



APRIL – National Poetry Month – A Month’s worth of prompts to celebrate and honour 75 years of Tower Poetry Society

Explore. Challenge yourself. See where inspiration leads. Find a new way, a new path. No pressure, no pain, no judgement. Do One, do some, do them All. (see reverse for descriptions and Hamilton facts)		1 Write a Spring HAIKU	2 Describe what LOVE feels like	3 Write a poem to inspire HOPE	4 Say the UNSAID thing
5 Describe yourself as your best FRIEND would	6 Write a poem about RESOLUTION or FORGIVENESS	7 Write a poem using ALLITERATION	8 Describe a RAINY day	9 Imagine the world through NEWBORN eyes	10 Describe your hopes for the world AFTER you
12 Write a TANKA	13 Write a poem inspired by a 1951 Fact, the year TPS started.	14 Write a poem to your CHILDHOOD self	15 Write a LIMERICK	16 Write an ODE	17 Write a SIJO
19 Write a poem as a mythical GOD/ GODDESS	20 Write a poem that begins with a line from ANOTHER poem	21 TPS OPEN MIC FOOL&FLAGON 6:30 pm Bring a friend! Read prompt poem!	22 Write your OBITUARY	23 Describe SILENCE	24 Write a poetic answer for an ADVICE column
26 Write an ode to SADNESS	27 Describe your PERFECT day	28 Explain the HUMAN experience	29 Write an ode to a BEVERAGE you enjoy	30 Create a poem about TREPIDATION... it is tax season...	11 TPS WORKSHOP! 2:00 pm Westdale Bring a prompt inspired poem! Bring a friend!
					18 Write a poem wooing another’s DARKNESS
					25 Make a list of your FAVOURITE poems

Use responses to build a new poem. Consider sharing your poems at a workshop. Which prompt gave you the most fun? Which presented the biggest challenge? Which one surprised you? How did your work change? How did you change? We look forward to hearing about it.



DEFINITIONS of some Poetic Terms

HAIKU = a traditional form of Japanese poetry consisting of three unrhymed lines with a 5-7-5 syllable structure

ALLITERATION = the occurrence of the same letter or sound at the beginning of adjacent or closely connected words.

SONNET = a 14-line poem traditionally written in iambic pentameter (10 syllables per line, alternating stress) with a strict rhyme scheme

TANKA = a traditional form of Japanese poetry consisting of five lines with a 5-7-5 syllable structure. Describes an event or mood.

LIMERICK = a humorous, frequently bawdy, verse of three long and two short lines, with the rhyming scheme, **aabba**.

ODE = a lyric poem in the form of an address to a particular subject, often elevated in style or manner and written in varied or irregular meter.

SIJO = a form of Korean poetry consisting of 14–16 syllables per line (42–48 total), about nature, philosophy, or emotion. Lyrical, often sung.

OBITUARY = a notice of a death, especially in a newspaper, typically including a brief biography of the deceased person.

ENCHANTMENT = Incantation, magical spell, charm, or bewitchment, traditional in fairy tales or fantasy.

HAMILTON 1951 Facts:

- The end of the railway streetcar era in Hamilton came in the early hours of April 6, 1951, when the Belt Line route was abandoned, car 519 making the last revenue run. Even though it no longer operated on railway tracks, the name Hamilton Street Railway continued to be used, and is still used today.
- March 28, 1951 – Ballerina Karen Kain born in Hamilton, Ontario.
- Hamilton's City Hall was the site of intense debate and planning for a new, modern building to replace the aging, inadequate, and even dangerous Old City Hall began that year.
- McMaster University Faculty Association (MUFA) was founded in the university's new Hamilton campus, representing faculty interests.