



Proclamation



Pride Month

WHEREAS, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) Pride Month is celebrated nationally each year in June to commemorate the Stonewall riots that occurred in Manhattan on June 28, 1969; and

WHEREAS, Carrboro has a proud history of advancing the rights of LGBTQ people, including adding sexual orientation to the list of characteristics protected in the Town's equal employment opportunity policy in 1990; being the first municipality in the state to create a domestic partner registry in 1994; being the first to elect a gay mayor in 1995 and, later, the first to elect a lesbian mayor, a second gay mayor, and a gay Latino council member; being among the first to support civil marriage for same-sex couples and inclusion of LGBTQ families in comprehensive immigration reform; being one of several local governments to oppose the General Assembly's discriminatory Senate Bill 2 (Session Law 2015-75) in 2015; being the first to call for repeal of the discriminatory Public Facilities Privacy and Security Act (House Bill 2) in 2016; and being among the first (with the Towns of Hillsborough and Chapel Hill and Orange County) to adopt an ordinance prohibiting discrimination in public accommodations and employment based on sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression in 2021; and

WHEREAS, there is still much physical and psychological violence inflicted on LGBTQ people, and 2021 was the deadliest year on record for transgender women; LGBTQ people, especially transgender people and LGBTQ people of color, experience disproportionately high rates of poverty; there continues to be bullying and harassment of LGBTQ youth, who make up a disproportionate number of homeless youth in the United States; and the General Assembly continues to entertain bills targeting LGBTQ people, including this year's House Bill 755, North Carolina's own "Don't Say Gay" bill; and

WHEREAS, Carrboro is committed to supporting LGBTQ people and ensuring that all residents, regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression, are treated with respect and dignity; and

WHEREAS, to celebrate Pride Month, the Town of Carrboro will collaborate with the Town of Chapel Hill to host "Small Town Pride," a series of in-person events, art installations, online gatherings, and other opportunities, including Orgulla Latinx Pride on Saturday, June 11, on the Town Commons from 5:00 to 9:00 pm, and culminating in a Pride Food Truck Rodeo & Dance Party on Friday, June 24, on the Town Commons from 5:00 to 8:00 pm;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Damon Seils, mayor of the Town of Carrboro, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim June 2022 to be Pride Month in Carrboro. I encourage all residents to celebrate and affirm their LGBTQ family members, friends, and neighbors, and to participate in Small Town Pride events throughout the month.

This the 1st day of June, 2022.



Damon Seils, Mayor