



## JOINT PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, The Bellingham Festival of Music was formed in 1993 and the Festival Chorus of talented area singers was formed in 1995; and

**WHEREAS**, The mission of the Bellingham Festival of Music is, "To provide the area with opportunities to experience live music performances of the highest artistic level of symphony orchestra and chamber music by nationally and internationally renowned musicians in a concentrated festival format"; and

**WHEREAS**, Programs to encourage multi-age appreciation of music are offered by the festival such as the free Pre-Concert Talks, free Family Concert at the Whatcom Museum and at St. Joseph Hospital and free Master Classes for all music students; and

**WHEREAS**, The festival is supported by the City of Bellingham, Whatcom County, and many major businesses in the area through contributions, grants, sponsorships and ticket sales; and

**WHEREAS**, The festival attracts audiences from local, regional and national locations and more than 12 foreign countries, bringing contributions of over half a million dollars to our local economy through lodging, shopping, dining and recreational activities; and

**WHEREAS**, The cultural, personal and educational enhancements offered by the Bellingham Festival of Music are valuable and important as part of our community's identity; and

**WHEREAS**, The festival is supported this year by a Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, one of only four in music in the entire state of Washington;

**NOW, THEREFORE, DO WE**, Dan Pike, Mayor of the City of Bellingham, and Pete Kremen, Whatcom County Executive, proclaim July 3 through July 19, 2009, to be

### THE SEASON OF THE SIXTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BELLINGHAM FESTIVAL OF MUSIC

in the City of Bellingham and Whatcom County, and urge all citizens to join us in this observance by attending the Festival's performances.

Signed this 15<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2009

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dan Pike".

Dan Pike, Mayor  
City of Bellingham

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Pete Kremen".

Pete Kremen, County Executive  
County of Whatcom