

**PROCLAMATION**

*WHEREAS, the month of October is recognized as National Arts and Humanities Month by thousands of arts and cultural organizations, communities, and states across the nation as well as the White House and Congress for several years; and*

*WHEREAS, the arts and humanities affect every aspect of life in America today and enhance and enrich the lives of every American; and*

*WHEREAS, arts education research findings suggest that the arts can help close the achievement gap; improve the academic skills essential for reading and language development; build strong mathematical skills; advance the motivation to learn; and promote positive social development; and*

*WHEREAS, the nonprofit arts industry nationally strengthens our economy by generating \$134 billion in economic activity annually and by supporting the full-time equivalent of 4.85 million jobs; and*

*WHEREAS, the Alexandria community has an abundance of cultural and artistic activities planned for the month of October, including special offerings such as the "Art on the Avenue" festival, a collaboration between Del Ray residents and the business community; The Art League Gallery's "The Brilliance of Mother Earth" exhibition; NOVA's Tyler Teaching Gallery exhibit "The Creative Spirit of Tom Suzuki;" the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra's hosting of "the Mary Graham Lasley Competition;" Eclipse Chamber Orchestra's "Concertmaster's Opening Chord;" and the George Washington Masonic National Memorial concert; Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic "Cello Concerto;" MetroStage's production of "tick, tick...Boom!;" Del Ray Artisans' two exhibits "Unusual Combinations" and "Tribute to All Things Magical" exhibit; "Writer's Walking Workshops" and the "Family Fall Festival" sponsored by the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities; and*

*WHEREAS, the Alexandria Commission for the Arts was instrumental in facilitating opportunities for students and teachers during the Old Town Festival of the Arts through the Local Colors Show; and*

*WHEREAS, a planning committee comprised of representatives from the Art League, the Del Ray Artisans, the Springwater Fiber Workshop, the Torpedo Factory Artists Association, and the Alexandria Commission for the Arts has collaborated to present for the third year an Art in City Hall exhibition juried by Lillian Fitzgerald, owner of Fitzgerald Fine Arts, who viewed 213 works from local artists, selected 102 works for the show, and will present the top three honors at the opening reception scheduled on October 23, from 5:30 -7:00 p.m. in City Hall's room 2000; and*

*WHEREAS, the 2007 Alex Awards, an annual awards program sponsored by the Alexandria Commission for the Arts, will salute Alexandrians who have made a significant contribution to the cultural fabric of the Alexandria community, will be held on Friday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Dr. Oswald D. Durant Memorial Center, the Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities Department's premier multi-cultural center for the performing and visual arts; and*

*WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria is working to encourage greater opportunities for cultural arts in the City;*

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

**"NATIONAL ARTS AND HUMANITIES MONTH"**

*in the City of Alexandria and formally invite and call upon Alexandria citizens to celebrate and promote the arts and culture in our City and to encourage the greater participation of children especially in educational programs and activities in the arts and humanities and to celebrate the cultural riches our City has to offer.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 9<sup>th</sup> day of October 2007.*

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

ATTEST:

Jacqueline M. Henderson, CMC City Clerk