

Proclamation

BLACK HISTORY MONTH February 4, 2026

- WHEREAS,** In 2026, the United States marks a century of Black history commemorations, celebrating 100 years since the first national observance of Black history and culture; and
- WHEREAS,** The City of Colorado Springs proudly recognizes this historic milestone and renews its commitment to celebrating the countless contributions of Black Americans—past and present—who have shaped the soul of our city through courage, creativity, faith, and resilience; and
- WHEREAS,** the story of Black Americans is inseparable from the story of America itself—defined by grit, determination, creativity, unwavering hope, the enduring spirit of the American Dream, and a continual striving toward a more perfect union; and
- WHEREAS,** here in Colorado Springs, Black history is not confined to the past, but is being written every day by community leaders, artists, educators, business owners, entrepreneurs, elected officials, and families who enrich and strengthen the fabric of our city; and
- WHEREAS,** we honor and pay tribute to local trailblazers such as pioneering business leader Fannie Mae Duncan, visionary educators like Dr. Kenneth Burnley, steadfast civil rights champions like Milton E. Proby, and the many individuals whose courage and commitment empowered generations, shattered barriers, and fostered lasting economic opportunity and community strength; and
- WHEREAS,** in Colorado Springs, Black leaders—alongside courageous white allies and leaders of conscience—helped pave the way toward greater inclusion, civil rights, and opportunity, often working together to challenge discrimination,
- WHEREAS,** I, Blessing “Yemi” Mobolade, as the first elected Black and immigrant Mayor of Colorado Springs, stand not only as a testament to progress but also as a steward of responsibility, mindful that the work of expanding opportunity is ongoing and that the story of Black flourishing and excellence must continue to be written together; and
- WHEREAS,** our city's future is rooted in a shared vision of being a city of great neighbors and great neighborhoods; a place where the dignity, contributions, and richness of every person and culture are recognized, valued, and celebrated.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Blessing Yemi Mobolade, Mayor of the City of Colorado Springs, do hereby proclaim February 2026 as:

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

in Colorado Springs, Colorado and encourage all residents to reflect, learn, celebrate, and honor the Black leaders, businesses, and community members whose contributions continue to shape our city and inspire future generations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Colorado Springs to be affixed this fourth day of February 2026.

Blessing “Yemi” Mobolade, Mayor
City of Colorado Springs