



# PROCLAMATION

ONE CITY. ONE JACKSONVILLE.

**WHEREAS:** According to the National Science Foundation, women make up only 28% of the science and engineering workforce in the United States. Women of color are ever more underrepresented in these fields; and

**WHEREAS:** Girl's interest in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields begins to decline at age 8, with a sharp decrease by age 12; and

**WHEREAS:** Gender stereotypes, negative stigma, a lack of role models and representation, and limited exposure all contribute to the underrepresentation of girls and women in STEM; and

**WHEREAS:** Exposure to female role models in STEM has been proven to increase girls' interest and confidence in pursuing STEM subjects; and

**WHEREAS:** The 2023 Galaxy Festival, hosted by The ScienceSIS, is an event that connects young girls and girls of color with exciting STEM performances and experiences, hands on experiments, and a variety of cultural activities; and

**WHEREAS:** The City of Jacksonville joins the ScienceSIS and partners to celebrate women in STEM and encourage a future generation of girls to pursue an education and career in science, technology, engineering, and math.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, DONNA DEEGAN,** by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim September 9, 2023 as

## **GALAXY FEST DAY**

In Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to recognize and celebrate community initiatives aimed at promoting STEM among girls of color in the community.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 7th Day of Sep. in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-Three.

  
MAYOR