

WHEREAS, Museums are one of the pillars of history education and Texas is home to more than 1,000 history museums dedicated to preserving and interpreting the engaging stories of their communities; and

WHEREAS, The Bastrop County Historical Society Museum opened in 1952 due to the dedicated vision of the Bastrop Ladies Reading Circle; and

WHEREAS, In 1954, the museum was designated a historical shrine by the Texas Legislature, and in 1967, it was designated a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark; and

WHEREAS, Decades later, the Bastrop County Historical Society opened a visitor center in another location in 2005. Then in 2012, the combined museum and visitor center opened in the old city hall building; and

WHEREAS, The Bastrop Museum and Visitor Center is the anchor facility in Bastrop's historic downtown, drawing over 14,000 visitors annually, preserving over 18,000 artifacts, and hosting many outstanding public events; and

WHEREAS, With research facilities, staff, permanent and rotating exhibits, and an exemplary visitor center all **in** one building, it is a valuable community asset; and

WHEREAS, The Award of Excellence in Museums recognizes an individual or institution in the museum field for significant achievement in the areas of historical interpretation, museum education, conservation of collections, or community involvement; and

WHEREAS, the recipient of this year's John L. Nau III Award of Excellence in Museums has been awarded to the Bastrop County Historical Society.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lyle Nelson, Mayor of the City of Bastrop, do hereby acknowledge this outstanding achievement and invite our City to join me in congratulating the Staff, Board, and corps of volunteers of the **Bastrop County Historical Society** on their outstanding achievement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have here unto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Bastrop, Texas to be affixed this 23rd day of April 2024.

Lyle Nelson, Mayor

