PROCLAMATION

The City of Philadelphia is delighted to be a place where a variety of people with origins from across the world come together to live in harmony. As the first World Heritage City in the country, Philadelphia celebrates all of our residents' unique qualities and cultures who aim to live together happily and peacefully. Our success is a model for the rest of the world, which can all too often use bias, prejudice, ignorance, and fear of different cultures as reasons for spreading discord.

Philadelphia is proud to celebrate the *International Day of Peace*, which was established by the United Nations in 1981 to provide a yearly opportunity for countries, cities, communities, and individuals to come together in the spirit of unity to "strengthen the ideals of peace." In 2001, the day was officially scheduled to be observed on September 21 to recognize the day's important message, and to encourage a day of nonviolence and global ceasefire. This year the United Nations set a theme for the day as *The Right to Peace: The Universal Declaration of Human Rights at 70*.

Incorporated by founder Lisa Parker as a nonprofit organization in 2013, Peace Day Philly is the local initiative of the International Day of Peace and initiative that promotes local engagement in the annual observance.

Peace Day Philly calls upon local government, organizations, community groups, and individuals to actively participate in programs and activities related to personal, local, and global peace throughout the week of Monday, September 17 to Friday, September 21, 2018. The organization encourages all Philadelphians to observe the day by contributing to a culture of peace in our society, as well as observe a minute of silence at noon on the International Day of Peace.

THEREFORE...

I, James F. Kenney, Mayor of the City of Philadelphia do hereby proclaim Friday, September 21, 2018 to be the

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE

in Philadelphia, and urge all residents to actively observe the day, and meaningfully engage and contribute to building a culture of peace in Philadelphia, as there is still much work to do to ensure justice, equality, and unity in our City and beyond.

James F. Kenney

Mayor

Given under my hand and the seal of the City of Philadelphia on this twenty-first day of September, two thousand and eighteen