

Presidential recognition of February as Black History Month at Wayne State University

WHEREAS the United States Congress has designated the month of February as Black History Month, and Wayne State University joins in honoring the resilience, achievements and invaluable contributions of Black Americans to the nation's history, culture and promise for a bright future; and

WHEREAS the month-long celebration was first recognized in 1976 and a congressional resolution first passed in 1986, and Governor Gretchen Whitmer issued a proclamation declaring February as Black History Month in Michigan Feb. 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS the objectives of Black History Month are to reflect on the profound impact of Black leaders, educators, activists, artists and innovators, whose work has profoundly shaped the cultural and social landscape of the United States, as well as the city of Detroit, home to the civil rights movement, Motown and decades of groundbreaking achievements; and

WHEREAS the influence of Black culture and innovation is deeply interwoven throughout the evolution of American culture, including advancements in civil rights, governance, entrepreneurship, health care, the arts, sciences and education, which continue to enrich our society and inspire new generations; and

WHEREAS Wayne State University, located in the heart of Detroit — a city whose Black community has been a cornerstone of its identity for centuries — celebrates the leadership, innovation and achievements of its Black students, faculty, staff and alumni, and reaffirms our commitment to serving our community to advance a prosperous future.

NOW, THEREFORE, on behalf of Wayne State University, I, Dr. Kimberly Andrews Espy, president, do hereby proclaim the month of February as Black History Month at Wayne State University, and I encourage our campus community to join proudly in this celebration.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kimberly Andrews Espy', written over a thin horizontal line.

Dr. Kimberly Andrews Espy
President