

CHEROKEE COUNCIL HOUSE
CHEROKEE, NORTH CAROLINA

RESOLUTION NO. ____

WHEREAS: It has been a tradition among the Cherokee people to give special recognition to Cherokee women and, on occasion, men who have made special and unique contributions to the Cherokee people; and

WHEREAS: Such outstanding persons have been recognized as a "Beloved Woman" or "Beloved Man" of the Cherokee people; and

WHEREAS: according to James Adair and other historians, "beloved women were looked upon as ambassadors between clans, governments or opposing groups while serving as advisors to Council"; and

WHEREAS: In Henry Timberlake's memoirs in 1765, he stated "Old warriors likewise, or war-women, who can no longer go to war, but have distinguished themselves in their younger days, have the title of Beloved"; and

WHEREAS: These esteemed individuals have served as ambassadors internally and externally, and as advisors to the Tribal Council, preserving and sharing the Cherokee Core Values and lifeways; and

WHEREAS: In the traditions of our culture, it has been customary to recognize and esteem those who have distinguished themselves amongst their peers by continually creating a positive impact on their community, our traditional culture, and the posterity of our tribe; and

WHEREAS: Davy Mitchell Arch, an enrolled member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians from the Wolfstown Community, has dedicated his life to embodying the Cherokee Core Values, strongly exudes Beloved Man characteristics.

WHEREAS: Davy Arch has demonstrated the Cherokee Core Value of Education through his lifelong role as a teacher of Cherokee culture, lifeways, and arts to generations of students, artisans, and community members, traditional skills such as mask carving, pottery, flint knapping, blowgun and dart making; and

WHEREAS, Davy Arch has served in significant cultural and educational roles, including Education Director for Qualla Arts & Crafts Mutual, manager and interpreter at the Oconaluftee

Indian Village, and as a North Carolina Visiting Artist, sharing Cherokee knowledge with people across the nation; and

WHEREAS: Davy Arch demonstrates the Core Value of Tribal Identity by learning from respected elders including his grandfather, mother, and master artists such as Sim Jessan, Amanda Crowe, and Goingback Chiltoskie, and by continuing these traditions through his work as a master artisan and storyteller; and

WHEREAS, his artwork and cultural contributions have been recognized and displayed in institutions including the Kennedy Center, the North Carolina Museum of History, and the Mountain Heritage Center, Western Carolina University, reflecting the enduring presence and artistry of Cherokee culture; and

WHEREAS: Davy Arch has demonstrated the Core Value of Group Harmony through decades of community involvement and service with organizations including Cherokee community clubs, the Cherokee Potters Guild, North Carolina Trail of Tears Association, Southern Highland Craft Guild, Cherokee County Arts Council, Haywood Arts Council, Qualla Arts & Crafts Mutual, North Carolina Arts Foundation, and the North Carolina Arts Council; and

WHEREAS: Davy Arch has demonstrated the Core Value of Strong Individual Character through his humility, generosity, and unwavering dedication to cultural stewardship. He has served as caregiver to his grandfather and mother for over 30 years, exemplifying the Cherokee tradition of honoring and caring for elders; and

WHEREAS: His exceptional skill as a mask carver, storyteller, and cultural ambassador has earned him prestigious recognition, including the 2014 Mountain Heritage Award from Western Carolina University, honoring his devotion to preserving Cherokee culture through his artistry and teaching; and has allowed him to serve as a Cherokee ambassador in Europe, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians in Council assembled, at which a quorum is present, that in light of his lifelong commitment to the Cherokee people, the Tribal Council hereby bestows the honor and title of Beloved Man of the Cherokee upon Davy Mitchell Arch;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this resolution shall become effective upon ratification by the Principal Chief of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

Submitted by:

Beloved Women Committee: Kimberly Smith, Shannon Swimmer,
Peggy Hill-Kerbow, Lula Jackson, Stan Crowe

Dawn Arneach, nominator
Driver Blythe, nominator