

## **P R O C L A M A T I O N**

**WHEREAS**, founded in 2014, ASO Sympatico exists as a program that strives to give all students an opportunity to benefit from musical experiences. As a program that intends to serve our community, it seeks to promote a sense of community within ensembles, promote student ownership of their role in a performing ensemble, and to empower students with tools for creativity, academic success, and cooperative learning; and

**WHEREAS**, Wesley McCune, Lindsey Serrao and Emily Smith formed the first ASO Sympatico ensembles in 2013, with the Orff Ensemble, Strings at Sunrise, and the Singing Eagles, and each group met every day before school in order to practice wide ranges of music; and

**WHEREAS**, ASO Sympatico has participated in more than 25 performances during the 2015-2016 school year, and performances included the Alexandria City Council Inauguration, the National Teacher of the Year Awards, the John Adams Elementary School Arts Integration Festival, as well as performances alongside the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra, The Alexandria Choral Society, and the Virginia Bronze; and

**WHEREAS**, music teachers Andrew Bawden, Alexandria Luke, Wesley McCune, Lindsey Serrao and Emily Smith have led their students in multiple performances both at school and in the community, and the team has participated with students in creative composition projects that allow students to explore their own musical creativity, while implementing creative lyric writing, theme and character development, and current events/issues; and

**WHEREAS**, Wesley McCune is retiring this year after teaching for 27 years, and he first formed the inspiration for ASO Sympatico in the Orff Ensemble 23 years ago, and has led the Orff Ensemble every morning since then, and we honor him for his many years of service.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, ALLISON SILBERBERG**, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby recognize the hard work of the:

### **“ASO SYMPATICO”**

*In the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and urge all citizens to join me in this special observance of ASO Sympatico’s contributions.*

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 14<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2016.

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**ALLISON SILBERBERG MAYOR**

*On behalf of the City Council  
of Alexandria, Virginia*

ATTEST:

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*Jacqueline M. Henderson, MMC City Clerk*