POET LAUREATE: RAFAEL JESÚS GONZÁLEZ

WHEREAS, to promote the outstanding work of local poets, beginning in 2017 the Berkeley City Council will recognize annually an individual as Berkeley’s Poet Laureate; and

WHEREAS, Rafael Jesús González has lived in the East Bay for around fifty years, and taught creative writing and poetry at the Peralta Community College District for over thirty years; and

WHEREAS, Rafael’s bi-lingual poetry has been published throughout the world and has been recognized by World Congress of Poets; and

WHEREAS, Rafael’s poetry is often reflective of his political activism, having demonstrated against the wars in Iraq, the Gulf, and Vietnam, and has been involved with the Farm Workers Movement and environmental activism.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Jesse Arreguin, Mayor of the City of Berkeley, do hereby name

RAFAEL JESÚS GONZÁLEZ

as the Berkeley Poet Laureate for 2017.

Jesse Arreguin
Mayor

September 12, 2017