

City of Gainesville, Florida  
Office of Mayor Lauren Poe  
PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, During Black History Month, we celebrate the many achievements and contributions made by African Americans and people of African descent to our economic, cultural, spiritual, and political development; and

WHEREAS, Black History Month grew out of the establishment, in 1926, of Negro History Week by Carter G. Woodson, a son of former slaves, and the Association for the Study of African American Life and History; and

WHEREAS, The 2021 national theme for the observance is "Black Families - Representation, Identity and Diversity;" and emphasizes the wide-ranging diversity of black family life -- from single to two-parent households to nuclear, extended and, more recently, bi-racial; and

WHEREAS, The Black family has been "stereotyped and vilified from the days of slavery to our own time; and

WHEREAS, The observance of Black History Month calls our attention to the continued need to battle racism and build a society that lives up to its democratic ideals; and

WHEREAS, The City of Gainesville continues to work toward becoming an inclusive community in which all citizens—past, present, and future—are respected and recognized for their contributions and potential contributions to our community, the state, the country, and the world; and


WHEREAS, The City of Gainesville is proud to honor the history and contributions of African Americans in our community, throughout our state, and nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lauren Poe, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim February, 2021 as

**Black History Month**

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in encouraging all citizens to continue to endeavor for a more unified community, to celebrate our diverse heritage and culture, and continue our efforts to create a world that is more just, peaceful, and prosperous for all.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 28th day of January, A.D., 2021.

  
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Lauren Poe  
Mayor

