

City of Gainesville, Florida

Office of Mayor Paula M. DeLaney

#000858
01/22/01

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, in July 1920, Alachua County freeholders passed a bond for \$150,000 to build a new high school for white students, and a "new black schoolhouse." Its patrons named the new school for black students in honor of Abraham Lincoln. The school opened its doors in September 1923, with Union Academy Principal Professor A. Quinn Jones named principal of the new Lincoln High School; and

WHEREAS, Professor Jones and Lincoln High School's teachers were deeply involved in the lives of the record 800 students who filled the building to capacity that September of 1923, often providing them with food, clothing, shelter, and giving freely of their spare time, including advising students on personal matters; and

WHEREAS, in August 1956, a new facility was built in east Gainesville to provide more space, a better teaching and learning environment for Lincoln High School administrators, teachers, and students and to serve as the activity center for the black community; and

WHEREAS, despite adverse working conditions, inadequate financing, frequent overcrowding, lack of books and vital supplies, the administrators and teachers continued to educate their students, encouraging them to excel to the highest educational levels; and

WHEREAS, in July 1993, the alumni of this proud school established the Lincoln High School Alumni Association to continue to uphold the great legacy of Lincoln High School and its effectual influence on the community it serves; and

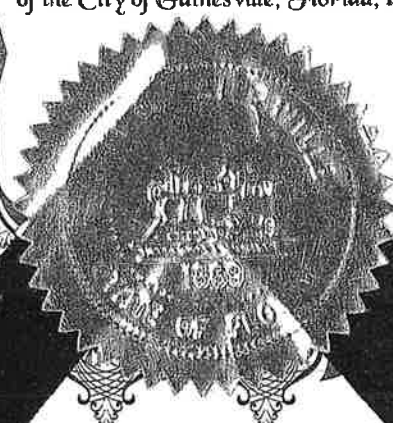
WHEREAS, in January 1999, the Lincoln High School Alumni Association "Hall of Fame" was established to honor the distinguished service and accomplishments of administrators, teachers and alumni.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Paula M. DeLaney, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim January 26-28, 2001 as

LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
GRAND REUNION WEEKEND

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in honoring the legacy and spirit of Lincoln High School administrators, teachers, and students and the role they played in shaping our community and making it a better place to live.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 14th day of January, A.D., 2001.


Paula M. DeLaney
Paula M. DeLaney
Mayor