



PROCLAMATION

HONORING GENEVA BRICE

AS THE FIRST POET LAUREATE FOR THE CITY OF VALLEJO

WHEREAS, Mrs. Geneva Brice, a well-known and respected Vallejo citizen and published poet, has participated in Vallejo and Bay Area poetry events since her teens, and for many years, Mrs. Brice has actively encouraged poetry in Vallejo; and

WHEREAS, in August, 2015, Mrs. Brice was chosen as Vallejo's first Poet Laureate by the Poetry Vallejo Committee, a committee consisting of the Solano County Chapter of The Links, Incorporated (Arts Facet) and the Vallejo Community Arts Foundation; and


WHEREAS, Mrs. Brice has brought her artistry and her lengthy experience to the City of Vallejo in service as Vallejo's inaugural Poet Laureate; and

WHEREAS, since becoming the City of Vallejo's first Poet Laureate and during her two-year term, Mrs. Brice has written poems in honor of and for many occasions; spoken for, mentored to, hosted, advocated for and presented at numerous civic functions, group meetings and organizations; joined and worked with Poet Laureates throughout the Bay Area; hosted poetry readings and events; and

WHEREAS, these occasions, functions, meetings, organizations, events and readings include the Vallejo Peace Project; Unity Day; Juneteenth (as Poet and MC); Community Democratic Club Installation of Officers; Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Debutante Ball Keynote speaker; Alpha Kappa Alpha Founder's Day Speaker; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Arts and Letters Speaker; Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration at Beverly Hills Elementary School; Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration for Vallejo Chapter of NAACP; Ernest J. Gaines Community Events; The Links Luncheon speaker; Rotary Club speaker; Harvest House women's transitional shelter; Soroptimist International; Vallejo Sister Cities; Visions of the Wild; Vallejo Together; Poetry by The Bay, founder Kyrah Ayers-The Hub; started "Poetry in Notion," along with Jeff Kingman, a Monthly Meet-Up for poets and poetry lovers; hosted National Poetry Month Celebrations, along with Jeff Kingman; created an installation for Vallejo Art Windows, with local artist, Jean-Cherie; Willie B. Adkins Scholars guest speaker; United States Forest Service guest speaker, appearing with the Honorable Mayor Bob Sampayan; read for Supervisor Erin Hannigan, for mayoral candidate Landis Graden, and for the Honorable Mayor Osby Davis at several prayer breakfasts as well as at his retirement dinner, January, 2017.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that I, Bob Sampayan, Mayor of the City of Vallejo, and the Vallejo City Council, do hereby honor Geneva Brice's service to Vallejo as our inaugural Poet Laureate, and are grateful for her gifts to the City, of her splendid, compelling poems and lyrical oratory; for raising Vallejo's awareness of the benefits of poetry; and for bringing the power of poetry to uplift and inspire Vallejo residents during her two-year term, August, 2015 to August, 2017.

Dated: September 12, 2017



BOB SAMPAYAN, Mayor



Vice Mayor Robert H. McConnell
Councilmember Pippin Dew-Costa
Councilmember Katy Miessner
Councilmember Jesus "Jess" Malgapo
Councilmember Hermie R. Sunga
Councilmember Rozzana Verder-Aliga, EdD