

GOVERNOR DOUGLAS A. DUCEY

STATE OF ARIZONA  
★  
PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, Black History Month is an annual opportunity to recognize the central role of African Americans in the history of our state and nation; and

**WHEREAS**, during Black History Month, we celebrate the many achievements and contributions of African Americans to our economic, cultural, spiritual, social, and political development; and

**WHEREAS**, the national commemoration of black history in the United States dates back to 1926, and was initially observed the second week in February to coincide with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass; and

**WHEREAS**, by the late 1960's, the week had evolved into Black History Month, thanks in part to the Civil Rights movement and a growing awareness of the experiences of African Americans in our country; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. famously said, "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character"; and

**WHEREAS**, Black History Month was officially established in 1976 by President Gerald R. Ford, who called on the public to, "seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history," and has since been recognized by every United States President; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Arizona honors the significant contributions and advances made by African Americans in our state, across our nation, and throughout the world, in such areas as education, medicine, art, culture, public service, economic development, politics, and human rights; and

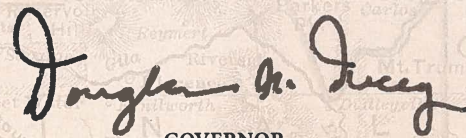
**WHEREAS**, we see the greatness of America in those who have risen above injustice and enriched our society.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim February 2022 as

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

and encourage all Arizonans to join in celebrating the contributions of African Americans to our state and nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona



GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this twenty-first day of January in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-Two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Forty-Sixth.

ATTEST:



SECRETARY OF STATE

