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4-23-02

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Jazz is an American treasure, America's only indigenous art form, enjoyed worldwide; and

WHEREAS, when we enjoy Jazz we are, in fact, celebrating the history of the American people, especially the African-American experience; and

WHEREAS, the T. C. Williams High School Jazz Band has been performing "America's Music" for decades, and is an extremely vital part of not only the school community, but of the greater Alexandria Community, performing at concerts, festivals, civic and governmental events; and

WHEREAS, in performing Jazz, the students of T. C. Williams High School are demonstrating what is best about America: exhibiting freedom within structure; dialogue with each other, different cultures and history; creativity through improvisation, presented with a spirit of joy that should be present in all art – that is practicing democracy in a musical context;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KERRY J. DONLEY, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim April 2002, as:

"JAZZ APPRECIATION MONTH (JAM)"

to be celebrated in the City of Alexandria to coincide with the birthdays of Duke Ellington, Ella Fitzgerald, Gerry Mulligan and Tito Puente; and

FURTHER, we hereby recognize the T. C. Williams High School Jazz Band for its outstanding contribution to the musical world of Jazz.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 23rd day of April 2002.

KERRY J. DONLEY **MAYOR**
*On behalf of the City Council
of Alexandria, Virginia*

ATTEST:

Beverly I. Jett, CMC City Clerk