

WHEREAS, the arts and humanities embody much of the accumulated wisdom, intellect and imagination of humankind, enriching the lives of everyone, and

WHEREAS, the nation's 95,000 nonprofit arts organizations, 4,500 local arts agencies, the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities, have issued proclamations annually that designate October as National Arts and Humanities Month, and

WHEREAS integrating the arts into workforce development programs and education creates well-rounded workers with the technical and creative thinking skills that foster innovation in business and inspire entrepreneurship, and

WHEREAS the arts are an intrinsic part of our vibrant region, contribute to its well-being, and quality of life, support artists' practices and spark creative projects that shape the physical and social character of neighborhoods to build equitable communities, and

WHEREAS the nonprofit arts industry drives economic growth, jobs and cultural tourism in the region by generating \$276.1M in total economic impact, \$24.6M in local and state government revenue, hiring 8,970 employees and attracting tourists, and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Eileen N. Weir, Mayor of Independence, Missouri, on behalf of the citizens of this great city and the City Council, do hereby proclaim October as "Regional Arts and Humanities Month" in Independence, Missouri, and encourage all residents to participate in the arts in their city throughout the year, and especially during Arts and Humanities Month, the largest annual celebration of the arts and humanities in the nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City to be affixed this 21<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2019.

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**MAYOR**

Attest:

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**CITY CLERK**