



P. O. Box 670  
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## Proclamation

### Black History Month 2026

**WHEREAS**, the month of February has been designated as Black History Month; and

**WHEREAS**, February is set aside for all people to learn about, reflect upon, and appreciate the history, heritage, and contributions of African Americans and their profound impact on the United States and the world; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2026 theme of Black History Month, “A Century of Black History Commemorations,” marks one hundred years since the establishment of organized national observances dedicated to the study, preservation, and celebration of Black history; and

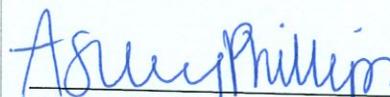
**WHEREAS**, for generations, people of African descent in the United States have commemorated milestones of freedom, resistance, achievement, and resilience, recognizing that understanding Black history is essential to understanding American history; and

**WHEREAS**, Black History Month observances have grown into a deeply rooted cultural institution, bringing Black history into schools, museums, libraries, cultural spaces, workplaces, houses of worship, and communities across the nation and around the world; and

**WHEREAS**, in this centennial year of Black history commemorations—coinciding with the 250th anniversary of the United States—it is essential to tell an inclusive and accurate history that acknowledges the central role African Americans have played in shaping the nation’s past, present, and future;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, Mayor James “JH” Atkins and the Board of Commissioners of the City of Danville do hereby proclaim the month of February 2026 as Black History Month, and urge all citizens to join in recognizing and honoring the enduring legacy, achievements, and contributions of African Americans in our city, county, state, and nation.

  
James “JH” Atkins, Mayor

  
Ashley Phillips, City Clerk

*“This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.”*

**“The City of Firsts”**

First Courthouse in Kentucky - 1785  
First U.S. Post Office in the West - 1792  
First Successful Ovariectomy in the World - 1809

First Capitol of Kentucky District - 1785  
First Political Club in the West - 1786  
First Constitutional Convention in the West - 1792

First College in the West - 1783  
First Law School in the West - 1799  
First State Supported School for Deaf - 1823