



PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS:** The City of Dover proudly recognizes individuals and businesses whose innovation, talent, and dedication elevate the cultural fabric of our community; and
- WHEREAS:** *Stages* restaurant, led by Dover native Chef Evan Hennessey, has redefined what is possible for fine dining in small towns, proving that world-class cuisine and thoughtful hospitality can thrive beyond the borders of major metropolitan centers; and
- WHEREAS:** *Stages* has shown that innovative, small-scale restaurants can be sustainable and impactful, bringing visitors to Dover who stay, dine, and explore, while offering residents the chance to experience exceptional dining just minutes from home; and
- WHEREAS:** Chef Hennessey's deep connection to the Dover community—rooted in his upbringing here—is reflected in his partnerships with local farms and artisans such as Fox Point Oysters, New Hope Farm, and Loudonshire Farm, and in his commitment to mentoring young chefs, closing supply chain gaps, and fostering sustainable and educational collaborations with organizations like the Center for Wildlife; and
- WHEREAS:** *Stages'* recognition as a James Beard Award Semifinalist is a proud milestone for both the restaurant and the City of Dover, celebrating not only the excellence of Chef Hennessey's leadership but also the tireless dedication of his entire team, whose efforts and talents are the heart of every achievement; and
- WHEREAS:** Chef Hennessey's restaurant has earned the distinction of being named to the *Opinionated About Dining* Top 100 Restaurants of North America list for eight consecutive years—firmly placing Dover on the culinary map and offering an enduring reminder of what is possible through vision, perseverance, and community support;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Robert Carrier, Mayor of the City of Dover in the State of New Hampshire, and the entire City Council do hereby recognize and honor Chef Evan Hennessey and *Stages* Restaurant for their extraordinary contributions Dover's growing reputation as a culinary destination, for their unwavering commitment to excellence, and for their role in shaping a more connected, inspired, and proud community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have here unto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Dover to be affixed this 14th Day of May, 2025.

Robert Carrier, Mayor
City of Dover, New Hampshire