

PROCLAMATION CITY OF FRESNO

Art and the Artist Recognition Day

November the Fifth in the year Two-Thousand & Fifteen

Fresno, California is an international community that is home to a wide variety of talented visual and performing artists.

The inspired commitment of these artists can be seen every day in their offerings. They possess a solid foundation in their deep-rooted belief and need to bring color to the otherwise gray existence of our society. This fact in itself is exemplary.

Without the artist and the art we can become stagnant, dry, lifeless and unstimulated – even challenged to express our own love of life. It is through their creative process that we receive gifts, wondrous gifts that have the power to wake the senses. These unique gifts, the rich tone of the instrument, the capture of light on canvas, the curve of a fine sculpture, the joy of the dance, the voice of an angel or the pierce of the spoken word are given freely by the artist with the hope of creating emotion.

What the artist gives to our community is beyond special. It is purposeful and amazing. They give of themselves and trust by expressing who they are through their work. And this work is important. It may even help us, as individuals, find the “artist” inside ourselves that make us distinctive.

Fresno’s art community is a grand stage with local artists akin to the great philosophers of old. They enthusiastically speak to each of us through their enlightened view of the human condition.

In the creative world, some believe that there are great “powers that be” who control the destiny of the artist – unique to every society of course.

More realistically, each artist provides an extraordinary vessel that guides us through our journey, to a destination of joy and enrichment. Just as the composer offers up his music to cradle our emotion... it holds the ability to caress the sad, companion the lonely or soothe one’s fears. The musician’s interpretation guides us to a place of peace and harmony so dark can become light or light can become awe inspiring. The painter may tease with canvas and brush, he may convince, deceive or tempt us to believe in a world of fantasy or a world we wish could be. The actor may take us on an adventure, away from the doldrums to a place where we can see things we could have never imagined on our own. The possibilities are astounding and endless – as long as there are artists in this world.

Artists add the plentiful extras to our lives. They nourish our imagination and our joyful hearts. They provide these magical gifts throughout our daily lives. They are all around, caressing everyone with the many things we see and do each day. They provide this stimulation through creativity, design, text, music, images and more. You may never see the artist, but they are there in their work. Though some of the world may not yet have seen the richness of our creative community, we know that Fresno is “The City of Art.” So, let us share in the acknowledgment and support of all who are part of this vision, this reality.

Therefore, as a deserving gesture of appreciation, and in due recognition we hereby declare this Fifth Day of November, in the year Two-Thousand and Fifteen, as Fresno’s day of “Art and the Artist.”