

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Alexandria Historical Society recognizes individuals and organizations who have made a difference in the research, preservation, and interpretation of Alexandria's History through its awards program; and this year it is fitting to acknowledge three such individuals whose bodies of work deserve acknowledgement and accolades, and they shall be listed accordingly; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Brenda Mitchell-Powell, through her research on the effort to desegregate Alexandria's libraries and her book *Public in Name Only: The 1939 Alexandria Library Sit-In Demonstration*, has enriched the city's understanding of this important part of its past and how the efforts of Samuel Tucker and others to integrate Alexandria influenced other civil rights efforts throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, Al Cox, FAIA, over his 29-year career as City Architect, Historic Preservation Manager and BAR staff member with the City of Alexandria has played a key role in preserving the city's history, and through his ongoing support to the Murray-Dick-Fawcett House and Freedom House Museum continues to support history in Alexandria; and

WHEREAS, Michael Johnson, through his lifelong work as a community historian, including researching the history of Parker-Grey High School, restoring and sharing the history of Douglass Memorial Cemetery, and his role as a founding member of the Friends of Douglass Cemetery and the Social Responsibility Group; and

WHEREAS, the **T. Michael Miller Award** and the **Special Merit Award** are given to organizations and individuals who have made a difference in the preservation, research, and interpretation of the city's vast, dynamic, and complex history.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JUSTIN M. WILSON, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby honor:

DR. BRENDA MITCHELL-POWELL as the 2023 recipient of the Alexandria Historical Society Special Merit Award; and
AL COX and **MICHAEL JOHNSON** as the 2023 recipients of the T. Michael Miller Award

In the City of Alexandria and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the city of Alexandria to be affixed this 27th day of June 2023.

MAYOR JUSTIN M. WILSON
On behalf of the City Council
of Alexandria, Virginia

ATTEST:

Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk