

Proclamation

OFFICE OF MAYOR FRANK G. JACKSON

City of Cleveland, Ohio

In recognition of the Cleveland City Hall Centennial Celebration July 1, 2016

- Whereas*, on behalf of the citizens of the City of Cleveland, I am honored to offer this Proclamation in recognition of the Cleveland City Hall Centennial being held on July 1, 2016; and,
- Whereas*, in January of 1911, the groundbreaking ceremony for the foundation of the current structure we call City Hall took place under Mayor Herman C. Baehr. There was a delay in construction due to a long drawn out battle over which material to use in construction of the building. The Board of City Hall Commissioners had chosen granite over the advice of all others involved in the project. This fight made it to the State Supreme Court, but to no avail; the building's exterior is made of Vermont granite; and,
- Whereas*, City Hall was built at 601 Lakeside Avenue in downtown Cleveland's Civic Center for three million dollars or fifty cents per square foot. The building's dedication was held on July 4, 1916 by Mayor Harry L. Davis in coordination with the City's Independence Day celebration. The building was the first of its kind designed by Cleveland architect, J. Milton Dyer, for governmental purposes for a major United States city; and,
- Whereas*, at the time of its construction, City Hall was to continue the all important city planning of Daniel Burnham's 1903 Group Plan. City Hall is Beaux Arts Architecture consisting of five stories, basement and subbasement topped off with a copper roof. The Grand Hall is 100 feet long, 55 feet wide and rises majestically to the dome. Spaces have been created where works of art commemorating historic events of the City can be placed; and,
- Whereas*, the Rotunda has a barrel-vaulted sky lit area surrounded by marble Doric columns that are two stories high. The pillars and walls are made of polished marble. Cast Plaster Molding punctuates the bronze lamps and gates through out City Hall; and,
- Whereas*, located in City Hall's rotunda is the "The Spirit of '76" art work, which is a depiction of the American Revolutionary War painted by Archibald Willard in 1912; it is considered one of the nation's most popular patriotic artworks. Two large murals, painted by John LaQuatra, are located in the half-moon spaces at either end of the Rotunda; and,
- Whereas*, City Hall stands as a historic landmark, the first dedicated landmark that was added to the Cleveland Landmarks Commission. Legislation (1662-72) for this designation passed on December 4, 1972 and became effective December 11, 1972; and,
- Whereas*, Cleveland's City Hall will celebrate 100 years as the home of all local government service to the public for the past century. The City of Cleveland is proud to celebrate this momentous occasion with a grand celebration.

Now therefore, I, Frank G. Jackson, the 56th Mayor of the City of Cleveland, do hereby offer this Proclamation in recognition of the Centennial Celebration of Cleveland's City Hall. I urge all citizens to join me in extending a warm welcome to everyone attending this celebration and best wishes for many more years of service to the Cleveland community.

In witness thereof, I have set my hand and caused the Corporate Seal of the City of Cleveland to be affixed on this 1st day of July in the year 2016.

Mayor Frank G. Jackson