

ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Proclamation

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WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

WHEREAS, Women's History Month is a celebration of women's contributions to history, culture and society observed annually since March 1987 when the US Congress passed Public Law 100-9; and

WHEREAS, the land on which we live and work in Arlington, VA is the ancestral home and hunting ground of the Doeg and Tauxenent, Pamunkey, and Piscataway people. We recognize the Indigenous people who have come to live in Arlington, whether as new residents or as descendants of those who were forced to leave. We celebrate this sacred ground, and pledge to improve our stewardship of this irreplaceable bounty.

WHEREAS, US Secretary of the Department of the Interior Deb Haaland made history when she became the first Native American to serve as a cabinet secretary. Haaland is a member of the Pueblo of Laguna and a 35th generation New Mexican; and

WHEREAS, Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, is the first Black woman to be nominated to a seat on our nation's highest court, the Supreme Court of the United States; and

WHEREAS, despite some progress, women still encounter glass ceilings, strive for equal pay for equal work, and aspire to increased representation in board rooms, city halls and wherever there is a locus of power; and

WHEREAS, the accomplishments of American women have been consistently overlooked and undervalued in the fine arts, sports, entertainment, literature, and in the study of American history; and

WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 pandemic, women have borne the brunt of increased caregiving demands, contending with closed schools and childcare centers, and attending to ailing family members, a disparity that has disproportionately affected women of color; and

WHEREAS, violence against all women continues to plague our families and communities and we have experienced an unprecedented epidemic of violence against transgender people, especially Black and Latina women; and

WHEREAS, we must lift every voice to recognize the rights and dignities of all families and speak out against increased weaponization of child protective services and gender affirming health care and the irreparable harm it causes transgender children and their families; and

WHEREAS, Arlington is proud of the many accomplishments and leadership roles local women of every class and ethnic background have assumed, making Arlington an inclusive County contributing to the strength of our Commonwealth, our nation, and the global community; and

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WHEREAS, the National Women's History Alliance's theme for March 2022 is *Women Providing Healing, Promoting Hope*, a tribute to the tireless work of caregivers and frontline workers during the ongoing pandemic and an acknowledgement of the thousands of ways women of all cultures have provided both healing and hope throughout history;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Katie Cristol, Chair of the County Board of Arlington, Virginia, do hereby proclaim March 2022 as

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

in Arlington County and encourage all residents to join in honoring our history and celebrating the contributions of women.



Katie Cristol
Chair