

# Proclamation

## Office of the Mayor

### Jacorey Bynum Day

WHEREAS, The National Scholastic Chess Foundation, in partnership with The City of Sunrise, created The Sunrise Center for Excellence in Chess to provide a sustained and institutional commitment to support chess; and

WHEREAS, among many other programs, the Sunrise Center has been providing free lunch programs in academic environments to help introduce and teach chess to students; and

WHEREAS, in August of 2017, a young man named Jacorey Bynum was first introduced to chess through one of the Sunrise Center's free lunch chess programs; and

WHEREAS, Jacorey encountered a very difficult time in his life. His grades began to slip, he became withdrawn and he stopped attending school as his mom began to search for a new school; and

WHEREAS, The Sunrise Center's Area Coordinator, Mourice "Mo" Hylton, visited Jacorey to see how he was doing; during the visit the two sat down and played some chess. Mo then invited Jacorey's Mom to register Jacorey in the Sunrise Center's free classes so that he was doing something academic even while she was searching for a new school; and

WHEREAS, Jacorey began attending Sunrise Center chess classes at the East Sunrise location near his home and Mo started bringing Jacorey to free classes at the Broward County Dan Pearl Library located in Sunrise; and

WHEREAS, Jacorey entered his first tournament in October 2017 and he won 1st place. He played another Sunrise tournament in March 2018 and earned 3rd place, losing out only to two more experienced high school players; and

WHEREAS, The National Scholastic Chess Foundation helped Jacorey join the US Chess Federation and supported his effort to play in an officially-rated tournament; Jacorey again took home a trophy; and

WHEREAS, Jacorey's grades and his performance in school improved. He became more communicative and confident. In short, Jacorey's life has made a remarkable turn for the better. Jacorey realizes that his path in life is determined by his own dreams and talents, and he is actually looking forward to one day becoming a grandmaster; and

WHEREAS, Jacorey is now a 6th grader in a magnet program at Bair Middle School in Sunrise, Florida; and

WHEREAS, Jacorey's rating with the United States Chess Federation is 1770, making him among the top 100 11-year-old players in the nation. In fact, Jacorey is currently tied for #80 in the nation for 11 year-old players; and

WHEREAS, experiences like those of Jacorey have inspired us to continue to support chess in our community, introducing chess as a tool to build confidence, learn life lessons, and follow dreams of excellence and greatness for all ages.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael J. Ryan, Mayor of the City of Sunrise, Florida, together with the City Commission do hereby proclaim the Saturday, September 28, 2019, as **Jacorey Bynum Day** in the City of Sunrise and I encourage all residents of Sunrise to congratulate Jacorey on his achievements to date and we look forward to his future even greater success in chess and life.

Witness My Hand and Official Seal  
Of The City of Sunrise, Florida

  
Michael J. Ryan, Mayor