



PROCLAMATION

By the Mayor of Prattville, Alabama

WHEREAS, Geoffrey Sherman was born, raised and educated in England and was trained as a theatre and television director; and

WHEREAS, he came to the United States via New York City in 1977 and worked for several years in both the United States and Europe; and

WHEREAS, in New York, Geoffrey worked in both theatre and television, received numerous awards and nominations for his work, and introduced new plays to the American theatre through premiering work by a number of playwrights; and

WHEREAS, at the Portland Repertory Theatre in Oregon, he raised artistic standards to achieve National Endowment funding for the first time ever and founded educational outreach programs and a new studio theatre for new plays; and

WHEREAS, at Michigan's Meadow Brook Theatre, Mr. Sherman expanded artistic policy to include work by minorities for the first time in the theatre's 35-year history; in four seasons, the theatre won three annual Best Play Awards from the Detroit Free Press and Mr. Sherman received a number of Best Director and Best Production Awards; and he was the first recipient of the Detroit Free Press Lawrence Devine Award for outstanding contributions to the theatre in the state; and

WHEREAS, Geoffrey has served on panels for the New York State Council on the Arts, the Michigan Council for the Arts & Cultural Affairs and Theatre Communications Group; has taught acting and directing on the college level at a number of top colleges and universities; and has done voiceover and talking book narration; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sherman came to Alabama in 2005 as the Producing Artistic Director for the Alabama Shakespeare Festival and has not only served in this very important capacity, but also has been responsible for growth of that organization, bringing in considerable talent and productions; has worked to expand and nurture the Theatre community in this area by sharing his talents, expertise and facilities; and overall, has made a significant contribution to the art of Theatre in and for the State of Alabama.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Gillespie, Jr., Mayor of the City of Prattville do hereby Proclaim Saturday, March 15, 2014, to be

Geoffrey Sherman Day

In Prattville, Alabama, and urge our citizens to recognize and commend Mr. Geoffrey Sherman for his significant contribution to the arts through the theatre and sharing his talents with the people of Alabama.



*Given Under My Hand and Seal of the City of Prattville
on the 15th of March 2014.*

Bill Gillespie, Jr.

Mayor Bill Gillespie, Jr.