

1 [Artistic Free Speech Day - August 7, 2015]

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3 **Resolution declaring August 7, 2015, as Artistic Free Speech Day in the City and**
4 **County of San Francisco.**

5
6 WHEREAS, Freedom of speech is a core value in the United States of America; and

7 WHEREAS, Artistic expression is a form of free speech that has been pursued and
8 challenged, yet ultimately supported and admired in San Francisco for many years; and

9 WHEREAS, The following San Francisco artists and/or their representatives were
10 arrested or threatened with arrest for expressing themselves through their art; and

11 WHEREAS, Writer and publisher Lawrence Ferlinghetti and City Lights Bookstore
12 manager Shig Murao, were arrested by the SFPD in 1957 for selling "HOWL" and other
13 poems by Allen Ginsberg; and

14 WHEREAS, Comedian Lenny Bruce, was arrested by the SFPD in 1961 for performing
15 a stand-up comedy act that expressed his social critique; and

16 WHEREAS, Vorpall Gallery owner Muldoon Elder, was arrested in 1964 by the SFPD
17 for displaying "Themes from the Kama Sutra" sculptures by Ron Boice; and

18 WHEREAS, Journalist and filmmaker Saul Landau, was threatened with arrest in 1964
19 by the Berkeley Police Department for attempting to screen Jean Genet's film "Chant
20 d'Amour;" and

21 WHEREAS, Actors Billy Dixon and Richard Bright, were arrested by the SFPD in 1966
22 for performing in Michael McClure's play "The Beard;" and

23 WHEREAS, R.G. Davis, founder/director of the San Francisco Mime Troupe, was
24 arrested by the SFPD on August 7, 1965, for attempting to perform Giordano Bruno's classic
25 comedy "Il Candelaio" without a permit in Lafayette Park; and

1 WHEREAS, These past infringements upon the free speech rights of all of these San
2 Francisco artists should now be acknowledged and rejected in the light of the progress we
3 have made as a city and a society that fully respects artistic freedom of expression; and

4 WHEREAS, Artistic free speech by San Franciscans has a major and beneficial cultural
5 and economic impact on San Francisco, known around the world for our artists' creativity;
6 now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, Therefore, do we now declare that the annual date of the arrest of R. G.
8 Davis in San Francisco's Lafayette Park on August 7, shall be known, recognized and
9 celebrated each year as Artistic Free Speech Day; and, be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors declares August 7, 2015,
11 Artistic Free Speech Day in the City and County of San Francisco.



City and County of San Francisco

Tails
Resolution

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

File Number: 150897

Date Passed: September 15, 2015

Resolution declaring August 7, 2015, as Artistic Free Speech Day in the City and County of San Francisco.

September 15, 2015 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Avalos, Breed, Campos, Christensen, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Mar, Tang, Wiener and Yee

File No. 150897

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 9/15/2015 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Handwritten signature of Angela Calvillo

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Unsigned

Mayor

9/25/15

Date Approved

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without his approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

Handwritten signature of Angela Calvillo
Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

9/28/15
Date