

CITY OF FRESNO

Office of Councilmember Tyler Maxwell

Hereby Recognizes:

National Reading Month

WHEREAS, National Reading Month, established in 1997 by the National Education Association (NEA) and celebrated each March, promotes the joy of reading and encourages children to become lifelong readers, while reminding communities of the vital role literacy plays as a gateway to knowledge, creativity, and opportunity for people of all ages and at every stage of life; and

WHEREAS, books expand our understanding of the world by introducing readers to new ideas, diverse perspectives, and cultures beyond their own, while also preserving the stories and histories that help communities remember where they have been and imagine where they can go; and

WHEREAS, access to books and strong literacy skills can change the trajectory of a child's life, expanding educational opportunities, building confidence, and creating pathways toward brighter futures; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fresno is proud to be part of the San Joaquin Valley's rich storytelling tradition, and through the work of local authors, poets, and Fresno's Poet Laureates our city continues to nurture a vibrant literary culture that inspires readers and storytellers alike; and

WHEREAS, Fresno's libraries, educators, literacy advocates, and locally owned bookstores continue that tradition by providing children, families, and lifelong learners with access to books, resources, and welcoming spaces that nurture curiosity and discovery; and

WHEREAS, when our communities and local leaders champion reading and expand access to books for all, they affirm the enduring power of stories to educate, inspire, and connect people across generations, cultures, and experiences, strengthening the cultural fabric of our city and the Central Valley.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, Mayor Jerry P. Dyer, and the Fresno City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of March 2026 as:

“National Reading Month” *in the City of Fresno*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and affixed the Great Seal of the City of Fresno, California, this 19th day of March of the Year Two Thousand and Twenty-Six.

JERRY P. DYER, Honorable Mayor

TYLER MAXWELL, Councilmember, District 4

MIKE KARBASSI, Council President

NELSON ESPARZA, Council Vice President

ANNALISA PEREA, Councilmember, District 1

MIGUEL ARIAS, Councilmember, District 3

BRANDON VANG, Councilmember, District 5

NICK RICHARDSON, Councilmember, District 6