



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Ruben Armiñana has faithfully served Sonoma State University for 24 years, from 1992-2016; and

WHEREAS, in 1995 Armiñana was an early pioneer in requiring students to have 24 hour access to computers and technology. This resulted in rewiring the campus center network and building a software library to accommodate that requirement; and

WHEREAS, as a visionary, Armiñana saw the need for a one-of-its-kind program called the Wine Business Institute, which focused on the business of wine (finance and marketing) and provided support, funding and opportunities which benefited the students and the wine industry worldwide; and

WHEREAS, Armiñana created the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) as a unique learning community for adults aged 50 and older. Distinguished SSU faculty and other Bay Area educators enjoy sharing their expertise with OLLI students, whose life experience and intelligence enrich the exchange of ideas. OLLI at Sonoma State University is now one of more than 100 OLLIs nationwide; and

WHEREAS, with his wife, Marne Olson, and 1,200 community members, Armiñana's vision of having a world-class concert facility on the Sonoma State University campus became a reality in 2012 when the Donald & Maureen Green Music Center fully opened. It houses the 1,400-seat Joan and Sanford I. Weill Hall, 250-seat Schroeder Hall, and teaching-focused Music Education Hall. Yo-Yo Ma, Wynton Marsalis and Diana Ross are just a few of the notable performers who have graced the stage since its opening; and


WHEREAS, Sonoma State Universities residential communities are not typical of college dorms – rather most are suites and apartments, and have been praised by the Princeton Review as “dorms like palaces.” Sauvignon, Beaujolais and Tuscany Villages were constructed over a 15-year period, doubling the amount of housing on campus to 3,100 beds; and

WHEREAS, an academic opportunity for students who wish to attend college locally was presented by Armiñana to local middle and high school children. Those students at Santa Rosa's predominantly Latino Lawrence Cook Middle School and Elsie Allen High School who meet minimum requirements are guaranteed entrance to Sonoma State University.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, John Sawyer, Mayor of the City of Santa Rosa, on behalf of the entire City Council, do hereby express our sincere and heartfelt appreciation, after his 24 years of distinguished service to Sonoma State University, the County of Sonoma, and the State of California, to

DR. RUBEN ARMIÑANA




Mayor John Sawyer
July 12, 2016