





**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN RAFAEL
PROCLAIMING THE MONTH-LONG CELEBRATION OF
BLACK HISTORY MONTH IN FEBRUARY**

- WHEREAS,** In 1976, as part of the nation’s bicentennial, Black History Week was expanded and became established as Black History Month, and Americans of all walks of life have come together since then during the month of February to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history; and
- WHEREAS,** These accomplishments are the more remarkable for having been won at the cost of great struggle and sacrifice by women and men who came to these shores in chains, and by their descendants; and
- WHEREAS,** African Americans were enslaved in this country, however they did not board slave ships as slaves; they were Kings, Queens, Heads of State, healers, doctors, scientists, librarians, educators, and entrepreneurs throughout the African Diaspora; and
- WHEREAS,** Black History Month seeks to emphasize Black history and its cultural contributions to American life, and is designed to recognize and pay tribute to the many contributions of African Americans to the history, society, and culture of the United States of America; and
- WHEREAS,** Black History Month celebrates the achievements of African Americans in the arts, civil rights, education, entertainment, government, history, law, literature, medicine, military, music, politics, science, sports, and other endeavors; and
- WHEREAS,** Black History Month is a time for all Americans to remember the stories, teachings, suffering, and struggles of African Americans who gave a voice to the daily struggles for freedom, equality, diversity, equity, and inclusion; and
- WHEREAS,** The City of San Rafael Library & Recreation Department provides resources and programming specifically to educate the community on important topics such as anti-racism and equity, for example:
<https://srpubliclibrary.org/research/resources-on-anti-racism-and-equity/>;
and
- WHEREAS,** While we cannot ignore nor erase the consequences of our country’s long and unfortunate history of violence, of discrimination, of systemic racism and inequities, and of deprivation of African Americans – we can commit to acknowledging our responsibility for those historic and systematic inequities, while working together to create a future that is inclusive and equitable for all; and
- WHEREAS,** The City Council of the City of San Rafael, takes great pleasure in recognizing Black History Month, and urges all residents of San Rafael to join in
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celebrating the accomplishments of African Americans and encourages the people of San Rafael to recognize and appreciate the many talents, achievements, and contributions that African Americans make to their communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, The City Council of the City of San Rafael, Hereby Proclaims the month of February 2021 as Black History Month, and furthermore acknowledges the historic harm that African Americans have experienced and continue to experience in this country. Additionally, the City Council recognizes the many accomplishments African Americans have historically achieved and the many ongoing contributions they make to our society and our local community across Marin County and San Rafael.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kate Colin".

Kate Colin
Mayor