City of Oberlin, Ohio

RESOLUTION No. R11-05 CMS

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF APRIL 8, 2011, AS THE AMERICAN NATIONAL DAY OF FRIENDSHIP

WHEREAS, friendship is a concept promoted by all religious, ethical and cultural traditions of the world; and

WHEREAS, friendship transcends ethnicity, gender, geographic boundaries, and political and religious affiliations; and

WHEREAS, the designation of a day in our calendar as the National Friendship Day is an effective way to transform an ideal humanitarian philosophy into a public ritual and thereby helping communal cohesion and solidarity; and

WHEREAS, friendship has manifestations in virtually every discipline – from philosophy, theology, literature and history, to anthropology, psychology and cultural studies; and

WHEREAS, friendship embodies honesty, integrity, compassion, respect, caring for human fellowship and many other individual and social virtues; and

WHEREAS, the spirit of friendship exemplifies strength of character, sound human values, and human bonds that go beyond self-interest; and

WHEREAS, friendship can be a powerful foundation for international peacemaking; and

WHEREAS, the globalization of an American National Day of Friendship can change the image of the United States abroad and therefore can serve as a powerful leverage in our foreign affairs; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oberlin has a long tradition of promoting diversity, equality, fairness and friendship.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Oberlin, County of Lorain, State of Ohio, a majority of all members elected thereto concurring:

SECTION 1. That the Council of the City of Oberlin acknowledges that Oberlin College, a pioneering American institution of higher education in promoting educational civil liberties, has already celebrated a Friendship Day Festival on April 8, 2010, and therefore has made an historic precedent.

SECTION 2. That the Council of the City of Oberlin hereby expresses support for the designation of April 8, 2011, as The American National Day of Friendship.