P R O C L A M A T I O N

WHEREAS, the arts stand as a vital expression of beauty, emotion, and creativity; an ever-present, ever-evolving record of the human experience that reflects personal, local, and national achievements as well as the challenges that shape our society; and,

WHEREAS, the arts illuminate our shared humanity, enrich our emotional lives, foster compassion, and deepen our understanding of the diverse experiences that make each individual unique while uniting people, cultures, and ideas; and,

WHEREAS, throughout history, the arts have consistently served as a source of comfort in times of crisis, an outlet in moments of adversity, and a bridge toward peace and mutual understanding; and,

WHEREAS, the month of October has been designated as *Arts DuPage Month* by Arts DuPage and by arts and cultural organizations across all communities within DuPage County; and,

WHEREAS, Arts DuPage is celebrating its 10th anniversary of championing, supporting, and promoting the arts throughout DuPage County; a milestone marked by a sold-out anniversary reception held in August at the McAninch Arts Center in Glen Ellyn; and,

WHEREAS, the arts enrich every aspect of life in the Village of Downers Grove, contributing immeasurably to the cultural vitality, well-being, and quality of life of our residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Robert T. Barnett, Mayor of the Village of Downers Grove, do hereby proclaim October 2026 as **ARTS DUPAGE MONTH in the Village of Downers Grove** and call upon all residents to seek out, engage with, celebrate, and promote the arts throughout our community.

Dated this 13th day of October, 2026, at Downers Grove, Illinois.

Mayor