

Proclamation

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH AND INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

WHEREAS, the theme for Women's History Month in March 2024, as established by the National Women's History Alliance, is "Women Who Advocate for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion," honoring "women throughout the country who understand that, for a positive future, we need to eliminate bias and discrimination entirely from our lives and institutions."; and

WHEREAS, the theme of the United Nations Observance of International Women's Day on March 8, 2024, is "Inspire Inclusion," recognizing that "when we inspire others to understand and value women's inclusion, we forge a better world."—"when women themselves are inspired to be included, there's a sense of belonging, relevance, and empowerment"; 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 Mayor Barbara Foushee and Council Member Randee Haven-O'Donnell, and

WHEREAS, a great woman poet named Nikki Giovanni once said, "Deal with yourself as an individual worthy of respect, and make everyone else deal with you the same way." and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Barbara M Foushee, mayor of the Town of Carrboro, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim March 8, 2024, to be International Women's Day in Carrboro and the month of March 2024 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 5th day of March, 2024.


Barbara M. Foushee

