



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL
MAYOR

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, 451 years after his birth on April 23rd, William Shakespeare still speaks to residents of all backgrounds throughout Chicago as well as people around the globe through timeless words and long-renowned works; and

WHEREAS, for the past seven years, Chicago Shakespeare Theater has celebrated Shakespeare's birthday and the legacy of his language by creating Talk Like Shakespeare Day – a day on which all Chicagoans and visitors, near and far, are encouraged to express their inner thespian, by making a “cousin” out of a “friend” and turning “you” into “thee;” and

WHEREAS, every day we are reminded of Shakespeare's indelible influence on the English language which includes the invention of over 1,700 words and innumerable phrases, such as “birthplace,” “time-honored,” and “cake;” and

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago and the Chicago Park District proudly partners with Chicago Shakespeare Theater to bring free Chicago Shakespeare in the Parks performances across the city all summer long; and

WHEREAS, we anticipate and work toward Shakespeare 400 – the international celebration of the playwright's inimitable four-century legacy – throughout 2016 when all citizens and the Chicago cultural community will revel in Shakespeare's spirit of inventiveness and audacity; and

WHEREAS, on April 23, 2015 there will be a number of events for all to take part in and join the greater community in acknowledging the impact and genius of William Shakespeare:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RAHM EMANUEL, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO, do hereby proclaim April 23, 2015 to be TALK LIKE SHAKESPEARE DAY IN CHICAGO and encourage each and every resident to sound thy trumpet in a Shakespearean dialect.

Dated this 21st day of April, 2015.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rahm Emanuel".

Mayor