

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**  
City of Eugene, Oregon

**PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS:** International Jazz Appreciation Month is a music festival held every April in recognition of the significant contribution jazz music has made to society. The aim of this annual event is to pay tribute to jazz for its historic and cultural significance by encouraging schools, governments and organizations to participate in jazz concerts and educational events; and

**WHEREAS:** JAM was first established in 2001 by the curator of The Smithsonian National Museum of American History. It was initially funded by The Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation, whose archives are currently housed at The Smithsonian; and

**WHEREAS:** The Willamette Jazz Society is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization that encourages the appreciation of jazz music, presenting live performances, youth education and fundraising, community education; and,

**WHEREAS:** The WJS has presented for the public, over 150 musical events a year at The Jazz Station, in downtown Eugene, since 2010, as well as weekly, free “learner jam sessions” for young musicians under the supervision of local music professionals; and,

**WHEREAS:** The WJS continues its support of student music education by providing a venue for Lane County high school jazz bands and choruses to perform in a real “jazz club”; and,

**WHEREAS:** More than 40 volunteers provide hundreds of hours of support to the Jazz Station throughout the year by fulfilling the duties required to operate this venue and over 160 members provide financial support ; and,

**WHEREAS:** The WJS is celebrating its 17th year in Eugene, and is holding special events to commemorate its legacy beginning on Monday April 1st and ending on Tuesday April 30th, 2019.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** On behalf of the people of the City of Eugene, I, Mayor Lucy Vinis, hereby proclaim April 2019 as

***“National Jazz Month”***

and recognize the Willamette Jazz Society as one of the premier volunteer support groups of the arts in Eugene by extending congratulations, and wishing its members good fortune in continuing performances for our community in the coming years.



*Lucy Vinis*  
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*Mayor of Eugene*  
*March 26, 2019*