

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Bernard “Ben” Brenman, USA, Ret. Col., envisioned a community archaeology program for Alexandria in which sites across the entire city representing all peoples and times would be valued by everyone living in and visiting Alexandria today; and

WHEREAS, the Alexandria Archaeological Commission has established the Bernard “Ben” Brenman Archaeology in Alexandria Award given in October in recognition of Virginia Archaeology Month to appreciate partners who have given significant contributions toward Alexandria’s community archaeology for Virginia Archaeology Month; and

WHEREAS, the Brenman Award acknowledges high quality work, innovation, commitment or extraordinary efforts in preservation, research, education, public appreciation and advocacy for archaeology; and

WHEREAS, the 2024 Brenman Awards highlight our public education mission and the incredible amount of work and dedication that goes into the seemingly simple act of inspiring future generations of archaeologists and history stewards; and

WHEREAS, on the eve of the 50th anniversary of the Alexandria Archaeological Commission, a 2024 Brenman Award for **Outstanding Visionary Partner** is presented to Marian Van Landingham for her over 50 year commitment to activating Alexandria’s historic waterfront with art and archaeology through her Torpedo Factory Art Center vision; creating a sense of purpose and a feeling of home for creators and scientists by adaptively reusing the concrete hulk of a former industrial building; being an early proponent that City archaeology should be on public view for appreciation and engagement as both a laboratory and a museum; and, thereby, enriching the lives of Alexandria residents and visitors for decades passed and decades to come.

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

“Marian Van Landingham”

for her work 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 8th day of October 2024.

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

ATTEST:

Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk