

# Proclamation

**Whereas,** on February 1, 2022, President Joseph R. Biden JR proclaimed February 2022 as National Black History Month, noting that, “Each February, National 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 – our faults, our struggles, our progress, and our aspirations,” and

**Whereas,** our Nation was founded on an idea: that all of us are created equal and deserve to be treated with equal dignity throughout our lives,” but that, “The long shadows of slavery, Jim Crow, and redlining – and the blight of systemic racism that still diminishes our Nation today – hold America back from reaching our full promise and potential. But by facing those tragedies openly and honestly and working together as one people to deliver on America’s promise of equity and dignity for all, we become a stronger Nation – a more perfect version of ourselves.” and

**Whereas,** across the generations, countless Black Americans have demonstrated profound moral courage and resilience to help shape our Nation for the better. Today, Black Americans lead industries and movements for change, serve our communities and our Nation at every level, and advance every field across the board, including arts and sciences, business and law, health and education, and many more. In the face of wounds and obstacles older than our Nation itself, Black Americans can be seen in every part of our society today, strengthening and uplifting all of America;” and

**Whereas,** in Alameda, Black Americans are represented in civic, civil, and human rights organizations, are business owners, elected officials, City staff, and members of City Boards and Commissions; and


**Whereas,** the contributions of Black Americans are recognized throughout our city, in the naming of streets, housing developments, sports facilities, a community center, and a school, and by banners displayed at City Hall and all Alameda schools that celebrate Black History Month with illustrations of influential national, regional, and local Black Americans; and

**Whereas,** we also recognize and honor the many contributions of Black American residents over the years, and express our deep gratitude to Black American health care providers, essential workers, and first responders who have been among the front line heroes of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Now, therefore, be it resolved,** that I, Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft, Mayor of the City of Alameda, hereby proclaim February 2022 as

## Black History Month

in the City of Alameda, and invite residents to attend the performance of “Words That Made the Difference: BROWN vs the BOARD OF EDUCATION,” on Saturday, February 26 at Rhythmix Cultural Works. This play was written and directed by Alameda resident and Black American, Dr. Cindy Acker, Ed.D.

  
Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft  
Mayor

