

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 to recognize partners who have given significant contributions toward Alexandria’s community archaeology; and

WHEREAS, the Brenman Award acknowledges high quality work, innovation, commitment or extraordinary efforts in preservation, research, protection, enhancement, creation of historic parks and open spaces, documentation, education, public appreciation and advocacy for archaeology; and

WHEREAS, a 2019 Brenman Award for **Outstanding Interpretive Plan** is presented to the Fort Ward Interpretive Committee (Frank Cooling, Mary Furlong Minkoff, Carol Johnson, Krystyn Moon, Adrienne Washington, and Charles Ziegler) for their stalwart devotion to the ongoing interpretation of history at Fort Ward Park; for their leadership in guiding and directing the implementation of a new interpretive experience for visitors to the park, as a Civil War fort and then the center of an African American community; for their pursuit of and vision for a new and updated park history based on the theme, Bastions of Freedom, which charts the arc of history at the park from Civil War to Civil Rights; and for immeasurably enhancing the interpretation of the park with their knowledge, foresight, and dedication to one of Alexandria’s most treasured historical sites; and

WHEREAS, a 2019 Brenman Award for **Outstanding Community History** is presented to McArthur Myers in recognition of his dedication to the preservation and interpretation of Alexandria’s African American heritage; for his leadership of the community history movement through organizations including the Historic Alexandria Resources Commission, the Society for the Preservation of Black Heritage, and the African American Heritage Trails Committee; for his exceptional and lasting contributions to the interpretation of Alexandria’s history at the Universal Lodge #1, Third Baptist Church, the Historic Waterfront, and others; and for his commitment to public service, devoted to instilling a sense of collective ownership of the past for all Alexandrians; and

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

“THE FORT WARD INTERPRETIVE COMMITTEE & MCARTHUR MYERS”

For their work in the City of Alexandria.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 2nd day of October, 2019.

MAYOR JUSTIN WILSON

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

ATTEST:

Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk