



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR, CITY OF GREENVILLE

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Greenville Choral Society, formerly known as the Greenville Community Chorus, grew out of an idea in 1969 to bring the music programs at East Carolina University and local churches together with talented local musicians;

WHEREAS, the Chorus started rehearsals with approximately 120 voices at the University and presented its first concert, portions of Handel's "Messiah", in Wright Auditorium in December 1969;

WHEREAS, in addition to performing such works as Benjamin Britten's "Rejoice in The Lamb" and Bach's "Magnificat", the group joined with East Carolina University choirs and orchestra on several occasions presenting such works as Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, Brahms' German Requiem and Poulenc's "Gloria";

WHEREAS, the Society also sang with the North Carolina Symphony Orchestra in a 1989 performance of Gustav Mahler's "Symphony of a Thousand", and collaborated with international singing star Judy Collins in a November 2001 holiday concert at Wright Auditorium, as part of the University's Rudolph Alexander Performing Arts Series;

WHEREAS, presently, the Greenville Choral Society consists of 180 community singers and is the largest community-based performing arts organization in the eastern third of North Carolina, encompassing five choral ensembles that perform a wide variety of secular and sacred music in Pitt County and beyond;

WHEREAS, the various ensembles within the Greenville Choral Society have performed by invitation in New York City, Washington, D.C., and Williamsburg, as well as in several North Carolina communities;

WHEREAS, the Greenville Choral Society members come from all walks of life and come from a geographical area broader than just Greenville and Pitt County;

WHEREAS, the main choir encompasses a wide range of ages, from college students to retirees, and occupations from teachers to college professors, from office workers to business owners, from lawyers to physicians, and includes some professional musicians as well. The various children and youth ensembles add about 100 more singers to the organization;

WHEREAS, the mission of the Greenville Choral Society is to foster excellence in the art of choral singing and to provide music education, cultural enrichment and entertainment for its members and the community; and

WHEREAS, the Greenville Choral Society is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Patricia C. Dunn, Mayor of the City of Greenville, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim December 1, 2009 as

GREENVILLE CHORAL SOCIETY DAY

in Greenville and in honor of the Greenville Choral Society's 40 years of music education and performance to the City of Greenville and Eastern North Carolina.

This 1st day of December 2009.

Patricia C. Dunn, Mayor