



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS; Roger Ruzow is a distinguished music educator, professional musician, and composer who has dedicated more than 30 years to teaching and performing; and

WHEREAS; since joining the Clayton County Public School System in 2000 as the general music teacher at Hendrix Drive Elementary, now Unidos Dual Language STEM School. Mr. Ruzow has passionately championed music education and arts enrichment for the students of Forest Park; and

WHEREAS; in 2004, with the unwavering support of then-Principal Ms. Kelly Veal, Mr. Ruzow revived the school’s elementary band program, which had been inactive since the 1990s, reigniting a legacy of music instruction that continues to flourish; and

WHEREAS; through his resourcefulness and determination, Mr. Ruzow secured substantial musical instrument donations from organizations such as the Chely Wright Foundation and the American Pawnbroker’s Association, allowing students to participate in an afterschool band program that has now thrived for over two decades; an

WHEREAS; in 2006, Mr. Ruzow expanded his impact by founding the Unidos Percussion Ensemble, creatively repurposing donated five-gallon buckets into percussion instruments, further demonstrating his innovation and commitment to accessible music education; and

WHEREAS; under the leadership of Unidos Principal Emma Brandy, and with the continued support of school administration and dedicated parents, Mr. Ruzow’s ensembles have performed regularly throughout the community, including appearances at the Forest Park Library and Forest Park High School, showcasing the students’ talent and growth; and

WHEREAS; Mr. Ruzow has instilled in his students not only the technical skills of playing and performing music but also the confidence, discipline, and creativity needed to become middle school musicians, arts leaders, and community contributors;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, the Forest Park Governing Body does hereby recognize and commend Roger Ruzow for his extraordinary contributions to the lives of young musicians and the cultural enrichment of our community, and express profound gratitude for his continued service and dedication to arts education.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hand on this 18th day of August 2025 and have caused the Official Seal of the great City of Forest Park to be affixed hereto:

Angelyne Butler, MPA
Mayor

Councilmember Kimberly James
Ward 1

Councilmember Delores A. Gunn
Ward 2

Councilmember Hector Gutierrez
Ward 3

Councilmember Latresa Akins-Wells
Ward 4

Councilmember Allan Mears
Ward 5