



Proclaiming
February 2024
Black History Month in Ventura County

Whereas, February is dedicated to Black History Month, honoring the triumphs and struggles of African Americans throughout U.S. history. It's an opportunity to spotlight and celebrate the achievements that African Americans have accomplished in this country; and

Whereas, Dr. Carter G. Woodson and Reverend Jesse E. Moorland co-founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History in 1915 to research and raise awareness of the crucial role Black People have played in American and world history; and

Whereas, a son of former slaves and the second Black person to receive a degree from Harvard University, Dr. Woodson, a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, understood the value of education and the importance of preserving one's heritage and helped create Negro History and Literature Week in 1924, later changed to Negro History Week in 1926; and

Whereas, the month of February was selected to celebrate Black History Month to honor the birth of two individuals whose actions drastically altered the future of Black Americans: Abraham Lincoln, the U.S. President who issued the Emancipation Proclamation, and Frederick Douglass, one of the nation's leading abolitionists, author, and public speaker; and

Whereas, a tradition that got its start in the Jim Crow era and was officially recognized in 1976 as part of the nation's bicentennial celebrations, Black History Month has been recognized and widely celebrated by the entire nation on both a scholarly and popular level to promote, preserve and research Black history and culture year-round; and

Whereas, Black History Month serves as both a celebration and a powerful reminder that Black history is American history, Black culture is American culture, and Black stories are essential to the ongoing story of America; and

Whereas, Ventura County is fortunate to have many organizations that benefit African American communities by providing educational opportunities, scholarships, economic developments, art, and culture including the 20th Century Onyx Club, Blacks in Government (BIG), the Channel Islands Chapter of The Links, Inc., Martin Luther King, Jr. Committee of Ventura County, The Juneteenth Celebration Committee, Ventura County NAACP Branch, Pinkard Innovative Enterprises, Pro Duffers West Golf Club, Psi Xi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Ventura County Chapter of Black American Political Association of California (BAPAC), Ventura Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Xi Iota Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Xi Kappa Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Ventura County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; Community Advocacy Coalition of Ventura County, Unity Lodge #22 F.A.A.M.-Prince Hall Affiliated, Ventura, California, and 99Three FM KJBU – Rhythm of the Coast.

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Ventura County Board of Supervisors hereby Proclaims February 2024 as Black History Month in Ventura County and takes great pleasure in honoring the many organizations that serve the African American community in Ventura County.

Presented on this 6th day of February 2024


Matt LaVergne, Supervisor 1st District


Jeff Gorell, Supervisor 2nd District


Janice S. Parvin, Supervisor 4th District


Chair of the Board of Supervisors
Kelly Long, Supervisor 3rd District


Vianey Lopez, Supervisor 5th District