

Proclamation

WHEREAS, *Americans for the Arts, the nation's leading arts research and advocacy organization, conducted its fourth benchmark study of the national economic impact of the nonprofit arts industry in 182 study regions across the United States representing all 50 states and the District of Columbia; and*

WHEREAS, *the Arts & Economic Impact Prosperity IV study found that the nonprofit arts industry and related expenditures generates \$135.2 billion annually in economic activity and supports 4.1 million full time equivalent jobs – from large urban to small rural communities, and that the nonprofit arts industry annually returns \$9.59 billion in federal income taxes, and \$12.74 billion in local and state government revenue; and*

WHEREAS, *the Arts & Economic Impact Prosperity IV study found that the nonprofits arts industry in Durham County generates \$125,534,858 annually in economic activity through industry expenditures and supports 4,550 jobs, and that the Durham County nonprofit arts industry annually returns \$5,335,000 in state government revenue and \$6,099,000 in local government revenue; and*

WHEREAS, *the Arts & Economic Prosperity IV study collected extensive survey data from more than 9,721 arts organizations and 151,802 audience attendees nationwide, and, in Durham, from 56 local arts organizations and 893 local attendees; and*

WHEREAS, *as demonstrated by the Arts & Economic Prosperity IV study, the nonprofit arts in Durham County, NC substantially contributes to the local and state economy.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, William V. "Bill" Bell, Mayor of the City of Durham, North Carolina do hereby proclaim that I support the findings of the Arts & Economic Prosperity IV study and urge all local, state, and federal officials to invest in nonprofit arts organizations directly, through their local and state agencies, and the National Endowment of the Arts as a catalyst to generate economic impact, stimulate business development, and spur urban renewal, attract tourists and area residents to community activities, and to improve the overall quality of life in America's cities.

WITNESS my hand and the corporate seal of the City of Durham, North Carolina, this the 18th day of June 2012.

*William V. "Bill" Bell
Mayor*