City of Seattle

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, April 23 has been recognized by the international community as a special day for children, and UNICEF recognizes the day as International Children's Day; and

WHEREAS, the Turkish American Cultural Association of Washington organized the first six International Children's Friendship Festivals to bring the positive energy of International Children's Day to our state, fostering cultural exchange and friendship among youth; and

WHEREAS, since 1920, the children of Turkey have been celebrating April 23 as Sovereignty and Children's Day, highlighting the date of the founding of the National Assembly in the Republic of Turkey; and

WHEREAS, the *Sixth Annual Seattle International Children's Friendship Festival* will feature children's groups representing the heritages of the USA, Turkey, Mexico, Philippines, Taiwan, Romania, Bulgaria, Serbia, Czech Republic, Poland, Quinault Indian Nation, Ukraine, Ahiska Turks, Cambodia, South Korea, China, India, Russia, Peru, Ireland, Mali, Burundi, Kenya, Trinidad and Tobago, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Canada, Georgia, Italy, New Zealand, and Somalia

WHEREAS, the Children's Festival is run by children and for children, and offers children the opportunity to research and debate their choice of topics in the Children's Forum, while also learning about healthy nutrition;

NOW, THEREFORE I, EDWARD B. MURRAY, MAYOR OF SEATTLE, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM APRIL 11-12, 2015 TO BE, IN OUR CITY

International Children's Friendship Festival Weekend

AND APRIL 23, 2015, TO BE

International Children's Day

Mayor Edward B. Murray
City of Seattle