

**Aya Medrud Appreciation Day  
August 13, 2016**

**WHEREAS**, Aya (Mariagnes) Medrud's experiences in a World War II Japanese-American internment camp were the ferment for a life of community service with a focus on social justice and empowerment for communities of color; and

**WHEREAS**, Aya Medrud served as a mentor, inspiration, and conscience for many in the social justice community spanning many generations; and

**WHEREAS**, Aya Medrud's other contributions to the community included work of the boards of Special Transit (now VIA), the Boulder County Community Action Board, the Community Foundation Serving Boulder County, the YMCA, the Mile-High Japanese American Citizens League, and the American Friends Service Committee; and

**WHEREAS**, Aya Medrud was a founder of the Boulder Asian Pacific Alliance, which coordinated the Boulder Asian Festival, as well as other events that raise the profile of the Asian Pacific Community; and

**WHEREAS**, Aya Medrud's numerous accolades included a 2002 Daily Camera Pacesetter Award, the Boulder Chamber of Commerce's 2008 Women Who Light Up the Community Award, the Rocky Mountain Peace and Justice's Centers 2006 Peacemaker of the Year honors, 2012 recognition from the Denver Dragon Boat Festival as Humanitarian of the Year, the Boulder Community Action Program's 2003 Multicultural Awards in Community Service, and the 2013 Multicultural Award in Honoring Our Elders.

**WHEREAS**, Aya Medrud's lifelong commitment as an educator and one who sought to increase opportunities for youth included teaching art on the Pine Ridge Reservation; and

**WHEREAS**, Aya Medrud's direct service to the City of Boulder include serving on the City of Boulder Library Commission, Human Services Technical Review Committee, and the Human Relations Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, Aya Medrud epitomizes strength and compassion through her generosity, grace, and unflinching commitment to doing the hard work to make lasting social progress.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DECLARED** by the City Council of the City of Boulder, Colorado, that August 13, 2016 is

**Aya Medrud Appreciation Day**



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Suzanne Jones, Mayor

