

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION
PROCLAIMING
AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSIC APPRECIATION MONTH**

WHEREAS, 1979’s celebration of Black musicians hosted by President Jimmy Carter set the tone for the annual recognition of June as African American & Black Music Month, and this was formally recognized as a national observance in the year 2000; and

WHEREAS, music industry leaders, record labels, clubs, concert promoters, venues and festivals across the country will celebrate African American Music month, often in conjunction with Juneteenth celebrations, throughout the month of June; and

WHEREAS, Caddo Parish has a rich tradition of locally born and reared artists who are and were vital to the development of American music traditions from Blues legend Huddie “Lead Belly” Ledbetter, famed guitarist Mighty Joe Young or ‘Losin’ Boy’ singer Eddie Giles, to contemporary artists like the Grammy winning drummer Brian Blade, the effervescent favorite of local stages Tipsey, the Band, or the genre defying modern sounds of artists like Willie Jones or AJ Haynes of the Seratones; and

WHEREAS, Caddo Parish has also played an important role in African American music by inspiring and lifting up artists, be it through the heartbreaking motivation of Sam Cooke’s ‘A Change is Gonna Come,’ or the historical performance of Jimi Hendrix at the Municipal Auditorium that inspired the ‘Shreveport’ guitar strap; and

WHEREAS, whether it is during festivals, like the Let The Good Times Roll, or on local stages at casinos, lounges and event spaces, or in the halls and houses of worship across our parish - African American and Black Music is part and parcel of the culture and sound of Caddo Parish and has left a favorable and positive impact on the world at large; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, meeting in legal and regular session this 23rd day of June, 2022 that it does hereby proclaim June, 2022 as:

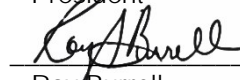
‘AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSIC MONTH’

in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and encourage all Parish employees and citizens to participate by appreciating the contributions of Black and African American musicians.

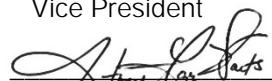
ATTEST:



John E. Atkins
President



Roy Burrell
Vice President



Stormy Gage-Watts
District 7


Jeff Everson
Commission Clerk