## PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SARATOGA DECLARING MARCH 2025 AS YOUTH ARTS MONTH

WHEREAS, Youth Arts Month has been celebrated in March since 1961 to emphasize the value of art education and to encourage support for excellent school art programs. Youth Arts Month provides a forum for acknowledging skills that are fostered through experience in art education programs; and

WHEREAS, the 2025 theme of Youth Arts Month is "Healing Through Color"; and

WHEREAS, art education is celebrated in local schools, school districts, community arts organizations, and larger communities to increase support, understanding, and interest in art education; and

WHEREAS, according to the California Department of Education, Fine Arts are taught in almost 60,000 classes in Santa Clara County. Studies have proven that arts learning strategies and arts integration help teachers to recognize and build upon critical thinking skills, curiosity, flexibility, communication, innovation, collaboration and are the traits required for post-secondary and workplace success; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education is committed to supporting the arts to inspire and prepare students for success in the 21<sup>st</sup> century by using arts education to reinforce the skills students will need to become productive, contributing members of a strong community; and

WHEREAS, we share in the vision to ensure that students have access to high quality arts education that is culturally relevant and inclusive, sparking curiosity, imagination, creativity and joy; and

WHEREAS, there are numerous long-term benefits of art education for all students and there is a continuous need to improve art education at all levels.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City Council of the City of Saratoga does hereby proclaim March 2025 as Youth Arts Month and strives to increase community, business, and government support for art education for all students.

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF SARATOGA this 5th day of March 2025.

Belal Aftab, Mayo

City of Saratoga