

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, during 2014 many of Alexandria's arts organizations are celebrating milestone anniversaries; and

WHEREAS, the arts enhance and enrich the lives of every American and play a unique role in the lives of our families, our communities, and our country; and

WHEREAS, the nonprofit arts industry also strengthens our economy by generating \$135.2 billion in total economic activity annually and by supporting the full-time equivalent of 4.1 million; and

WHEREAS, the arts and humanities lie at the center of economic vitality in the City of Alexandria by generating over \$80 million in total economic activity annually and by supporting the full-time equivalent of 1,803 jobs; and

WHEREAS, ArtPlace has identified the City of Alexandria as one of the top art places in the country; and

WHEREAS, a consortium of arts organizations who are celebrating milestone anniversaries in 2014 have come together to collaborate on several year-long celebrations; and

WHEREAS, the goals for pillar arts activities offered in 2014 Celebrating the Arts: A Year of Extraordinary Anniversaries" and the Alexandria Spring ArtFEST will be to showcase and celebrate the milestone anniversaries of the 16 members of the Arts Consortium; build stronger partnerships and collaborations among arts organizations and individual artists; outreach and engage youth and families to become aware and participate in the arts offerings of the City of Alexandria; and, emphasize the value of the arts to Alexandria's diverse economy; and

WHEREAS, the arts organizations celebrating extraordinary anniversaries include the Old Town Theater 100 years; The Little Theatre of Alexandria 80 years; Alexandria Symphony Orchestra 70 years; The Art League 60 years; Northern Virginia Fine Arts Association 50 years; Torpedo Factory Art Center 40 years; MetroStage and the Alexandria Commission for the Arts 30 years; Washington Balalaika Society 25 years; First Night Alexandria and Ten Thousand Villages 20 years; Choreographers Collaboration Project 15 years; Arts on the Horizon, Ambassador Theater, and the Youth Arts Festival, five years; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria continues to encourage support and appreciation for the arts as a cornerstone of Alexandria's identity, cultural, social, and economic vitality.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM D. EUILLE, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim 2014 as:

**"CELEBRATING THE ARTS:
A YEAR OF EXTRADORDINARY ARTS ANNIVERSARIES"**

in the City of Alexandria and formally call upon our citizens to celebrate, promote and recognize the importance of arts and culture in their daily lives.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 31st day of December, 2013.

WILLIAM D. EUILLE MAYOR
On behalf of the City Council
of Alexandria, Virginia

ATTEST:

Jacqueline M. Henderson, MMC City Clerk