



IN HONOR OF RAYMOND NAT TURNER

WHEREAS, Raymond Nat Turner is a nationally acclaimed poet who has shared his passion for poetry by leading poetry workshops in Berkeley from Le Conte Elementary School to New Light Senior Center and by presenting his work at Berkeley venues from Cody's, Moe's, and the Public Library to Freight & Salvage, the Jazz School, the Hillside Club, and Berkeley Arts Festival; and

WHEREAS, He is a jazzpoet who founded the jazz-poetry ensemble UpSurge! in West Berkeley in 1990; produced the Bay Area JazzPoetry Festival at the Hillside Club; and conceived of and co-produced two jazz CDs, both of which received national airplay and one of which was nominated for an award by the National Association for Independent Music; and

WHEREAS, He has performed everywhere from the Monterey Jazz Festival and Harvard University to Panafest in Ghana, always sharing his truth and insisting on being heard and seen, prompting the poet Gwendolyn Brooks to call his work "lively" and inspiring peers to say that he is "one of the most prolific, consistently beautiful and unabashedly radical voices writing today" and that "if you ever have an opportunity to see him perform, just do it."

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Jesse Arreguin, Mayor of the City of Berkeley, do hereby declar

RAYMOND NAT TURNER DAY

in the City of Berkeley.



Jesse Arreguin
Mayor

February 25, 2020