

PROCLAMATION



Office of the Mayor

WHEREAS, Black History Month grew out of the 1926 establishment of Negro History Week by Carter G. Woodson and the Association for the Study of African American Life and History; and

WHEREAS, during Black History Month, we celebrate the many achievements and contributions made by Black Americans to our economic, cultural, spiritual, and political development; and

WHEREAS, the observance of Black History Month calls our attention to the continued need to dismantle racism and build a society that lives up to our nation's democratic ideals; and

WHEREAS, *A Stone of Hope: Black Experiences in the Fox Cities*, an exhibit on local Black history from the 1700s to the present produced by the History Museum at the Castle, reminds us that Appleton's past includes examples of racism and discrimination, and that the road to becoming a more inclusive community has been long and difficult for BIPOC Appletonians; and

WHEREAS, the City of Appleton continues to work toward being a welcoming community where all people are respected and recognized for their contributions and is proud to honor the history and achievements of Black community members.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT I, JACOB A. WOODFORD, Mayor of the City of Appleton, Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim February 2026 as

Black History Month

in Appleton and encourage all residents to celebrate our diverse heritage and culture, learn about our history, and continue efforts to create a community that is more just, peaceful, and prosperous for all.

Signed and sealed this 2nd day of February 2026.

JACOB A. WOODFORD
MAYOR OF APPLETON

