

PROCLAMATION

Black History Month

February 2023

WHEREAS, Black History Month, also known as African American History Month, is celebrated each February in the United States; and

WHEREAS, this began in 1926 and was originally planned for one week, to coincide with the birthdays of two important individuals in the fight to end slavery – Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, it was expanded to encompass the entire month of February to recognize the significant contributions made by African Americans to our country’s economy, politics, science, religion and society as a whole; and

WHEREAS, to preserve and protect the legacy of African Americans, a time should be set aside to focus on and reflect on the lifetime triumphs and achievements of great leaders, educators, scholars, inventors, politicians, writers, artists and citizens; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, We, the Story County Board of Supervisors, do hereby proclaim **February 2023** as **Black History Month** and encourage all citizens to recognize, celebrate and expand their knowledge of the history, culture, legacy, struggles and achievements of African Americans.

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