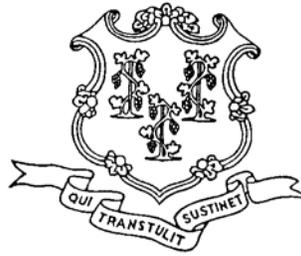


State of



Connecticut

By Her Excellency M. Jodi Rell, Governor: an

Official Statement

WHEREAS, John Hollander is an inspiring presence in American literary life and one of the nation's most distinguished poets; and

WHEREAS, since receiving the Yale Younger Poets Prize in 1958 for his first collection of poems, *A Crackling of Thorns*, John Hollander has produced an unparalleled body of work that is widely acclaimed for its brilliance, virtuosity and originality; and

WHEREAS, he has written 22 books of poetry, several works of criticism and numerous anthologies, as well as books for children and operatic and lyric works; and

WHEREAS, John Hollander is a renowned educator, having taught at Yale University for decades until his retirement in 2003; and

WHEREAS, his collection, *Rhyme's Reason*, is the definitive handbook for teaching poetry and has influenced generations of students; and

WHEREAS, an inspiring lecturer, he has addressed an array of audiences and devoted countless hours to promoting an appreciation of poetry among the larger public; and

WHEREAS, John Hollander has received many honors and awards including the Bollingen Prize, the Levinson Prize and the MLA Shaughnessy Medal, as well as fellowships from the MacArthur Foundation, the Guggenheim Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts; and in 1997 received the Connecticut Governor's Arts Award; and

WHEREAS, John Hollander has been selected by the Commission on Culture & Tourism to serve as Connecticut's Poet Laureate from 2007 through 2011, and in this position will serve as an advocate for poetry, fostering appreciation of poetry and writing throughout Connecticut; now

THEREFORE, I, M. Jodi Rell, Governor of the State of Connecticut, do hereby officially proclaim John Hollander to be the

POET LAUREATE

in the State of Connecticut from 2007 through 2011.



M. Jodi Rell
Governor