

# PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS:** From those whose voices were silenced to those who lifted their voices, paving the way for future leaders, African-Americans have for centuries led, persevered and inspired the pursuit of equality, justice and freedom; and

**WHEREAS:** February is observed nationwide as Black History Month, established by Carter G. Woodson in 1926 as a weeklong observance to honor the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln. This celebration promotes increased awareness and education of black history and its contributions to the unique fabric of America; and

**WHEREAS:** Jacksonville's history includes recognized and important leaders in the progress and growth of civil rights nationwide; and

**WHEREAS:** Jacksonville natives Eartha M.M. White, James Weldon Johnson, Rutledge Pearson, Earl M. Johnson and Dr. Arnett Girardeau are among those with rich legacies shared and inspired by trailblazers such as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Rosa Parks and Harriet Tubman; and

**WHEREAS:** Throughout the month, activities and events are hosted to celebrate and encourage the continued pursuits of freedom, equality and justice; and

**WHEREAS:** Jacksonville shares in honoring the influential and inspiring citizens, advocates and leaders who broke barriers, shaped our nation's past and continue to contribute to its future.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY,** by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim February 2019 as

## **AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH**

in Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to join me in honoring the legacy and celebrating the contributions of historic and current leaders who have continued to work toward equality in our nation.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 25<sup>th</sup> day of January  
in the year Two Thousand 19

  
MAYOR

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA