# RESOLUTION DIWALI

WHEREAS, Diwali is one of the most celebrated festivals worldwide with over one billion people estimated to participate, the celebration holds great significance to Hindus, Sikhs, Jains and Buddhists; and

WHEREAS, Diwali starts on the 13th day of the dark half of the lunar month "Ashvina" and lasts until the second day of the light half of the lunar month of "Karthika."; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, Diwali falls on October 24th and during the festival families, friends, and communities around the world gather with the hope of goodwill, peace, and a shared sense of renewal; and

WHEREAS, the festival is a time for visiting, exchanging gifts, wearing new clothes, feasting, feeding the poor, lighting fireworks, and gambling; and

WHEREAS, its namesake comes from the Sanskrit word for a row (avali) of clay lamps (deepa) which are lit outside of homes to symbolize the inner light that protects the occupants from spiritual darkness, showcasing the symbol of the festival which is the victory of light over darkness; and

WHEREAS, Hindu, Sikh, Jain, and Buddhists all have lore that give Diwali a different meaning, as a whole, Diwali signifies a time of peace and serenity and brings hope of a shared understanding; and

WHEREAS, in Hindu culture, Diwali is recognized as the new year and the homecoming of Lord Rama, the deity which is the embodiment of chivalry and virtue. It is celebrated by the lighting of diyas, small earthenware lamps filled with oil in an effort to invite the presence of Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth; and

WHEREAS, Sikhs celebrate Diwali as the day that the sixth founding Sikh Guru, Guru Hargobind, was released from the captivity of Mughal Emperor Jagangir; and

WHEREAS, for Jains, the festival is recognized as the anniversary of moksha by Mahavira, who was the last of the Tirthankaras (the great teachers of Jain dharma); and

WHEREAS, in Buddhist culture, Diwali is commemorated as the day the great Emperor Ashoka adopted Buddhism as his faith; and

WHEREAS, Malibu Hindu Temple, the BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir and other places of worship provide community celebrations for Los Angeles residents from all walks of life to celebrate in the spirit of Diwali;

NOW. THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Los Angeles City Council is proud to celebrate and recognize the religious and historical importance of Diwali, the Festival of Lights. Diwali's message of hope, compassion and the victory of light over darkness resonates with the citizens of Los Angeles and the American spirit.

PRESENTED BY

UN S. LEE

Councilmember, 12th District

SECONDED BY

II MEMBERS

WHEREAS, the city of Los Angeles is home to the largest concentration of Salvadorans outside the Republic of El Salvador, with an estimated population of over one million nationals who are inextricably linked to their homeland; and

WHEREAS, the city council of Los Angeles recognize the important social, cultural, economic and political contributions of the Salvadoran community to the city, and commits to working with the Salvadoran leadership in Los Angeles to improve the well-being of this community; and

WHEREAS, the figure of the late Archbishop of San Salvador Monsignor Oscar A. Romero, as the ultimate pastor of the Salvadoran people, represents the moral voice against the injustices and human rights violations that led Salvadorans to flee their country and seek refuge in the United States, thus establishing this community in major cities such as the city of Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, the Salvadoran people, including the Salvadoran community in Los Angeles, embrace the memory of now, Saint Oscar A. Romero as a matter of national identity; and

WHEREAS, October 14, 2022 marks the fourth annual anniversary celebration of Monsignor Oscar A. Romero's canonization by Pope Francis thus, the city of Los Angeles joins the Salvadoran community in Los Angeles, the government of El Salvador, and millions of followers in El Salvador and around the world to pay tribute to his life and teachings; and

WHEREAS, Saint Oscar A. Romero's advocacy for the poor and the persecuted made him the "Voice of the Voiceless", and in light of the on-going anti-immigrant policies and all the challenges faced by the Salvadoran community, the city of Los Angeles commits to continue his legacy of love and compassion for the poor and, and stand strong in defending the human rights of the immigrant community and urges the Biden administration and congress to pass legislation that provides permanent residency to TPS holders, and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Los Angeles City Council and the Mayor of Los Angeles, in the spirit of the Sister City relationship with the City of San Salvador hereby urges the Government, the Legislative Assembly, and the Supreme Court of El Salvador to bring to justice those responsible for the assassination of the Archbishop of San Salvador, Monsignor Oscar A Romero.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Los Angeles City Council proclaims October 14, 2022 as "The Fourth Annual Canonization Celebration of Archbishop Oscar A. Romero in Los Angeles" and joins the Salvadoran community, the Los Angeles-San Salvador Sister City Committee, Clinica Moneñor Oscar A. Romero, SALEF and the Monsignor Oscar A. Romero Legacy Committee in celebrating his life and teachings on the occasion of the fourth annual anniversary of his canonization which takes place on October 14, 2022".

