

**PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, Bernard "Ben" Brenman, Ret. Col., U.S. Army, 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**, Ben believed that a community working together in a partnership of residents, developers, archaeologists, volunteers and students could successfully "save, study, and share" Alexandria's special heritage; and

**WHEREAS**, Ben was a founder and chairman for 21 years of the Alexandria Archaeological Commission, the first such local government commission in America; 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 2008 Brenman Award is presented to the Friends of Freedmen's Cemetery in recognition of their tireless efforts to save one of the most significant archaeological sites in Alexandria – a Civil War-era cemetery for slaves and contraband that had been unmarked, abandoned, and largely forgotten for many decades – and to create a living memorial to those buried there through the Contrabands and Freedmen's Cemetery Memorial; and

**WHEREAS**, a 2008 Brenman Award is presented to T. Michael Miller in recognition of 31 years of dedication to discovering and writing about Alexandria's forgotten history in general and specifically for providing timely research for the City archaeology projects; and

**WHEREAS**, a 2008 Brenman Award is presented to Chan Mohney in recognition of his passion and dedication in developing the concept of an annual archaeological interpretive bike ride, The Tour de Digs, that was the inspiration for the Alexandria Heritage Trail guidebook, thus setting an example of how one person's volunteer interests can expand and enrich a whole community; and

**WHEREAS**, a 2008 Brenman Award is presented to the Historic Alexandria Foundation (HAF) in recognition of its support and funding of the Alexandria Archaeology Digital Atlas that assists in the identification of archaeological sites and historic landscapes by overlaying historic maps and aerial photographs onto Alexandria's contemporary grid, providing a high-tech way to preserve the past;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM D. EUILLE**, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim that the inaugural Ben Brenman Awards be bestowed upon:

**"FRIENDS OF FREEDMEN'S CEMETERY, T. MICHAEL MILLER,  
CHAN MOHNEY, AND HISTORIC ALEXANDRIA FOUNDATION (HAF)"**

**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 October 2008.

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

ATTEST:

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Jacqueline M. Henderson, CMC City Clerk