

Whereas, the Portland Opera launched in Portland in 1964, with a production of Die Fledermaus at Madison High School; and

Whereas, the Opera grew to become a first-class company, hosting important premieres as well as contemporary and classic works; and

Whereas, in 1994, Portland Opera became the first American company to present a subscription series of nationally-touring Broadway shows; and

Whereas, the Opera established its new home at the Hampton Opera Center in Portland's Central Eastside in 2003; and

Whereas, Portland Opera is dedicated to expanding access to the arts in the community, including the Portland Opera To Go program, which brings one-hour versions of classic operas to schools and community groups state-wide; and

Whereas, General Director Christopher Mattaliano, Music Director George Manahan, the Portland Opera Board of Directors, staff, and performing artists are poised to launch opera in Portland into the next 50 years;

Now, therefore, I, Charlie Hales, Mayor of the City of Portland, Oregon, the "City of Roses," do hereby proclaim August 1, 2015 to be a day of recognition for

Portland Opera's 50th Anniversary

in Portland, and encourage all residents to observe this day.