America](#), a collection of historical U.S. newspaper pages covering 1789-1963. For strategies on locating newspaper content on different subject in Chronicling America, consult the [Recommended Topics pages](#) created by staff in the Library’s Serials Division. Among the Recommend Topics are [Walt Whitman](#) and [World War I Poetry](#).

Have Question? Ask a Librarian!

If you have further questions about Library-related poetry and literature resources, contact us through our [Ask a Librarian service](#). Submit your question through our [General Inquiries form](#) and we'll route it to the appropriate Library division or specialist for response.



External Resources

Poetry Foundation: <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/>

The Poetry Foundation is one of the largest poetry organizations in the country. You'll find many [Learning Resources](#) on its website, including a new collection of [resources for teaching poetry online](#). You can search its website to locate [poems suitable for children](#) as well as [poems suitable for teens](#).

Academy of American Poets: <https://poets.org/>

Like the Poetry Foundation, the Academy of American Poets is one of the largest poetry organizations in the United States. Through its website you can locate a large collection of [Materials for Teachers](#), including a suite of [virtual programs designed for National Poetry Month](#). Among these programs are the ["Dear Poet 2020" series](#), featuring current U.S. Poet Laureate Joy Harjo, and [Teach This Poem](#), designed for K-12 educators to quickly and easily introduce poetry into the classroom.

Favorite Poem Project: <http://www.favoritepoem.org/>

A video series launched by former Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky that features people reading and discussing their favorite poems. See its collection of [Teacher Resources](#) for ideas how to introduce the series into remote learning environments.