

# ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

## *Proclamation*

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### GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY'S 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

**WHEREAS**, George Mason University will celebrate its 50th anniversary on April 7, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, George Mason University operates three campuses in the Commonwealth of Virginia—including the Arlington Campus established in 1979; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 7, 1972, a contingent from George Mason College met with Governor A. Linwood Holton in Richmond to sign House Bill 210 which established George Mason University as a free-standing four-year public institution of higher education; and

**WHEREAS**, Rector John “Til” Hazel Jr. helped acquire Mason’s School of Law located in Arlington in 1979; and

**WHEREAS**, George Mason University achieved level-three management autonomy in 2021, which is the highest level of management flexibility granted to public institutions of higher education in Virginia; and

**WHEREAS**, George Mason University is the most diverse, fastest growing, and largest public four-year institution in the Commonwealth, serving 39,134 students, of which 24 percent of undergraduate students are first-generation college students, and 1 in 12 are affiliated with the military, with 10,895 staff and faculty, and more than 215,900 alumni, including 135,300 currently in the Commonwealth; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, Katie Cristol, Chair of the County Board of Arlington, Virginia, in recognition of the many bonds between Arlington County and George Mason University, particularly in regard to the Arlington Campus, do hereby commend and recognize

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so that throughout 2022 the Board of Visitors, George Mason University Alumni Association, local governments, advisory committees, and interested citizens may celebrate its many years of growth and remarkable achievements.



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Katie Cristol  
Chair