

City of Gainesville, Florida

Office of Mayor Pegeen Hanrahan

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the extraordinary music of African-American singers, composers, and musicians has enriched our musical heritage; and

WHEREAS, often born from the courage to fight injustice and overcome suffering, this music embodies the spirit of our national character; and

WHEREAS, since President Carter first declared June as Black Music Month in 1979, Presidents have continued to issue an annual National Black Music Month proclamation; and

WHEREAS, since 1988 the City of Gainesville has carried out the wishes of local musicians Richard Baxter and Rowland Burns whose hope it was to bring the celebration of Black Music Month to Gainesville; and

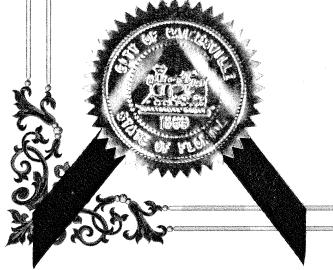
WHEREAS, in honor of Black Music Month, the City of Gainesville will host a series of free concerts held each Friday night in June at the Downtown Community Plaza.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Pegeen Hanrahan, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim June 2008 as

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in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in celebrating these outstanding artists and their music.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 29^{th} day of May, A.D., 2008.



Pegeen Hanrahan Mayor