



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, in its 200th year, Maryville College remembers where it has come from, celebrates what it is today, and readies itself for new directions and bold initiatives that will clarify its identity in its third century; and

WHEREAS, today “Noble, Grand & True” is as accurate a description as it was in 1898, when John Woodside Ritchie wrote it into the first stanza of the College’s alma mater; and

WHEREAS, in its 200 years, Maryville College has not followed popular opinion but instead been guided by what it believes to be right. Those early decisions shaped the College and continue to shape it. They include commitments to a Church-related, liberal arts education - preparing students while challenging them to think carefully and critically about all matters in life, including spiritual and ethical matters. Graduates see their lives and work as fulfilling a greater purpose; and

WHEREAS, Maryville College has provided access to education to deserving and qualified students regardless of ethnicity, gender and ability to pay since its first century. It was the first institution in Tennessee to award a bachelor’s degree to a woman (in 1875) and among the first to award a degree to an African-American (in 1880) and international students in the 19th century; and

WHEREAS, citizenship, leadership and service, relevant education and experiences, athletics opportunities and responsible stewardship are the promises students can expect as a citizen of the community of Maryville College; and

WHEREAS, Maryville College’s noble founding principles include “do good on the largest possible scale,” and its statement of purpose includes “building and strengthening the human community;” and

WHEREAS, Maryville College remains true to its past by committing itself to becoming a greater asset in the region by providing educational opportunities beyond undergraduate education to learners of all ages, focusing expertise and resources to help solve the region’s most pressing problems, and engaging in partnerships to develop and support entrepreneurship; and

WHEREAS, Maryville College was founded on October 19, 1819, and annually celebrates “Founder’s Day;” and

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee commends Maryville College and its students, faculty, staff and leadership past and present on 200 years of service and acknowledges its impact on our state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the year 2019 as the

Maryville College Bicentennial Year

in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed at Nashville on this sixth day of February, 2019.

Governor

Secretary of State

