

PROCLAMATION  
Honoring Little Amal  
September 23, 2023

WHEREAS, *The City of Ann Arbor has affirmed its status as a welcoming city to immigrants and refugees; and*

WHEREAS, *The Ann Arbor Summer Festival was founded as a partnership between the University of Michigan and City of Ann Arbor and has a mission to present arts and entertainment that enrich the cultural, economic, and social vitality of the region; and*

WHEREAS, *Amal Walks Across America is produced in partnership with the U-M Arts Initiative, and the University of Michigan Museum of Art (UMMA), U-M School of Music, Theatre & Dance, and the Ann Arbor District Library; and*

WHEREAS, *Little Amal, is an internationally celebrated 12-foot-tall puppet of a 10-year-old Syrian refugee girl that visited Ann Arbor on September 23rd as part of a 6,000-mile journey across the United States; and*

WHEREAS, *Little Amal is an international symbol of human rights, especially those of refugees; and*

WHEREAS, *Little Amal is walking across the United States to learn firsthand about a country that has long been a refuge for those seeking safety and opportunity – but is simultaneously struggling with how to manage long-standing issues related to immigration; and*

WHEREAS, *Little Amal's engagement with hundreds of communities across the country will help spark meaningful conversations to help us better understand who we are and where we come from; and*

WHEREAS, *Little Amal will meet with a wide range of displaced and disenfranchised people, including North American Indigenous people, communities of color whose contributions to the story of America have historically been overlooked, recent migrants, and the ancestors of earlier immigrants, to learn the stories of American people who established roots in these communities over the last hundred-plus years.*

*NOW THEREFORE, I, Christopher Taylor, Mayor of Ann Arbor, Michigan, do hereby recognize the and proclaim September 23, 2023, a day to honor Little Amal and all the humans forced from their homelands and who now live in the Ann Arbor area.*



*I hereby set my hand and seal  
this 23rd day of September 2023*

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christopher Taylor".

*Christopher Taylor  
Mayor of the City of Ann Arbor*