

# Proclamation

## Office of the Mayor

### National Caribbean-American Heritage Month

**WHEREAS**, the Caribbean is a beautiful, tropical grouping of over 700 islands, islets, cays and reefs full of clear blue waters and rich sea life. These islands have produced many famous actors, civil rights leaders, athletes, musicians and so many others; and

**WHEREAS**, since the founding of our Nation, Caribbean-Americans have shaped our government culture and heritage with the first Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton hailing from the Country of Nevis. Immigrants from the Caribbean to America have additionally, contributed to business, the military, journalism, technology, the arts, food, religion, sports and other fields which has greatly benefited our country; and

**WHEREAS**, in June 2005, the House of Representatives unanimously adopted H. Con. Res. 71, sponsored by Congresswoman Barbara Lee, recognizing the significance of Caribbean people and their descendants in the history and culture of the United States. On February 14, 2006, the resolution similarly passed the Senate, and the first Proclamation was issued by President George W. Bush on June 6, 2006 recognizing Caribbean Heritage Month; and

**WHEREAS**, during Caribbean-American Heritage Month, we celebrate the achievements and dreams of the millions of people of Caribbean origin now living in the United States while honoring the shared history of joy and perseverance that has united and enriched life across our region for centuries; and

**WHEREAS**, the peoples of the Caribbean who contribute to our great Nation have ranged from those who have helped to build our country from the ground up to those who have only just arrived, they have all believed in the possibilities our country has to offer and strengthened the diverse fabric of our Nation. Above all, Caribbean-Americans are leaders, they are our beloved doctors, nurses, teachers, athletes, artists, community organizers, entrepreneurs, and our service members and first responders, who put their lives on the line to keep the rest of us safe; and

**WHEREAS**, we recognize and honor the enduring contributions of Caribbean Americans whose leadership, innovation, and cultural influence continue to shape our nation, including trailblazers such as General Colin Powell, Former Vice-President Kamala Harris, Lenny Kravitz, Zoe Saldana, Malcolm X, Harry Belafonte, and Sidney Poitier, among many others; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Sunrise has a large number of Caribbean-Americans that call our City home, and contribute to the richness and diversity of our City. This month we proudly dedicate ourselves to working together with our Caribbean community to continue the prosperity and increase the sense of belonging of all Caribbean-Americans in the City of Sunrise.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Michael J. Ryan, Mayor of the City of Sunrise, Florida, together with the City Commission do hereby proclaim the month of June 2026, as **National Caribbean-American Heritage Month** in the City of Sunrise and encourage all to join us in celebrating the history, culture, and achievements of Caribbean-Americans with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

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

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Michael J. Ryan, Mayor

