

RESOLUTION
of
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MARIN COUNTY

COMMENDING
ISABEL ALLENDE
2014 PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM RECIPIENT

WHEREAS, on November 24, 2014 President Obama honored prolific author and local San Rafael resident Isabel Allende with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor, in recognition of having made "extraordinary contributions to our country and world," and having made "America stronger and wiser and more human and more beautiful;" and

WHEREAS, Allende has lived an incredible life, leaving her home of Chile as a political refugee and living in Venezuela for 13 years, where her letters to her grandfather cataloguing his life, anecdotes of her family and her home country initiated the development of her literary career; and

WHEREAS, throughout her career Allende has written 21 books in 35 languages selling 65 million copies, works that in the words of President Obama "tell of families, magic, romance, oppression, violence, redemption — all the big stuff — but in her hands, the big became graspable and familiar and human;" and

WHEREAS, Allende has been a leader in many capacities, including her work in founding the Isabel Allende Foundation in the honor and memory of her daughter Paula Frias, which is dedicated to continuing her daughter's ideals of service and compassion, and living out her motto: "what is the most generous thing that I can do?" and

WHEREAS, the Isabel Allende Foundation is guided by a vision of social and economic justice, promoting reproductive rights, healthcare, education, and protection from violence for women by supporting nonprofit organizations such as Legal Services for Children, Women's Recovery Services, Family Service Agency of Marin, Homeless Prenatal Program, The Global Fund for Women, The Center for Young Women's Development, Huckleberry Youth Programs, and more; and

WHEREAS, Allende has been an activist and a leader in the Marin County Community, using her incredible gifts to raise awareness for immigrant issues; and

WHEREAS, Allende has been an inspiration to people across the globe and in the community of Marin that she calls home, encouraging all to remain engaged with an open heart and to lead a life of passion.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Marin County Board of Supervisors commends Isabel Allende on the occasion of her recognition by President Obama with the Presidential Medal of Freedom and her extraordinary contributions to Marin County and our community.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin held this 3rd day of February 2015.

KATIE RICE – SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 2 - PRESIDENT

DAMON CONNOLLY – SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 1

STEVE KINSEY – SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 4

