



# Proclamation

## WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH AND INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

WHEREAS, the theme for Women's History Month in March 2023, as established by the National Women's History Alliance, is "Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories," honoring "women in every community who have devoted their lives and talents to producing art and news, pursuing truth and reflecting society decade after decade"; and

WHEREAS, the theme of the United Nations Observance of International Women's Day on March 8, 2023, is "DigitALL: Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality," recognizing that "the digital age represents an unprecedented opportunity to eliminate all forms of disparity and inequality"—"from gender-responsive digital learning to tech-facilitated sexual and reproductive healthcare"—"opening new doors for the global empowerment of women, girls and other marginalized groups"; and

WHEREAS, the history of International Women's Day and Women's History Month emerged from the labor and antiwar movements of the early 20th century, with an emphasis on women's suffrage and workers' rights that later expanded to include equal pay and other fair labor practices, sexual and reproductive rights, and the prevention of gender-based violence; and

WHEREAS, International Women's Day and Women's History Month offer a reminder that all attempts to subjugate women, erode women's rights, and promote and defend gender-based violence—whether in our homes, our workplaces, or our legislatures—must be resisted; and

WHEREAS, these observances also offer an opportunity to celebrate the contributions that women of every race, class, ethnic background, and gender identity have made to the social, cultural, and economic life of the community; and

WHEREAS, women are serving in leadership roles throughout the Town of Carrboro organization, including several as department heads; and, since the election of Alderman Mary Riggsbee in 1971 and Mayor Ruth West in 1975, the people of Carrboro have been proudly electing women to local office, including currently serving Council Members Randee Haven-O'Donnell, Barbara Foushee, and Susan Romaine; and

WHEREAS, Carrboro Poet Laureate Liza Wolff-Francis will be the featured poet on International Women's Day, Wednesday, March 8, at the Orange County Arts Commission's Weave & Spin open mic night at the Eno Arts Mill Gallery in Hillsborough;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Damon Seils, mayor of the Town of Carrboro, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim March 8, 2023, to be International Women's Day in Carrboro and the month of March 2023 to be Women's History Month in Carrboro. I encourage all residents to participate in Women's History Month events and to learn about and celebrate the lives, history, and contributions of women during this month and throughout the year.

This the 7th day of March, 2023.



Damon Seils, Mayor