



PROCLAMATION

ONE CITY. ONE JACKSONVILLE.

WHEREAS: For more than 130 years, the YMCA has been serving communities throughout the state of Florida. In an effort to represent the diverse populations that make our state unique, the Florida State Alliance of YMCAs has fostered a leadership event called REMLE – the Regional Emerging Multicultural Leadership Experience. Every year, YMCAs from across the state come together to provide emerging professional staff of color the opportunity to become further engaged and connected to the YMCA movement; and

WHEREAS: The Florida State Alliance of YMCAs currently serves hundreds of thousands of members throughout the state, and roughly 1 in 18 Florida residents are involved in the YMCA; and

WHEREAS: First Coast YMCA has served the diverse needs of the Jacksonville community since 1908; and

WHEREAS: For 75 years, the Johnson Family YMCA has provided vital resources and connection to historically Black neighborhoods on Jacksonville’s Northside. The New American Welcome Center, operated by the First Coast YMCA, is a unique facility that provides resources to immigrants in the community, including access to a food bank, English language classes, and citizenship programs; and

WHEREAS: The REMLE program highlights the First Coast YMCA’s commitment to meeting residents’ needs and uplifts YMCA staff of color from Jacksonville and across the state; and

WHEREAS: Jacksonville continues to rank as an incredibly diverse city in an increasingly diverse state. The City of Jacksonville celebrates the First Coast YMCA and Florida State Alliance of YMCAs for their continued commitment to meeting citizens’ needs and advocating for opportunities and equity for diverse young leaders.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DONNA DEEGAN, by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim September 29, 2023 as

YMCA REGIONAL EMERGING MULTICULTURAL LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE DAY

In Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to celebrate organizations’ commitment to fostering an inclusive environment that recognizes and emphasizes the diversity of the community.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 13th Day of Sep. in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-Three.


MAYOR