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Los Angeles City Council of Los Angeles, in occasion of his upcoming celebration, also proclaims "The Month of Hope, & Social Justice for Immigrants in Los Angeles" and joins the Salvadoran community in Los Angeles, in celebrating and continue his legacy and teachings of love and care for the poor.

PRESENTED BY:

EVIN DE LEÓN

Councilmember, 14th District

SECONDED BY:

ALL COUNCIL

ORIGINAL

WHEREAS, Theodore Roosevelt High School was established in 1922 and opened its doors during 1923 in historic Boyle Heights, California; and

WHEREAS, Theodore Roosevelt High School celebrates its 100th year anniversary this 2022 - 2023 academic year; and

WHEREAS, Theodore Roosevelt High School serves as a community of academic excellence for 1, 500 students from grades 9 to 12 each day; and

WHEREAS, Theodore Roosevelt High School is dedicated to uplifting and serving the needs of all its students as a public school in the Los Angeles Unified School District; and

WHEREAS, Theodore Roosevelt High School draws inspiration from its alumni and its long legacy for social justice that dates back to the 1968 East LA Walkouts; and

WHEREAS, Theodore Roosevelt High School celebrates this year the 87<sup>th</sup> annual East LA Classic against crosstown rival Garfield High School and attracts over 20, 000 people; and

WHEREAS, Theodore Roosevelt High School students and staff are excited to witness the \$216 million comprehensive modernization project to be completed in 2023:

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by adoption of this resolution, the Los Angeles City Council does hereby recognize THEODORE ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL on its 100th Anniversary. Thank you for your commitment to the education of students in the Boyle Heights community.

PRESENTED BY:

KEVIN DE LEÓN

Councilmember, 14th District

SECONDED BY:

OCT 0 7 2022

### T & G VENDING

WHEREAS, T & G Vending is a family-run business that provides beverage, snack, coffee, and frozen food services in the greater Los Angeles and Riverside counties. T & G Vending was started by two Italian friends Tony Tartaglia and Giovanni Funiciello with a dream for a better life in America from Ischia, Italy; and

WHEREAS, Tony and Giovanni both embarked on this dream at different stages of their life, and in 1971, T & G Vending was started out of Tony's home garage. With one machine and a Pinto station wagon, they began their dream soliciting locations where they could offer vending services; and

WHEREAS, like in anything during the 1970s, money was tight so they had to get creative as to how the business could grow. Giovanni looked at innovative ideas by purchasing used machines that he could renovate; and

WHEREAS, as more locations were secured, the business began prospering and it became apparent that a decision needed to be made for them to leave their day jobs at Todd Shipyard and focus on the vending business full-time; and

WHEREAS, in 1975, T & G Vending was fully operational, but not yet able to sustain two families to make a living. To help generate additional wages, Gianni embarked on yet another endeavor - he leased the cafeteria at the Harbor Occupational Center. There he was able to ensure that with incomes from both the vending route and cafeteria they could continue expanding the vending business; and

WHEREAS, by 1977, T & G Vending was well on its way to sustaining itself and providing a decent living to both Tony and Gianni and eventually grew into the business it is today; and

WHEREAS, in 1985, T & G Vending landed its home on Basin Street where it operates today. During its 52+ years of business all of the children at one point or another have worked at T & G Vending and learned very valuable life and business skills; and

WHEREAS, Tony and Giovanni's grandchildren have started working at T & G Vending and are learning work ethic and life skills that their Nonno Giovanni puts in the same effort as he did in 1971; motivated by a dream to live an entrepreneurial life in America; and

WHEREAS, T & G Vending has afforded both the Tartaglia and Funiciello families the dreams of putting their children through college and assisting them, and supporting them in whatever endeavors they desired; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, T & G lost one-half of T & G Vending when Tony Tartaglia passed away. Tony was an integral part of the success T & G has achieved over the years. Tony was a family member to not only T & G Vending but also the Funiciello Family; and

WHEREAS, T & G Vending continues to thrive and support the local community by providing scholarships to the local high schools for students, and supports local charities and sports programs; and

