



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the nation’s 113,000 nonprofit arts organizations dedicated to cultural life, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the nation’s 4,500 local arts agencies, and the Arts and Humanities Councils of the 50 states and the six U.S. jurisdictions have regularly issued official proclamations on an annual basis designating October as National Arts and Humanities Month; and

WHEREAS, National Arts & Humanities Month in October encourages everyone to appreciate art and explore the diverse cultures around us. It is the largest celebration of arts and culture in the U.S., and we urge everyone to reflect on how art enriches our lives; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado Creative Industries (CCI) believes in the power of creativity to inspire human connections, create social change, and support economic vibrancy throughout Colorado. We focus on strengthening the vitality of visual, performing, and literary art. The arts and humanities play a unique role in the lives of our families, our communities, and our country; and

WHEREAS, cities and states, through their local and state arts agencies and representing thousands of cultural organizations, have celebrated the value and importance of culture in the lives of Americans and the health of thriving communities during National Arts and Humanities Month for several years; and

WHEREAS, the humanities help diverse communities across the United States explore their history and culture with the support and partnership of the National Endowment for the Humanities, the 55 state and territorial humanities councils, and local educational and cultural institutions; and

WHEREAS, the arts and cultural industry also strengthens our economy by generating 4.3 percent of GDP, or \$1.10 trillion, in 2022 and in 2022, the total arts and cultural employment recovered to pre-pandemic levels, with nearly 5.2 million workers employed to produce arts and cultural goods and services, for \$540.9 billion in total compensation; and

WHEREAS, Matt Robenalt, Downtown Development Authority Executive Director stated, “Storytelling through art is a powerful form of Interpersonal communication, particularly when communicating an authentic experience of a city. The Living Her Legacy’s Historic, public outdoor art/education project, which will be highly visible to local visitors of Old Town Square, imparts the spontaneity of publicly displayed art and place-making with the importance of reflecting on the stories of people that have made Fort Collins an intriguing place to visit, live, work and play.”

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Emily Francis, Mayor Pro Tem of the City of Fort Collins, do hereby proclaim October 2024 as

NATIONAL ARTS AND HUMANITIES MONTH

and call upon our community members to celebrate and promote the arts and culture in our nation and to specifically encourage greater community participation in the Arts and Humanities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the City of Fort Collins this 15th day of October 2024.

Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:

City Clerk