

City of Yachats

PROCLAMATION

PROCLAIMING July 7-9, 2017 as “YACHATS MUSIC FESTIVAL DAYS – The Grand Finale”

WHEREAS, for 37 years, Yachats, Oregon has been home to the Yachats Music Festival, the vision of Dr. W. Hazaiah Williams, sponsored by Four Seasons Concerts of Berkeley, California; and

WHEREAS, Dr. W. Hazaiah Williams was the first African-American impresario to head a concert-giving organization in the United States, based on his belief that classical music is for all people, and should be affordable and accessible, for “far greater communication between races and people”; and

WHEREAS, a boat trip in 1980 down Ten-Mile Creek just seven miles south of Yachats OR inspired Williams' dream to bring beautiful classical music performed by renowned artists to nature at its most exquisite to form a music festival; and a year later, the first annual Yachats Music Festival was born with the outpouring of local support and enthusiasm;

WHEREAS, the Yachats Music Festival is unique in the world, with 22-30 internationally acclaimed artists performing separate performances each evening, combining piano, violin, viola, clarinet, flute, guzlin, harp, guitar, tenors, sopranos, mezzo-sopranos, baritones and bass-baritones, in delivering not only classical pieces, but spirituals, jazz, and occasional show tunes; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Williams' death in 1999 did not deter the Festival's continuing in his memory, with the quality and spirit of his vision, through the unwavering, dedicated support and passion of his staff, volunteers, sponsors and community members, including the hospitality of host Yachats Community Presbyterian Church; and

WHEREAS, the Yachats Music Festival has given citizens and visitors “the most beautiful and heavenly repertoire by the most outstandingly talented and dedicated artists” who always graciously welcomed their audience;

NOW, THEREFORE, the City of Yachats hereby proclaims **July 7-9, 2017 as “YACHATS MUSIC FESTIVAL DAYS – The Grand Finale”**.

DATED this 14th day of June, 2017.

GERALD F. STANLEY, MAYOR

GREG SCOTT

MAX GLENN

BARBARA FRYE

JAMES TOOKE

ATTEST:

Joan Davies, City Manager