

# *City of Albany*

## *Proclamation*

### **IN RECOGNITION OF THE ALBANY FILMFEST CONTRIBUTIONS TO ARTS EDUCATION AND CREATIVE EXPRESSION IN OUR COMMUNITY AND PROCLAIMING MARCH 18 – 26, 2017 AS ALBANY FILMFEST WEEK**

**WHEREAS**, Albany FilmFest 2017 marks the seventh consecutive year of the Albany FilmFest; and

**WHEREAS**, the Albany FilmFest was created by the City's Ad-Hoc Cable Committee (now the Community Media Access Committee) in 2011, to encourage community members to share their voices, stories, and creative visions through the medium of film; and

**WHEREAS**, the Albany FilmFest grew quickly from a one-day event into a weeklong celebration that serves film goers of all ages from across the Bay Area to sample and enjoy Albany; and

**WHEREAS**, today the Albany FilmFest is a juried competition with a judging panel of film professionals; and

**WHEREAS**, audiences see an eclectic mix of independent local, national, and international short films during Albany FilmFest Week, and a varied series of viewings throughout the year; and

**WHEREAS**, the Albany FilmFest supports young filmmakers, with two special youth categories, special film showings specifically for youth, and encourages participation from Albany schools; and

**WHEREAS**, proceeds from the Albany FilmFest are used to fund youth media education in Albany; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2011 Best in Show Winner, *Come to the Table*, was screened at the Obama White House; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2013 the Albany FilmFest was named "Visual Artist of the Year" by the Albany Community Foundation; and

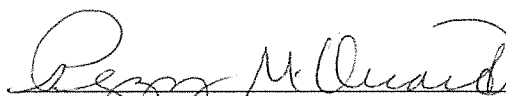
**WHEREAS**, the 2015 Best in Show Winner, *Before the Bomb*, was an official selection of the Emerging Filmmakers Showcase at the Cannes Film Festival; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2016 Best in Show Winner, *Ferguson 365*, was optioned by CNN and is being produced as a feature film; and

**WHEREAS**, each year, the Albany FilmFest features a special category, “My Own Private Albany”, devoted to films specifically about Albany and its citizens.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** that the Albany City Council hereby recognizes the contributions of the Albany FilmFest to arts education and creative expression in our community.

**BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED** that the Albany City Council hereby recognizes March 18 – 26, 2017 as Albany FilmFest Week, and encourages the community to attend the 2017 Albany FilmFest to celebrate arts and creative expression.

  
Peggy McQuaid, Mayor