

Whereas

Whereas, the month of February is officially celebrated in Portland as Black History month; and

Whereas, in 1976, Black History Month was formally adopted to honor and affirm the importance of Black History throughout America, dating back hundreds of years; and

Whereas, Black History Month is the time for all Oregonians to remember the African-American history of Oregon, particularly the contributions of Roscoe Lee Dixon (1850), Beatrice Morrow Cannady (1929), and Jess Stahl (1915), a few of the citizens who paved the way to advance civil rights, fortify communities and families, and educate and employ other African-Americans; and

Whereas, with dedication and hard work, the African-American citizens of Portland have uplifted and transformed our communities; and

Whereas, the history of the City of Portland has been made richer from the economic, cultural and political contributions of African-Americans; their invaluable achievements in business, education and the arts deserve recognition; and

Whereas, during Black History Month and beyond, all Americans are asked to be accountable to themselves, their families, neighbors and community to continue efforts toward the freedom, justice and equality that all Americans deserve;

Now, therefore, I, Sam Adams, Mayor of the City of Portland, Oregon, the "City of Roses," do hereby proclaim February 2011 to be

Black History Month

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

