

**PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, the United States, Virginia, and the City of Alexandria have a rich cultural history which includes the values and contributions of Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the 2020 census findings, around 10,600 residents – seven percent of Alexandria's population – identify as Asian-American or Pacific Islanders in the city; and

**WHEREAS**, the cultural diversity of our communities is made up of many languages, beliefs, and traditions which strengthen the social fabric of our diverse society through their heritage, traditions and culture; and

**WHEREAS**, generations of Asian- and Pacific Islander Americans have contributed to our country and City through their hard work, love of family and friends, and their service in our Armed Forces. We are grateful for their service in our military, and for protecting our Constitution and freedoms; and

**WHEREAS**, this month we remember the first Japanese citizens who came to the United States on May 7, 1843, and honor the numerous Chinese workers who helped lay the tracks of the transcontinental railroad, which was completed on May 10, 1869; and

**WHEREAS**, during the Month of May, Alexandria Library is hosting a series of events and workshops, book club discussions, and lectures highlighting Asian-American and Pacific Islander culture and its presence and influence in the city [www.alexlibraryva.org](http://www.alexlibraryva.org).

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, JUSTIN M. WILSON**, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby recognize May 2023 as:

**“ASIAN-AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH”**

in the City of Alexandria and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May 2023.

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**MAYOR JUSTIN M. WILSON**  
On behalf of the City Council  
of Alexandria, Virginia

ATTEST:

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Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk