

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 77775 C. M. S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER _____

Debra J. [Signature]
MAY 21 2003
PH 4:22

A RESOLUTION DECLARING MAY 21, 2003 AS TRENTE MORANT DAY IN OAKLAND

WHEREAS, Trente Morant has been a renowned conductor, composer, arranger, accompanist, and performer in the City of Oakland since 1984, three-time California Arts Council Artist-in-Residence, and Artistic Director for the Oakland Youth Chorus since 1992 ; and

WHEREAS, through his love of Multicultural Music, commitment to community-building and special talent for engaging people from all backgrounds, Trente Morant has brought the Oakland Youth Chorus to audiences of up to 20,000 per year, expanding the community's appreciation for the youth and the diverse musical forms of Oakland and the Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, Trente Morant has conducted the Oakland Youth Chorus in performances and workshops with Bobby McFerrin, Charlie Haden, Nancy Wilson, Jackie Rago, Ed Kelly, Keith Terry, Dance Brigade, Linda Tillery, Jon Hendricks, the Yellow Jackets, Pete Seeger, and Voicestra, introducing his young charges to some of the greats in musical performance; and

WHEREAS, Trente Morant, has lovingly trained over a thousand young people in professional quality vocal and choral performance, and has assisted numerous youth in their pursuit of professional music careers over the last 19 years; and

WHEREAS, Trente Morant has conducted the Oakland Youth Chorus during tours to New Orleans, New York, Pennsylvania, Jamaica, Canada, Japan and the White House, as well as on "Good Morning America" and at the Monterey Jazz Festival; and

WHEREAS, Trente Morant has served as Musical Director for many theaters, staging productions of "West Side Story," "Candide," "On the Town," "Barnum," "The Pirates of Penzance," "The Music Man," "Shenandoah," "Pippin," "Chicago," "Hair," "Funny Girl," "Trial By Jury," "Sugar," "Robber Bridegroom," "Annie," "A Chorus Line," "Something's Afoot," "Grease," "A Little Night Music," along with numerous "Pops" concerts; and

WHEREAS, Trente Morant toured internationally for ten years as a performer and lecturer specializing in music from the Harlem Renaissance, and has worked with Eugene Ormandy, William Steinberg, Leonard Bernstein and Zubin Mehta, as well as such choral giants as Robert Shaw, Roger Wagner and Joseph Flummerfelt; and

WHEREAS, Trente Morant has extensive solo and choral singing credits including the "Festival of Two Worlds" in Spoleto, Italy, "Live from Lincoln Center" broadcasts, and concert versions of "Tosca" "La Traviata," "Julius Caesar," "The Magic Flute," "Come Ye Sons of Art," "Bastien and Bastienne," and "Dido and Aeneas," and for the Oakland East Bay Symphony and the Oakland Ballet; and

WHEREAS, the friends, family, and fans of the Oakland Youth Chorus have faithfully attended every performance mounted by the Chorus, as much in the expectation of seeing the splendor of Mr. Morant's virtuoso organ playing, hair color, attire, and multiple varieties of sparkly socks, as for the fine choral musical performances; and

WHEREAS, the Oakland Youth Chorus will present a tribute to Trente Morant at his final concert as Artistic Director May 9 and 10, 2003, at Arts First Oakland/First Congregational Church of Oakland and Trente Morant's birthday is May 21, 2003; now therefore, be it,

RESOLVED: That the Oakland City Council hereby proclaims May 21, 2003, as Trente Morant Day in Oakland and urges the support of all citizens at the Oakland Youth Chorus May 2003 Concert Series.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, APR 29 2003, 2003


PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES- BRUNNER, CHANG, BROOKS, NADEL, REID, QUAN, WAN AND
PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE -8

NOES- 0

ABSENT- 0

ABSTENTION- 0

ATTEST: 
CEDA FLOYD
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
of the City of Oakland, California