



PROCLAMATION

IN HONOR OF DIANA L. LANG AS POET LAUREATE FOR THE CITY OF VALLEJO

WHEREAS, Diana L. Lang has been selected 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 has graciously agreed to serve as Vallejo’s Poet Laureate for the term of September, 2017 to August 2019; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Lang, is a well-known and respected Vallejo citizen and published poet; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Lang’s early years were partly spent in Enid, Oklahoma, and while attending elementary school in Enid — a town whose name is after a character in the poem “Enid and Geraint,” written by Alfred, Lord Tennyson from the collection, “The Idylls of the King”— Ms. Lang first developed a fondness for poetry; she left Oklahoma in 2005 for California and has resided in Vallejo with her husband, Tim Lang, since 2014; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Lang’s deepest artistic influences are not poets, but musicians; in particular, the music of the 1960s, and that of Jewish musician Dan Nichols, who organized an open mic at her synagogue, inspiring Ms. Lang to be involved in the local poetry scene, to perform on a regular basis, and to read her poems to the public, which she has done since 2014; and

WHEREAS, Since 2011, Ms. Lang has published nine poetry collections and one spoken word album under the nom de plume D.L. Lang; her poetry has been published in the Benicia Herald, the Jewish Journal, and her pieces have been honored with awards at the Solano County Fair, Alameda County Fair, and the Marin County Fair; and

WHEREAS, Since 2015, Ms. Lang has been a regular spoken word performer at Poetry by The Bay and Poetry in Notion, has been featured at Vallejo’s Unity Day, Benicia First Tuesday Poets, Poetry Day at the Alameda County Fair, the Marin Poetry Center’s Travelling Show, and the Vallejo Man March Peace Rally; she has been a guest host for Poetry by the Bay and Poetry in Notion, and has served as a judge for the Solano County Poetry Out Loud Competition; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that I, Bob Sampayan, Mayor of the City of Vallejo, do hereby proclaim and appoint Diana L. Lang as the Official Poet Laureate of the City of Vallejo, in recognition of her significant body of work, and her service to poetry and poets in Vallejo, for a term of two years, ending on August 31, 2019.

Dated: October 10, 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