

# PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

## Proclamation No. CP16-0545

### Celebrating Jesse Quintana's Championship at the National Old Time Fiddlers Competition

**WHEREAS**, Jesse Quintana, eight-year-old son of Rachel and grandson of Council's own Kelly Velez, wowed the crowd of fiddle musicians and enthusiasts at the granddaddy of fiddle competitions this summer - the 2016 National Oldtime Fiddlers Contest - bringing home the national Small Fry Championship to Colorado; and

**WHEREAS**, the weeklong fiddle competition in Weiser, Idaho has been attracting 7,000 enthusiasts and fiddlers of all ages in campers and tents to this town of 5,000 to compete and jam through the night annually since the 1950s; and

**WHEREAS**, Jesse competed with 24 of the best young players from the United States and Canada in Weiser where he brought down the house with his rousing rendition of the Texas bluegrass song, "I Don't Love Nobody"; and

**WHEREAS**, Jesse clearly loves playing music; and, his mom reports that this started before he was born when he would kick to the rhythms of local blue grass jams, at 9 months Jesse was investigating his grandmother's instruments, by 2 he was playing incessantly on his first teeny tiny 1/32<sup>nd</sup> violin and jamming with local musicians, at 3 Jesse was mastering fiddle tunes taught by his first fiddle teacher grandma Kelly, and by 4 he started competing in local and state contests, winning first place at ages 5, 6, and 7 in the Colorado State Championships at the Annual National Western Stock Show; and

**WHEREAS**, the Weiser contest required Jesse, who plays by ear, to compete in three rounds demonstrating artistry with three types of music per round: a waltz, a song of choice such as a rag, and a fast breakdown or hoedown totaling 9 different tunes evaluated by 5 sequestered judges who only hear the music and don't see the competitors or hear the crowd response; and

**WHEREAS**, Jesse uses his talents for charity including playing at nursing homes, public school events, a teacher appreciation award ceremony, fund raisers for an international adoption organization, a Denver back-to-school supply drive, and one weekend he entertained on the 16<sup>th</sup> Street Mall donating the money earned to a non-profit for presents for the children at the Denver Human Services Crisis Center; an avid sports enthusiast, he also entertained fans during the Nugget's halftime show.

### **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:**

**Section 1.** That the Council of the City and County of Denver congratulates Jesse for bringing home the national championship and commends his family Rachel, Kelly, and his brother Isaac for their nurturance and support of Jesse's extraordinary musical talent.

**Section 2.** That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall attest and affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to Jesse Quintana.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL August 1, 2016

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PRESIDENT PRO-TEM