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**City of Fort Pierce Celebrates Arts & Culture with Proclamation**

**Fort Pierce, FL (October 15, 2018)** – City of Fort Pierce Mayor Linda Hudson issued a proclamation this week recognizing October as National Arts and Humanities Month. Fort Pierce joins other municipalities throughout the nation that annually celebrate the importance of culture in the lives of Americans and the health of thriving communities during this month.

“Even as we celebrate the value arts and culture brings to our lives throughout the year, this month is special. Fort Pierce’s arts district is a shining example of how a vibrant arts and cultural sector contributes to the vitality of communities,” said Lisa Fitz-Coy, communications manager for St. Lucie Cultural Alliance, St. Lucie County’s local arts agency and initiator of the proclamation.

The Proclamation reads:

*WHEREAS*, the nation's 95,000 nonprofit arts organizations, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the nation's 4,500 local arts agencies, and the arts and humanities councils of the 50 states and the six U.S. jurisdictions have regularly issued official proclamations on an annual basis designating October as National Arts and Humanities Month,

*WHEREAS*, the arts and humanities embody much of the accumulated wisdom, intellect, and imagination of humankind;

*WHEREAS*, the arts and humanities enhance and enrich the lives of every American;

*WHEREAS*, the arts and humanities play a unique role in the lives of our families, our communities, and our country;

*WHEREAS*, cities and states - through their local and state arts agencies and representing thousands of cultural organizations have celebrated the value and importance of culture in the lives of Americans and the health of thriving communities during National Arts and Humanities Month for several years; and

*WHEREAS*, the nonprofit arts industry also strengthens our economy by generating \$166.3 billion in total economic activity annually, \$27.54 billion in government revenue, and by supporting the full-time equivalent of 4.6 million jobs;

*WHEREAS*, the creative economy drives tourism and commerce, supports American workers, and makes up 4.2% of the annual GDP, proposed federal legislation titled The CREATE Act (S. 661 and H.R. 1649) would support economic development of the creative economy;

*NOW, THEREFORE*, I, Linda Hudson, Mayor of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida, do hereby proclaim October as National Arts and Humanities Month and call upon our citizens to celebrate and promote the arts and culture in our City and to specifically encourage the greater participation by those said citizens in taking action for the arts and humanities in their neighborhoods.

Throughout the month of October, St. Lucie Cultural Alliance invites Fort Pierce residents and visitors to #ShowYourArt on social media by taking selfies and video at local theatres, museums, festivals, murals and sculptures. Learn more at <https://artstlucie.org/news/nahm>.

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**About St. Lucie Cultural Alliance:** St. Lucie Cultural Alliance (SLCA) is the professional organization representing the arts and cultural sector in St. Lucie County. SLCA's mission is to better position the arts and cultural sector as a significant contributor to the vibrancy, educational and economic wellbeing of St. Lucie County. The organization is supported in part by St. Lucie County, The Economic Development Council of St. Lucie County, and the St. Lucie County Tourist Development Council.