

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 297527

ADOPTED ON JAN 07 2003

WHEREAS, Balboa Park December Nights, formerly known as Christmas on the Prado, was initiated in 1978 by the museum stores to drive holiday shopping traffic into the park, and has grown into Balboa Park's holiday gift to San Diego, an anticipated and beloved holiday tradition; and

WHEREAS, the event has grown from 3,000 visitors its first year to become the largest free community festival in San Diego, a park-wide event with more than 80 museums and cultural organizations opening their doors free of charge, and attracting more than 125,000 visitors to enjoy holiday traditions from around the world; and

WHEREAS, Christmas on the Prado changed its name to Balboa Park December Nights in 2002 to better reflect the participation of Balboa Park institutions and organizations throughout the entire Park, and the customs and traditions from many countries, cultures and faiths celebrated during the event; and

WHEREAS, Balboa Park December Nights will be held on December 6 and 7, 2002 from 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM and will celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Christmas on the Prado; and

WHEREAS, the 2002 event will celebrate the holidays with free admission to more than 80 museums and cultural organizations, delicious foods from around the globe, hands-on craft activities, photos with santa, gift shopping music and choral productions on 3 stages, as well as multi-cultural dance and theatrical presentations; and

WHEREAS, Balboa Park December Nights will also feature the beautiful Santa Lucia procession, presented by the Museum of Man; Kwanza in the Park, presented by the World Beat Center and featuring music, dance and children's theater; the San Diego Floral Association's "Communities in Bloom" show; excerpts from "The Nutcracker" performed by the San Diego Civic Youth Ballet; along with many other attractions; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of San Diego, that Balboa Park December Nights be heartily congratulated on the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Christmas on the Prado, and that it be further commended for the success of this San Diego holiday tradition.

APPROVED: CASEY GWINN, City Attorney

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