

# Proclamation

*WHEREAS, on August 14, 1945, the people of the United States received word of the end of World War II, and greeted the news of the Allies' noble victory with joyous celebration, humility, and spiritual reflection; and*

*WHEREAS, the victory marked the culmination of an unprecedented national effort that defeated the forces of aggression, brought freedom to subjugated nations and ended the horrors of the Holocaust; and*

*WHEREAS, these historic accomplishments were achieved through the collective service and personal sacrifice of the people of the United States, both those who served in uniform — including the 400,000 who gave their lives — and those who supported them on the home front during World War II; and*

*WHEREAS, August 14, 1945 marked not only the end of the war, but also the beginning of an unprecedented era of rebuilding; and*

*WHEREAS, the men and women of the WWII generation created an array of organizations that helped to strengthen the American democracy by promoting civic engagement, volunteerism and service to community and country; and*

*WHEREAS, their courage, dedication, self-sacrifice and compassion have inspired subsequent generations in the U.S. Armed Forces, including the men and women currently serving in Iraq, Afghanistan, and around the world; and*

*WHEREAS, the entire WWII generation, military and civilian alike, has provided a model of unity and community that serves as a source of inspiration for current and future generations of Americans to come together to work for the continued prosperity of the United States and the world;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, R.T. RYBAK, Mayor of the City of Minneapolis do hereby proclaim August 10, 2011 as:*

## SPIRIT OF '45 DAY IN THE CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS



Mayor of Minneapolis

