

## PROCLAMATION

*WHEREAS, the month of October has been 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 embody much of the accumulated wisdom, intellect and imagination of humankind; and*

*WHEREAS, the arts and humanities enhance and enrich the lives of every American; and*

*WHEREAS, arts education research findings suggest that the arts close the achievement gap, especially among disadvantaged youth; 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, nationally, the nonprofit arts industry also 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 United States Conference of Mayors passed unanimously, in June 2002, a policy to urge mayors and other elected officials to proclaim October as National Arts and Humanities Month; 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" sponsored by the Potomac West Business Association, the "Arts Safari at the Torpedo Factory Art Center" sponsored by the Alexandria Arts Safari, and the "Taste for Art" sponsored by the Friends of the Torpedo Factory; and*

*WHEREAS, other special festivities will highlight the history and humanities of the City by celebrating the harvest season and All Hallows Eve;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, KERRY J. DONLEY, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2002, 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 nation, and to specifically encourage the greater participation of children 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 8th day of October 2002.*

**KERRY J. DONLEY** **MAYOR**

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

ATTEST:

Beverly I. Jett, CMC City Clerk