



## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, Salt Lake City is enriched by the many cultures, traditions, and histories of its residents, and Pacific Islanders have made significant contributions to the city's civic, cultural, educational, economic, healthcare, military, faith, and business communities; and

**WHEREAS**, among the earliest documented Pacific Island communities in Utah were Native Hawaiians who settled near Warm Springs in Salt Lake City, where they worked, worshipped, raised families, and contributed to the city's growth and development; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 28, 1889, the Territory of Utah officially designated Hawaiian Pioneer Day, recognizing the enduring contributions of Native Hawaiian pioneers, whose legacy remains an important part of Utah's history; and

**WHEREAS**, Pacific Islanders living in Salt Lake County represent more than half of Utah's Pacific Islander population, and Salt Lake City remains an important center of Pacific Island culture, leadership, and community life; and

**WHEREAS**, for fourteen years, Salt Lakers have celebrated Pacific Island Heritage Month with a kick-off event that has brought together thousands of residents to celebrate the histories, languages, cultures, arts, music, traditions, and achievements of Pacific Islanders, while fostering cultural understanding, civic engagement, and community connection; and

**WHEREAS**, this year's theme, "Celebrating a Culture Where Everyone Belongs," reflects the shared belief that our City is strongest when every person is welcomed, valued, and given the opportunity to contribute.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Mayor Erin Mendenhall, hereby proclaim August 2026 as:

### ***Pacific Islander Heritage Month in Salt Lake City***

*Erin Mendenhall, Mayor*