

❧ PROCLAMATION ❧

Whereas, the citizens of Saint Augustine recognize that the strength and vitality of our community are directly related to the vigor and variety of its arts organizations; and

Whereas, FIRST COAST OPERA has consistently sought to bring live, locally produced opera to the First Coast public while maintaining the highest standards of performance excellence; and

Whereas, FIRST COAST OPERA has, in the ten years of its existence, built a solid base of loyal patron support and sponsorship throughout the First Coast community; and

Whereas, FIRST COAST OPERA wishes to foster a new generation of opera patrons through educational programs and performance opportunities to insure the vitality of opera as an art form; and

Whereas, FIRST COAST OPERA brings programs of live opera to the schoolchildren of the First Coast to educate them and provide them with an understanding of opera as a vital form of musical entertainment; and

Whereas, FIRST COAST OPERA continues to serve the First Coast public through the cultivation and development of musical and creative resources available in our community, offering performing artists many opportunities for personal and artistic growth; and

Whereas, FIRST COAST OPERA seeks to generate interest from funding organizations to further the aims of performance and education in opera; and

Whereas, FIRST COAST OPERA pledges to give their audiences the highest possible level of production values;

NOW, THEREFORE, Be it proclaimed by the City Commission of the City of Saint Augustine, Florida that January 19 through January 25, 2009, be designated as ***FIRST COAST OPERA WEEK.***

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of St. Augustine, Florida, to be affixed on this 12th day of January in the year of our Lord two thousand and nine, in the four hundred and forty-third year of the founding of St. Augustine, the Nation's Oldest City

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NOW, THEREFORE,** Be it proclaimed by the City Commission of the City of Saint Augustine, Florida that January 19 through January 25, 2009, be designated as **FIRST COAST OPERA WEEK.

***IN WITNESS WHEREOF** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of St. Augustine, Florida, to be affixed on this 18th day of January in the year of our Lord two thousand and nine, in the four hundred and forty-third year of the founding of St. Augustine, the Nation's Oldest City*