

Proclamation Presented to

Hawai'i Youth Symphony

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Youth Symphony has consistently promoted the positive links between music study, academic achievement and social and emotional development through orchestral music education and performance opportunities for a half-century with the Symphony's vision to have every young person in Hawai'i experience the timeless value of music or to learn how to play a musical instrument, regardless of their socio-economic status; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Youth Symphony is the only statewide youth music education program that fills an increasingly important need in our community by providing music education for young students at a time when music education has virtually been eliminated in Hawai'i's public schools; and

WHEREAS, each year, the Hawai'i Youth Symphony serves more than 600 children, ages 7 – 18, from 100 schools across the state and distributes more than \$30,000 in financial aid annually for registration fees, instrumental rentals, private lessons and travel subsidies for neighbor island students; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Youth Symphony has served as a powerful example of the beauty that can result when hundreds of students from different schools on different islands across our state, with different socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds come together and literally play from the same sheet of music; and

WHEREAS, the students of the Hawai'i Youth Symphony grow not only by acquiring new music skills, but also learn the importance of discipline, responsibility, dedication and teamwork through intense rehearsals and multiple performances under the tutelage of music educators of the highest quality and supportive parents; and

WHEREAS, it is the Hawai'i Youth Symphony that takes its music to under-served populations, including areas on the neighbor islands, convalescent and retirement homes and community health and human services facilities, and even established a partnership with the Boys & Girls Club of Hawai'i to provide low-cost music lessons to children who may not be able access music education on their own; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Youth Symphony is committed to carrying on its tradition of musical excellence into the next half-century by cultivating an enduring passion for music in its students, training prospective musicians and providing high-quality concerts to develop new generations who grow to have an appreciation for music;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim April 12, 2015 as

"HAWAI'I YOUTH SYMPHONY'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY"

in Hawai'i, and ask all citizens of the Aloha State to join us in recognizing and pay tribute to the significant role the Hawai'i Youth Symphony has placed in music education in our state.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, on this ninth day of April 2015.

Governor, State of Hawai'i

SHAN S. TSUTSUI Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i