



## **PROCLAMATION**

**A PROCLAMATION** by the Mayor of the City of Bainbridge Island, Washington, declaring February 2018 as “Black History Month.”

**WHEREAS**, Black History Month is celebrated throughout the nation during the month of February; and

**WHEREAS**, Black History Month is a time to honor our diverse ancestry and to remember the often-hidden history of civic, economic, professional, medical, and artistic achievements of many Black Americans; and also serves as a reminder of the challenges that face all people of color, and that the work to eliminate barriers based on prejudice is ongoing; and

**WHEREAS**, Black Americans continue to make significant contributions to the growth of our nation: in business and philanthropy; as ministers, doctors and nurses; as artists and musicians; as professors and teachers; as lawyers and legislators; as soldiers and leading athletes. Black Americans have earned Olympic Gold Medals; Medals of Honor, and as slaves, built the White House where the first Black President and his family resided from 2009 – 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, we continue to be inspired by the vision of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and by the vision of local leaders such as former Seattle Mayor Norm Rice, Judge Theodore Spearman, Bishop Lawrence Robertson, and Lillian and James Walker; and

**WHEREAS**, Black History Month serves as a reminder of the challenges that are faced by people of color and other marginalized groups. There is still more to be done to ensure equality under the law and equal opportunity; and

**WHEREAS**, Black History Month’s theme for 2018 — “African Americans in Times of War” — commemorates the centennial of the end of the First World War in 1918, and explores the complex meaning and implications of this international struggle and its aftermath.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Kol Medina, Mayor of the City of Bainbridge Island, Washington, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim February 2018 as

### **“BLACK HISTORY MONTH”**

in the City of Bainbridge Island, and urge all Islanders to join me in this special observance.

SIGNED, this 13<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2018

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Kol Medina, Mayor