



City of Mercer Island, Washington

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Mercer Island Preschool Association – affectionately known as MIPA – is dedicated to enhancing the lives of children from newborn through kindergarten in Mercer Island and the community at large; and

WHEREAS, since its founding in 1937, MIPA and its volunteers have diligently worked to build community across the Island by supporting Mercer Island children, families, schools, and local organizations; and

WHEREAS, MIPA has been a driving force for bringing the first Kindergarten to the local elementary schools as well as building a King County Library branch on the Island; and

WHEREAS, MIPA has partnered with the Mercer Island Youth and Family Services Department (YFS) to help local, low-income families by donating \$8,000 - \$15,000 annually to fully fund the YFS Emergency Assistance Preschool Scholarship Program and in 2020 raised nearly \$9,000 for the YFS Food Pantry; and

WHEREAS, the volunteer-run organization advocates on behalf of both families as well as preschools to promote and ensure that there are safe, fun, and inclusive programs, such as the Toy Swap, the Preschool Fair, the Circus, the Indoor Playground, and the Holiday Lights Driving Tour; and

WHEREAS, the Mercer Island Preschool Association has partnered with the City and the Parks and Recreation Department numerous times to help improve playgrounds across the community including Deane's Children's Park, Mercerdale Park, South Mercer Playfield and Luther Burbank Park by donating their time, creativity, talent, in addition to raising nearly \$100,000 for park improvements and other capital improvement projects; and

WHEREAS, the Mercer Island Preschool Association along with several community partners have been instrumental in helping imagine a new playground, one that is open and inclusive for all children and families, including helping raise over \$54,200 in 2021 for the design and renovation of the Mercerdale Park Playground;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Benson Wong, do hereby proclaim November 16, 2021 as

MIPA DAY

in Mercer Island and I encourage all residents to join me in thanking the Mercer Island Preschool Association for over eighty years of dedicated service to the community of Mercer Island.

APPROVED, this 16th day of November 2021.

Benson Wong, Mayor



Proclamation No. 286