

Whereas

Whereas, residents of this great region; and Portland's honor, strength and stature can be attributed to the diversity of cultures and traditions that are celebrated by the residents of this great region; and

Whereas, African-Americans have played significant roles in the history of Oregon's economic, cultural, spiritual and political development while working tirelessly to maintain and promote their culture and history; and

Whereas, as a result of their determination, hard work, intelligence and perseverance, African Americans have made valuable and lasting contributions to Portland and the State of Oregon, achieving exceptional success in all aspects of society, including business, education, politics, science, and the arts; and

Whereas, Black History Month is a time for all Americans to remember the stories and teachings of those who helped build our nation, took a stance against prejudice to build lives of dignity and opportunity, advanced the cause of civil rights, and strengthened families and communities; and

Whereas, during Black History Month all Americans are encouraged to reflect on past successes and challenges of African-Americans and look to the future to continue to improve society so that we live up to the ideals of freedom, equality and justice;

Now, Therefore, I, Charlie Hales, Mayor of the City of Portland, Oregon, the "City of Roses", do hereby proclaim February 1 to February 28, 2013 to be

Black History Month

in Portland, and encourage all residents to observe this day.

Charlie Hales

