

# PROCLAMATION

## BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA

**WHEREAS**, the month of October has been recognized as National Arts and Humanities Month by thousands of arts and cultural organizations, communities, and states across the country, as well as by the White House and Congress for more than two decades; and

**WHEREAS**, National Arts and Humanities month was initiated to encourage Americans to explore new facets of the arts and humanities in their lives, and to begin a lifelong habit of participation in the arts and humanities; and

**WHEREAS**, the arts and humanities affect every aspect of life in America today, including the economy, social problem solving, job creation, education, creativity, and community livability; and

**WHEREAS**, the arts and humanities enhance and enrich the lives of every American, including those of us living in and visiting Ocala/Marion County; and

**WHEREAS**, the local nonprofit arts sector also strengthens our local economy. The Arts & Economic Prosperity Study VI (2022), found that the local creative sector generated \$53.2 million annually in total economic activity, supported 800 jobs, provided \$21.2 million in personal income to residents, and generated \$7.8 million in tax revenue to local, state, and federal governments; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Board of County Commissioners of Marion County, Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in us do hereby proclaim that **October** be known as

### “NATIONAL ARTS AND HUMANITIES MONTH”

in Marion County, Florida, and call upon our residents to celebrate, promote, and participate in the arts and cultural activities and events available in our county and to specifically encourage the greater participation by those said residents in engaging the arts.

**DULY PROCLAIMED** this 1<sup>st</sup> day of **October 2024**.

### BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA

\_\_\_\_\_  
MICHELLE STONE, CHAIR

\_\_\_\_\_  
KATHY BRYANT, VICE CHAIR

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CARL ZALAK, III, COMMISSIONER

**ATTEST:**

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CRAIG CURRY, COMMISSIONER

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GREGORY C. HARRELL, CLERK

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MATT MCCLAIN, COMMISSIONER