

proclamation

Juneteenth | June 19, 2024

WHEREAS, on January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation went into effect, declaring freedom to the enslaved people in the Confederate territory, paving the way for the passing of the 13th Amendment which formally abolished slavery in the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, nearly 2½ years later on June 19, 1865, Union General Gordon Granger led troops to Galveston, Texas, to announce the end of the Civil War and the institution of slavery and thousands of enslaved people in Texas were freed, making them the last to learn of their liberation; and

WHEREAS, June 19 is the emancipation date of those who were suffering for freedom and has been celebrated for over 150 years as the nation is still continuing to advance policies that promote equity and right the historic wrongs to secure justice and freedom for all; and

WHEREAS, in 1980, Juneteenth became an official Texas state holiday, and since then, 49 other states and the District of Columbia have also declared it as such, otherwise known as Emancipation Day; Congress declared Juneteenth a federal holiday in 2021; and

WHEREAS, the city is proud to host and support various community events throughout the city in honor of Juneteenth.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sheila DeCiccio, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Winter Park in the state of Florida, do hereby proclaim **Wednesday, June 19, 2024**, as **“Juneteenth”** in Winter Park, Florida, and encourage all residents to enjoy the educational and cultural celebration and become more aware of the significance of this celebration in African-American History and in the heritage of our city.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Winter Park, Florida, to be affixed this 12th day of June 2024.

Sheila DeCiccio
Mayor