



Amanda Gorman Performing at NFL Super Bowl

What is a poet laureate?

- This tradition began in the UK in the 17th century. In the UK today, The Queen selects the poet laureate.
- In America, the poet laureate acts as America's official poet who performs at large events and national ceremonies.

Amanda Gorman, America's first National Youth Poet Laureate, has made quite an impression it would seem.

Since Gorman delivered her poem 'The Hill We Climb' at President Joe Biden's **inauguration**, the sky appears to be the limit for the 22-year-old!

And now, it has been revealed that Gorman will be performing once again. This time, at the Super Bowl. This is a special event for the National Football League (NFL) in America and takes place annually. Poetry is not generally **recited** at the event; however, her recital at the inauguration caught the organisers' eye (and ears!).

Gorman will be joining a host of celebrities, such as Miley Cyrus and The Weeknd, who will be performing at the event.

She will be writing and performing a poem that will pay **tribute** to teachers, nurses and **veterans**. The poem will celebrate three particular individuals who were chosen by the NFL for their efforts during the coronavirus pandemic.

But that's not all that's on the horizon for the talented poet! She has now been signed up to a modelling agency, joining a host of the world's top models.



Illustration: Amanda Gorman.

It appears that people are keen to hear more from Amanda Gorman. Her books, which are set to be released in September this year, are already topping the charts. Taking to her social media, Gorman said, "I AM ON THE FLOOR" and "Thank you so much to everyone for supporting me and my words."

What will be next for Amanda Gorman? Well, she has already said she wants to run for president of the US in 2036...

Glossary

inauguration	A ceremony to recognise a new president starting their role.
recited	To speak aloud in front of an audience.
tribute	Something created to give thanks or show admiration.
veterans	Someone who used to serve in the armed forces.

Questions

1. When did the tradition of the 'poet laureate' begin?

2. What evidence in the text is there that the organisers of the NFL Super Bowl enjoyed Amanda Gorman's inauguration poem 'The Hill We Climb'?

3. 'She has now been signed up to a modelling agency, joining a host of the world's top models.' What does the word 'host' mean in this sentence? (tick one)

a leader

a membership

an audience

a selection of

4. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they appear in the article. One has been done for you.

Amanda's books went to the top of the book charts.

1 She recited her poem 'The Hill We Climb.'

Gorman was invited to perform at the NFL Super Bowl.

She signed up to a modelling agency.

5. How do you think Amanda might have felt when she was first asked to perform at President Joe Biden's inauguration?

6. Summarise the key information in the article using 15 words or fewer.
