

**PROCLAMATION
RECOGNIZING 50TH ANNIVERSARY
OF MUSCATINE ART CENTER**

WHEREAS, the Laura Musser Art Gallery and Museum, later officially re-named in April 1976 as the “Muscatine Art Center”, is celebrating its 50th anniversary and it is appropriate at this time to commend the Muscatine Art Center on the positive impact it has made on the Muscatine community and the State of Iowa as one of eighteen Iowa organizations accredited by the American Alliance of Museums; and

WHEREAS, Mary Catherine McWhirter and Mary Musser Gilmore donated the Laura Musser Mansion at 1314 Mulberry Avenue in Muscatine, Iowa, for the establishment of the Laura Musser Art Gallery and Museum in May 1965, as a municipal art gallery and museum; and

WHEREAS, the Muscatine Art Center, through the support of the City of Muscatine and with the assistance of the Muscatine Art Center Support Foundation and the Friends of the Muscatine Art Center and numerous volunteers, has vitally enhanced the community by fulfilling its mission to collect, preserve, interpret, and exhibit objects of historical and aesthetic importance for the benefit of present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, the Muscatine Art Center tells Iowa stories using local history artifacts, particularly those related to the Musser/McColm families as well as with Muscatine connections to significant United States and World events such as the Civil War, Westward Expansion, Exploration of the Mississippi River, and the Settlement of the State of Iowa; and

WHEREAS, the Muscatine Art Center provides a space for people of all ages to reflect upon and explore the works of art created by internationally recognized artists such as Auguste Renoir, Marc Chagall, Edgar Degas, George Grey Barnard, Georgia O’Keeffe, Henry Lewis; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Muscatine Art Center adopted in May 2015 the Vision Statement: “The Muscatine Art Center enriches lives by deepening understanding and appreciation through engaging with collections, programs, and exhibitions of art and local history.”

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, DeWayne Hopkins, Mayor of the City of Muscatine, Iowa, on behalf of the City of Muscatine, congratulate the Muscatine Art Center on its 50th anniversary in preserving the unique history of Muscatine, Iowa, and its efforts to enrich lives by sharing its extraordinary collections.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name to be affixed this 6TH day of August, 2015.

DeWayne Hopkins, Mayor