STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: The ability to speak in a clear and concise manner is a powerful and important skill that can help people overcome barriers to effective performance in today's increasingly competitive marketplace; and

WHEREAS: Toastmasters International is a global organization comprised of local clubs that offer their members the tools necessary to develop business, leadership, listening, and evaluation skills. Members are also provided instruction and opportunities to gain public-speaking experience; and

WHEREAS: From its humble beginnings in 1924 at the YMCA in Santa Ana, California, Toastmasters International has grown to become a world leader in helping people become more competent and comfortable when speaking in front of an audience. The nonprofit organization now has approximately 250,000 members in more than 12,500 clubs in 106 countries, offering a proven way to practice and hone communication and leadership skills; and

WHEREAS: Thousands of corporations sponsor in-house Toastmasters clubs that serve as communication-training workshops for employees and help improve employee and company performance; and

WHEREAS: The friendly atmosphere offered by Toastmasters clubs, along with the "learn-by-doing" technique, aids individuals in enhancing their communication skills, allowing them to feel more comfortable in social environments;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim October 2021, as

TOASTMASTERS' MONTH

across the State, and I urge my fellow citizens to recognize the many contributions of Toastmasters International in developing the communication and public-speaking skills of students, volunteers, and professionals throughout Arkansas.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 13th day of September, in the year of our Lord 2021.

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

John Thurston, Secretary of State