

## Proclamation Black History Month

**WHEREAS**, Black History Month is an annual opportunity to recognize the central role of African Americans in the history of our state and nation; and

**WHEREAS**, during Black History Month, we celebrate the many achievements and contributions of African Americans to our economic, cultural, spiritual, social, and political development; and

**WHEREAS**, the national commemoration of black history in the United States dates back to 1926, and was initially observed the second week in February to coincide with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass and by the late 1960s, the week had evolved into Black History Month thanks to the Civil Rights movement and a growing awareness of the experiences of African Americans in our country; and

**WHEREAS**, Black History Month was officially established in 1976 by President Gerald Ford, who called on the public to, "seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history," and has since been recognized by every U.S. President, Governors and other officials across the country and in the State of Arizona; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 22, 2012, people across the United States celebrated the groundbreaking of the National Museum of African American History and Culture, which opened to the public on September 24, 2016, on the National Mall in Washington, DC; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Fountain Hills honors the significant contributions and advances made by African Americans throughout the world in such areas as education, medicine, art, culture, public service, economic development, politics, and human rights; and

**WHEREAS**, in the face of injustices, people of good will and of all races in the United States have distinguished themselves with a commitment to the noble ideals on which the United States was founded and have fought courageously for the rights and freedom of African Americans and others; and

**WHEREAS**, we see the greatness of America in those who have risen above and enriched our society.

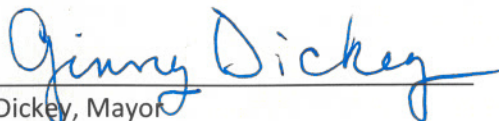
**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, Ginny Dickey, Mayor of the Town of Fountain Hills, do hereby recognize and proclaim February 2023 as

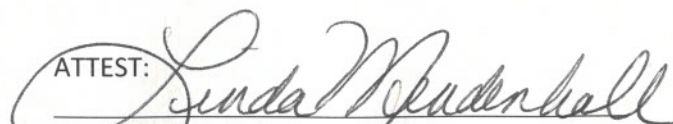
### BLACK HISTORY MONTH

and urge all to join in celebrating the contributions of African Americans to our community, state and nation.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the Town of Fountain Hills this 21<sup>st</sup> day of February 2023.



  
Ginny Dickey, Mayor

ATTEST:   
Linda Mendenhall, Town Clerk