



# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, together, Pamela Calero Wardell and Matthew Wardell helped to facilitate the visionary renovation of the historic City Auditorium into the Reilly Performing Arts Center that created a new home for the Ocala Symphony Orchestra and now hosts more than 165 events per year; and

**WHEREAS**, Pamela's and Matthew's efforts have been instrumental in elevating the Ocala Symphony Orchestra to a world-class cultural offering, thereby enhancing the musical experience for both the citizens of Ocala and visitors from around the globe; and

**WHEREAS**, Pamela and Matthew led the effort for the Reilly Performing Arts Center to assume management of the historic Marion Theatre, which now has more than 700 film showings a year, monthly music and comedy shows, is used by the community for events, and is once again a strong and iconic contributor to the vibrancy of our downtown; and

**WHEREAS**, Pamela and Matthew through their vision and leadership have successfully driven the recent expansion project of the Reilly Performing Arts Center, significantly increasing its capacity by opening the NOMA Black Box to host a wider array of performances and events; and

**WHEREAS**, Pamela and Matthew have successfully created the Ocala Music Conservatory, a music school for students of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities, and further establishing Ocala as a hub for cultural excellence; and

**WHEREAS**, Pamela and Matthew have dutifully served as the Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director, respectively, of the Reilly Performing Arts Center for the past decade demonstrating unparalleled dedication and vision; and

**WHEREAS**, on behalf of the citizens of this community we applaud Pamela and Matthew for their extraordinary contributions to the Reilly Performing Arts Center, the Marion Theater, the Ocala Symphony Orchestra, and the Ocala Music Conservatory. Their dedication, creativity, and leadership have left an indelible mark on our community's cultural and architectural heritage, and their achievements will continue to inspire future generations.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ben Marciano**, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Ocala, Florida, present to Pamela Calero Wardell and Matthew Wardell this proclamation as a token of our deep appreciation and respect for their remarkable service to our community.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Ocala, Florida, to be affixed this 16<sup>th</sup> day of January 2024.

Ben Marciano, Mayor  
City of Ocala

