



### HONORING AND CELEBRATING BERKELEY'S OWN: THE FREIGHT

**WHEREAS,** The Freight is Berkeley's own vital nonprofit music venue, deeply rooted in our city's culture since 1968 as a gathering place for people committed to music that embraces freedom, justice, acceptance, collaboration, and grassroots activism; and

**WHEREAS,** The Freight was founded in 1968 as the go-to venue for such notable performers as Kate Wolf, Malvina Reynolds, and Tom Paxton, and has evolved into a world-renowned center for the discovery and exploration of music with deep roots from around the world; and

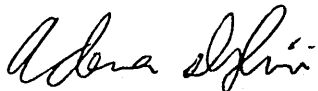
**WHEREAS,** The Freight now presents over 70 global roots genres annually—including bluegrass, folk, blues, jazz, reggae, Afro-Fusion, Latin, Hawaiian, Celtic, hip-hop, and beyond—with music grounded in storytelling, traditional instruments, and cultural traditions that celebrate cultures, connect communities, and inspire creativity; and

**WHEREAS,** The Freight's open mic is the longest-running open stage in the San Francisco Bay Area, providing a welcoming platform for artists and community members to share their voices; and

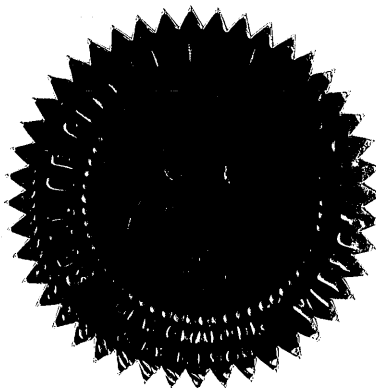
**WHEREAS,** The Freight is a cherished and iconic presence in Downtown Berkeley's Arts District, serving as a vital home for music, education, and cultural gatherings that welcomes curiosity, pushes boundaries, and champions inclusivity; and

**WHEREAS,** The Freight is committed to being an inclusive, accessible music organization that values joy, community, education, and connection—believing that the act of experiencing music together is the constant rediscovery of joy and that music connects us to each other, strengthening our ability to build a better future together.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** be it resolved that I, Adena Ishii, Mayor of the City of Berkeley, do hereby Celebrate and honor Berkeley's own The Freight on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of the month of October.



Adena Ishii  
Mayor



October 9, 2025