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# City of Benton

## Illinois

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Gary Kraft, Mayor

### CITY OF BENTON PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, the arts and humanities are the embodiment of all things beautiful and entertaining in the world – the enduring record of human achievement; and

**WHEREAS**, the arts and humanities enhance every aspect of life in the City of Benton – improving our economy, enriching our civic life, driving tourism, and exerting a profound positive influence on the education of our children; and

**WHEREAS**, arts education research shows that the arts help to foster discipline, creativity, imagination, self-expression, and problem solving skills while also helping to develop a heightened appreciation of beauty and cross-cultural understanding; and

**WHEREAS**, we use the humanities – history, literature, philosophy – to explore what it means to be human; and

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

**WHEREAS**, the month of October has been recognized as National Arts and Humanities Month by thousands of arts and cultural organizations, communities, and states across the country, as well as by the White House and Congress for more than two decades:

**THEREFORE**, the City of Benton, does hereby proclaim October 2012 as CITY OF BENTON ARTS & HUMANITIES MONTH and call upon all citizens to celebrate and promote the arts and culture in the Land of Lincoln.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand to the affixed this 24<sup>th</sup> day of September.

  
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Gary Kraft, Mayor