Proclamation

15th Anniversary of the Hands On! Children's Museum

HENDERSONVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

WHEREAS, the board of directions, staff, volunteers, and children of Hendersonville and western North Carolina celebrate the 15th Anniversary of Hands On! Children's Museum; and

WHEREAS, the children's museum has served over 500,000 people throughout western North Carolina since opening its doors of discovery and wonder in 2007, contributing significantly to the economic impact of Hendersonville tourism and quality of life for families with children; and

WHEREAS, in 2017 the children's museum in partnership with the community, developed a collective vision to expand the children's museum's physical presence and its educational programs and exhibit offerings and in 2021 the children' museum and the City of Hendersonville established a public-private partnership to develop the People's Museum and Walk of Fame, a celebration of the culture and history of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color through inclusive learning experiences; and

WHEREAS, after completing a fundraising campaign, the children's museum broke ground in 2021 for a major facility renovation and expansion to develop a world-class 13,000 square-foot museum experience for the children of Hendersonville and western North Carolina. The museum successfully completed its renovation and expansion in 2022, reopening its doors to the community with record museum attendance and participation in STEM and Arts programming; and

WHEREAS, the Hands On! Children's Museum is an integral part of Henderson County's nonprofit network – inspiring learners of all ages to realize their full potential in the areas of STEM, Art, Literacy, History, and Culture through interactive learning experiences; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Barbara G. Volk, Mayor of the City Council of the City of Hendersonville do hereby recognize the HANDS ON! CHILDREN'S MUSUEM on the occasion of their 15th anniversary, for their many years of service to the community and I thank them for their commitment to make our city a great place to live, work, and play.

PROCLAIMED this 6th day of October 2022

| Seal | Barbara G. Volk, Mayor City of Hendersonville |
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| | Attest: |
| | Angela Reece, City Clerk |