



Proclamation

WHEREAS, beginning in 1976, every president has declared the month of February as “Black History Month”. The theme for 2024 is “African Americans and the Arts.” African American art is infused with the global African diaspora lived experiences. In the fields of visual and performing arts, literature, fashion, folklore, language, film, music, architecture, culinary and other forms of cultural expression, the African American influence has been paramount; enriching America and indeed the lives of every American; and

WHEREAS, blues musicians such as Riley “BB” King created and nurtured a style of music that became the bedrock for gospel, soul, and other still popular (and evolving) forms of music. Black contribution to literature includes works by authors such as Octavia Butler and Toni Morrison; and

WHEREAS, In 1973, hip-hop was started by black musicians in the Bronx, and continues to be a pivotal force in political, social, and cultural spaces and continues to be used as a medium for issues such as racial violence, sexism, economic disinvestment and other issues at the forefront; and


WHEREAS, Black artist have used art to preserve history and community memory as well as for empowerment. Local artist such as Victor Temple from New World Ballet, Santa Rosa and Tina Rogers from Catch-a-Beat continue to ensure the history and tradition of black art live on in our community.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that, I, Natalie Rogers, Mayor of the City of Santa Rosa, on behalf of the entire City Council, do hereby recognize February 2024 as

NATIONAL BLACK HISTORY MONTH

“African Americans in the Arts”




Mayor Natalie Rogers
February 13, 2024