WHEREAS, many have benefited from Giovanni's motivational stories. His passion and desire to see the business continue to thrive are what drive him. Giovanni's dedication to his employees was displayed in full force during the pandemic as he kept everyone employed even when he had large locations that were closed for months at a time. This expression of assistance and stability to his team are what differentiate Giovanni from most employers. The families are fortunate to have been taught by two of the most hard-working men, Giovanni Funiciello and Tony Tartaglia:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by the adoption of this resolution the Los Angeles City Council is pleased to honor and congratulate T & G VENDING during Italian American Heritage Month 2022. Best wishes and may you always remain passionate advocates for preserving family and our Italian heritage.

PRESENTED BY:

JOE BUSCAINO

Councilmember, 15th District

SECONDED BY:

AM MEMBERS

WHEREAS, Hiroshima is a celebrated ensemble who first convened in Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, In the more than three decades since they first convened, Dan Kuramoto (keyboards/ woodwinds/ composer/ producer), June Kuramoto (koto/ composer), Kimo Cornwell (piano/ keyboards/ composer), Land Richards (drums), Dean Cortez (bass), and a host of extraordinary band members have blended jazz, pop, and rock with traditional Japanese music and instruments. The resulting sound was a pioneering voice in the contemporary world music movement of the late 20th century; and

WHEREAS, Band Members of Hiroshima embody the best of the diversity of Los Angeles. Dan Kuramoto, born in East Los Angeles and attended Roosevelt High School, went on to lead the band. Of all of the members, only June Kuramoto was born in Japan. She arrived in Los Angeles when she was six and lived in West Adams; and graduated from Dorsey High School; and

WHEREAS, Hiroshima – which takes its name from the Japanese city that sustained a nuclear blast during World War II, yet rose phoenix-like from its own ashes – they began in the poly-glot metropolis of Los Angeles.

WHEREAS, After more than 40 years Hiroshima's sound is vibrant, eclectic and truly original, they create a musical world all its own. Featuring the luscious sound of June Kuramoto's koto, and the interwoven fabrics of Jazz, Japan, Salsa and more; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that by the adoption of this resolution the City Council hereby celebrates Hiroshima for your endless contributions to the culture of Los Angeles, and the world, not only today but for future generations. The City of Los Angeles City Council does hereby commemorate October 29, 2022 as Hiroshima Day!

PRESENTED BY:

KEVIN DE LEÓN

Councilmember, 14th District

SECONDED BY:

ALL MEMBERS

## Resolution Granada Hills Charter Academic Decathlon Team

WHEREAS, the United States Academic Decathlon is a national academic competition for high school teams, which consists of ten challenging events with a focus on seven specific subjects including science, literature, art, music, social science, economics and mathematics; and

WHEREAS, the competition consists of back-to-back 50 question multiple choice exams in each subject, essays, speeches, and a lightning round called "Super Quiz relay"; and

WHEREAS, in order to prepare for the competition, students undergo rigorous studying and training all year under the tutelage of dedicated teacher coaches, requiring a collective level of dedication, commitment and sacrifice on the part of team members, coaches and their families; and

WHEREAS, in April 2022, the Granada Hills Charter Academic Decathlon team claimed its ninth overall national title with a score of 52,383.2 points; and

WHEREAS, the 2021-2022 competition theme of California - Water: A Most Essential Resource, was focused on a topic very familiar to the San Fernando Valley team; and

WHEREAS, Zainab Al-Atya, Lily Fairbank-Bermejo, Vivian Le, Vanessa Miller, Kira Pospeshil, Matthew Salcedo, Colby Sapera, Garrett Scott, and Mason Wong with two alternates Anthony Mercado and Elyssa Nguyen helped to carry their team to victory, led by Head Coach Tyler Lee and Assistant Coach Amy Contreras; and

WHEREAS, the Highlanders' mighty nine member team has won nine national titles since 2011, annually proving themselves a national force to be reckoned with; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the Los Angeles City Council is proud to congratulate the Granada Hills Charter Academic Decathlon Team on their ninth national title. As representatives of the San Fernando Valley and the City of Los Angeles, your hard work and dedication has resulted in great success and we have no doubt that you will continue to achieve great things. We wish you success in all of your future endeavors.

PRESENTED BY

JOHN S. LEE

Councilmember, 12th District

SECONDED BY

ALL MEMBERS

ORIGINAL

OCT 0 7 28