\*\*\*\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*\*\*\*

Mayor’s Virtual Gala for the Arts

August 29, 2020

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Fairfax Spotlight on the Arts, Inc., and the City of Fairfax Band Association, Inc., are hosting the Mayor’s Virtual Gala for the Arts, a celebration of the Arts in Fairfax, on August 29, 2020.

The virtual Gala will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the City of Fairfax Band Association and the 35th Anniversary of Fairfax Spotlight on the Arts. It will be attended by supporters of the arts in our community as well as elected officials, business leaders, and community members.

The on-line event will include a silent auction and performances designed to showcase the City of Fairfax Band Ensembles and Spotlight on the Arts scholarship winners. All proceeds from the event will benefit the City of Fairfax Band Association and Spotlight on the Arts.

The City of Fairfax Band Association’s achievements over the last five decades include the John Philip Sousa Foundation’s Sudler Silver Scroll Award; invitations to national community band conferences with performances in New Orleans, Allentown, and Virginia Beach; and representing the U.S. on the shores of France with performances for D-Day Commemoration Observances. This year the Band received an invitation to perform for Independence Day activities at the U.S. Embassy to the Holy See (Vatican City). Maestro Robert Pouliot is the recipient of the 2015 John Mason Arts Achievement Award from the City of Fairfax Commission on the Arts, and the Association of Concert Bands Outstanding Conductor Award.

Over its 35 year history, Spotlight on the Arts has been committed to supporting and encouraging awareness of cultural opportunities in the greater Fairfax community in cooperation with George Mason University and the City of Fairfax and to providing scholarships in the arts. This is highlighted during their annual festival. The Spotlight on the Arts Festival continues to be one of Virginia’s foremost arts festivals. Spotlight also raises funds for scholarships that benefit College of Visual and Performing Arts students at George Mason University.

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Gala Website: <https://fairfaxspotlight.ejoinme.org/Gala2020>

Spotlight on the Arts Festival: [www.fairfaxspotlight.org](http://www.fairfaxspotlight.org)

City of Fairfax Band Association: <https://www.fairfaxband.org/>