



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL
MAYOR

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the gift of dance has always united people of different backgrounds, cultures, and faiths by transforming lives and uplifting spirits through art, movement, and music; and

WHEREAS, renowned dancer, involved Chicagooan, and fearless teacher-advocate Pierre Lockett realized this from an early age and dedicated his life to practicing and promoting this disciplined art form; and

WHEREAS, Lockett's professional dance career spans more than three decades with distinguished tenures at the Dance Theatre of Harlem and the Princeton Ballet, alongside 20 impressive years at the Joffrey Ballet; and

WHEREAS, after retiring from dance in 2002, Lockett fortified the Joffrey's administrative team with an appointment to Development Associate and soon thereafter began leading the Community Engagement program(s) as Director; and

WHEREAS, a dance education champion, Lockett's leadership, compassion, and sheer enthusiasm has ensured interactive programming and initiatives rooted in arts exposure and long-term development reach all children and teens throughout Chicagoland through ongoing collaboration with Chicago Public Schools and the Chicago Park District; and

WHEREAS, he has remained steadfast in sharing his passion for dance within the historic Bronzeville community reaching children in Mandrake Park, Quads Community Development Center, and a number of area schools; and

WHEREAS, Lockett's steady and innovative vision has been recognized with the *Princess Grace Award*, the Hyde Park School of Ballet's *Artist of the Year Award*, Bank of America's *Neighborhood Excellence Initiative Award*, and panel memberships on the City of Chicago's Community Arts Assistance Program and the National Endowment for the Arts in addition to countless other commendations; and

WHEREAS, this year Pierre Lockett will step down from his post as Director of Community Engagement for The Joffrey Ballet and continue dynamic work within the communities of Chicago, leaving an inspiring, prevailing legacy of service:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RAHM EMANUEL, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO, do hereby proclaim June 30, 2014 to be PIERRE LOCKETT DAY IN CHICAGO in acknowledgement of an extraordinary artisan's remarkable career and enduring commitment to culture and community.

Dated this 27th day of June, 2014.


Mayor