



Office of the Mayor

Proclamation

Whereas:

Today we recognize the 154<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Juneteenth with the focus on the Harlem Renaissance and The Black Arts Movement in Lima, Ohio via a celebration co-sponsored by the Council for the Arts of Greater Lima and the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., Sigma Mu Omega Chapter; and

WHEREAS: President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, declaring the slaves in Confederate territory free, paving the way for the passing of the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment which formally abolished slavery in the United States of America; and

WHEREAS: Word about the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation was delayed some two and one half years, to June 19, 1865 when Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas and announced in the town square that all slaves were free; and

WHEREAS: The newly freed men and women rejoiced in the streets with jubilant celebrations, and thus, the Juneteenth holiday was born; and

WHEREAS: Emancipation Day observations are held on different days in different states throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS: June 19<sup>th</sup> has a special meaning to African-Americans, and is called "JUNETEENTH" combining the words June and Nineteenth, and has been celebrated by the African-American community for over 150 years; and

NOW THEREFORE: I, David J. Berger, Mayor of the City of Lima, Ohio do hereby proclaim June 22<sup>nd</sup> as

JUNETEENTH

in Lima, Ohio encourage all citizens to become more aware of the significance of this celebration in African-American history and in the heritage of our nation and City.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Seal of the City of Lima, Ohio, this 22nd day of June, 2019.

Signature of David J. Berger
DAVID J. BERGER, MAYOR
CITY OF LIMA, OHIO

