

## **Black History Month**

**February 16, 2021**

The origin of Black History Month began in 1915, half a century after the Thirteenth Amendment abolished slavery in the United States. The month of celebration and honor grew out of “Negro History Week,” which was created by Carter G. Woodson and other founding members of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. The second week in February was chosen for its overlap with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass.

With the Civil Rights Movement and a growing awareness of Black identity, Black History Month or National African American History Month, evolved to an annual celebration of achievements by Black Americans and a time for recognizing the central role of African Americans in U.S. history.

This year's theme for Black History Month recognizes “Black Family: Representation, Identity and Diversity” and explores the African diaspora, the spread of Black families across the United States. Centuries of this forced migration is most notably traced back to the Atlantic slave trade and the enslavement of Africans and their descendants in the Americas.

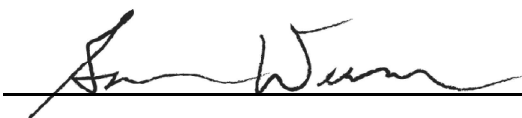
Despite the historic atrocities and continued inequities faced by Black Americans, their contributions hail from all walks of life and have made unforgettable marks in our nation as artists, scientists, educators, entrepreneurs, influential thinkers, members of the faith community, athletes, and civic leaders, and are reflected in the greatness of our community.

We, the City Council of the City of Boulder, Colorado declare February 2021  
as

**Black History Month**



And encourage everyone in the community to join in honoring and celebrating by seeking out and taking in Black culture and history, supporting Black-owned local businesses, and taking time to reflect on what Black history means to each of us this month and all year.



Sam Weaver, Mayor

