

Office of the Mayor
City of Fayetteville
Proclamation



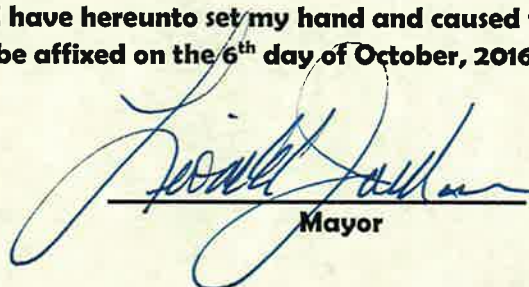
- WHEREAS:** autism, the fastest growing disability in the United States, is part of a complex group of neurodevelopmental disorders, collectively called Autism Spectrum Disorders and can affect anyone, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender or socioeconomic background, and
- WHEREAS:** symptoms and characteristics of autism manifest themselves in a variety of ways and have an impact that reaches far beyond a childhood diagnosis, meaning that individuals face lifelong learning, behavioral, and communication challenges, and
- WHEREAS:** over one-third of young adults with autism become disconnected in their early 20s, also known as reaching the 'drop-off point', as a result of these alterations in educational and personal service offerings. Americans with autism contribute to all aspects of society and are an essential thread in the diverse tapestry of our Nation, and
- WHEREAS:** it is critical that persons living with autism continue to receive various forms of care and services that equip them to succeed in an array of personal and professional pursuits, and
- WHEREAS:** we all stand to benefit when all types of community members have access to education as a means of personal development, with the younger generation recognizing the importance of diversity and difference as beneficial to our community, and
- WHEREAS:** the Fayetteville community has a long-standing history of promoting art, education, and service and these key tenants of the city's way of life are at the heart of an art show providing high-quality prints to the public to benefit an organization that serves young adults with autism and other disabilities,

NOW THEREFORE, I, Lioneld Jordan, Mayor of the City of Fayetteville, Arkansas do hereby proclaim October 6, 2016 as

"ART FOR ABLETALKS DAY"

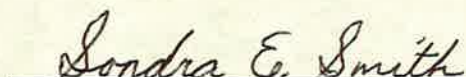
in Fayetteville, Arkansas and encourage all citizens to join in a celebration of art, education, and the ways in which non-neurotypical individuals add value to our community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Fayetteville, Arkansas to be affixed on the 6th day of October, 2016.



Mayor

Attest:



City Clerk

