

Whereas, the City of Rochelle recognizes that arts education, including choral and instrumental music, dance, drama, and visual arts is an essential part of basic education for students, providing a balanced education that aids in developing their full potential;

Whereas, the arts enrich the lives of children in Rochelle by developing creative ability, self-expression, self-reflection, cognitive skills, discipline, a heightened appreciation of beauty, and a cross-cultural understanding; and,

Whereas, the fine arts are a significant component of students' educational development, teaching them the language and production of the arts, and helping them understand the role of the arts in civilization past and present, and;

Whereas, the continuing excellence of the vocal jazz program at Rochelle Township High School over the last 23 years has cast Rochelle in the national spotlight,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHET OLSON, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF ROCHELLE, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM MAY 19, 2017 TO BE IN OUR CITY

VOCAL JAZZ DAY

*I encourage all residents to recognize, honor, and celebrate the achievements of Rochelle Township High School's **Midnight Voices** and the extent to which music enriches the lives of all.*