

Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** Black History Month is celebrated each February in recognition of achievements by Black Americans and all people of African descent in the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** in 1915, historian and author Dr. Carter G. Woodson, founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, and in 1926 Dr. Woodson created Negro History Week to encourage the study of Black Life and history; and
- WHEREAS,** Dr. Woodson chose the second week of February for Negro History Week because it marked the birthdays of two men who greatly influenced the history of African Americans, Frederick Douglas and Abraham Lincoln; and
- WHEREAS,** in 1976, twenty-six years after Woodson's death, the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History officially shifted the celebration from a week to a month, and since 1976 every U.S. President has officially designated the month of February as Black History Month; and
- WHEREAS,** The contributions to science, technology, business, arts, and cultural innovation by African Americans have been essential to the progress of our nation, and African American history offers a lesson to all that everyone, regardless of gender, nationality, race and ethnicity, is a maker of history and that each and every one of us can contribute to the welfare of our communities, cities, states, nation and the world.
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, W. Jeff Williams, Mayor of the City of Arlington, Texas, and on behalf of the Arlington City Council, do hereby proclaim February 2020 as**

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City to be affixed this 21st day of February in the year of Our Lord two thousand and twenty.



MAYOR