

A PROCLAMATION OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORMAN,
OKLAHOMA, PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF MARCH, 2016, AS WOMEN'S
HISTORY MONTH IN THE CITY OF NORMAN.

- § 1. WHEREAS, since its origin in 1981 as Women's History Week, Women's History Month honors and celebrates the difficulties and achievements of American women throughout the history of the United States who have played a vital role in the struggle to gain rights not only for themselves but for other under-represented and disenfranchised groups in America; and
- § 2. WHEREAS, women of every race, creed, and ethnic background helped found and build our nation in countless recorded and unrecorded ways as leaders in public affairs, American women not only worked to secure their own rights of suffrage and equal opportunity but also were principal advocates in the abolitionist, temperance, mental health reform industrial labor and social reform movements, as well as the modern civil rights movements; and
- § 3. WHEREAS, in the mid-1800's, in the face of severe obstacles, and without the right to even own property, Victoria Woodhull was the first woman candidate for President; and Susan B. Anthony and Lucy Barnes, among many others, led the fight for voting rights, including the non-militant march on Washington, D.C., an event considered treasonous and for which women were beaten, jailed, and otherwise abused; and
- § 4. WHEREAS, thanks to their unflagging efforts and those of many women who picked up the struggle for voting rights for many more years, the Women's Suffrage Act was passed in 1920; and
- § 5. WHEREAS, in the 1960's throughout the country and in Oklahoma, women like Shirley Chisolm, who ran for President; Clara Luper, who led efforts to desegregate public places; LaDonna Harris, who addressed Native American issues; and Martha Skeeters of the Oklahoma Coalition for Social Justice, were still fighting for equal rights in the face of opposition; and
- § 6. WHEREAS, women throughout our City contribute significantly to the quality of life of the community and to that of future generations, including but not limited to Jari Askins, April Heiple of Food and Shelter, Bonnie Dunn of Transition House, Kristy Stewart of the Women's Resource Center, and many others, continue to make a difference in the lives of our citizens and our community as a whole; and
- § 7. WHEREAS, many women in Norman and society as a whole still face obstacles in reaching their fullest potential, and that as a City we will support women in the efforts to succeed in attaining full respect and equality.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA:

- § 8. Do hereby proclaim the month of March, 2016, as Women's History Month in the City of Norman.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 23rd day of February, 2016.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

