

**CITY COUNCIL**

**The City of Orange Township, New Jersey**

**DATE** May 16, 2023

**NUMBER** 221-2023

**TITLE:** **A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING JUNE 2023 AS AFRICAN-AMERICAN MUSIC APPRECIATION MONTH IN THE CITY** (Sponsored by Councilmember-At-Large Adrienne Wooten)

**WHEREAS**, on June 7, 1979, President Jimmy Carter decreed June to be Black Music Month. Each year since Americans have celebrated the iconic music loved by generations; and

**WHEREAS**, since 1979, the United States has set aside the month of June to appreciate the musical contributions of its African-American musicians, composers, singers, and songwriters; and

**WHEREAS**, inspired to celebrate an enduring art form, Kenny Gamble, Ed Wright, and Dyana Williams pursued creating Black Music Month; and

**WHEREAS**, their efforts were backed up by generations of artists whose talents and skill built a foundation of musical ingenuity in America; and

**WHEREAS**, historically rooted in rich African traditions and the conflicted slave trade, black folk music provided the soil for jazz to grow; and

**WHEREAS**, other sounds began to join the chorus; and

**WHEREAS**, from rhythm and blues to barbershop and swing, the artists responded to every era with a fresh wave of inspiration and visionary sound; and

**WHEREAS**, music has the power to lift our spirits, comfort our souls, and inspire our hearts; and

**WHEREAS**, it gives a voice to the human spirit, creating a common language that unites people and breaks down barriers; and

**WHEREAS**, no music has had as profound and powerful an impact in shaping America's musical score as Black music; and


**WHEREAS**, the music is intricately woven into the tapestry of our Nation, Black music enriches our lives and pushes the boundaries of creativity.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council of the City of Orange Township does celebrate June 2023 as African American Appreciation Month in the City.

**Adopted: May 16, 2023**

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**Joyce Lanier**  
City Clerk

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**Tency A. Eason**  
Council President

 **A. M. EASON**