

Proclamation Black History Month 2016

WHEREAS, Black history is an integral part of American history because African Americans played an essential role in building and shaping this great country; therefore, February is nationally recognized as Black History Month; and

WHEREAS, Black History Month was originated by the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, founded in 1915 by Carter G. Woodson, an African American historian, author and journalist; and

WHEREAS, throughout Black History Month, we recognize the extraordinary achievements and acknowledge the many contributions African Americans have made in our nation and the world; and

WHEREAS, the story of African Americans is a story of resilience and perseverance with contributions being made in all areas, including education, medicine, science, technology, aerospace, art, public service, the military, business, politics, human and civil rights, engineering, sports, entertainment and much more; and

WHEREAS, this year's Black History Month theme, "Hallowed Grounds: Sites of African American Memories," celebrates the history of African Americans as it unfolded across the canvas of America beginning before the arrival of the Mayflower and continuing to the present;

WHEREAS, the City of Orlando embraces its diversity and acknowledges the invaluable contributions of its African American residents and visitors as we celebrate Black History Month;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BUDDY DYER, Mayor of the City of Orlando, hereby do proclaim the month of February 2016 as

"BLACK HISTORY MONTH"

in the City of Orlando

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto have set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Orlando to be affixed this 8th day of February 2016.