

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the City of Olympia values the positive financial, social, and environmental impacts of historic preservation and its contribution to the unique character, livability, and lovability of our community; and

WHEREAS, history and heritage are living and dynamic forces in a healthy community; and

WHEREAS, the stories and lived experiences of Olympians are as diverse as the people and events of our world, and evident in many differing and sometimes under-recognized forms; and

WHEREAS, the unprecedented events of the last year have brought into full view the historic and continuing presence of systemic inequality and injustice in our society, and highlight a need to recognize and value all lived experiences; and

WHEREAS, the pandemic year of 2020 also encouraged exploration of creative new ways to share, communicate, and educate; and

WHEREAS, Olympia's architecture and built environment is but a starting point for community-building and telling the stories of all Olympians, especially those of marginalized and under-represented populations; and

WHEREAS, the Heritage Awardees for 2021 reflect four very different methods for interpreting and celebrating our history, providing excellent examples of diverse ways of reflecting on our past to inform the future, enrich the present, contribute to our local economy, and strengthen Olympia's sense of place; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Olympia City Council does hereby proclaim May 2021 to be

OLYMPIA HERITAGE MONTH

And encourage all Olympians to begin a year of exploring new ways of recognizing and celebrating our diverse history and heritage and expand access to it for our entire community.

SIGNED IN THE CITY OF OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON THIS 4th DAY OF MAY, 2021.

OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL

Cheryl Selby
Mayor