

National Library Week 2023 Proclamation

WHEREAS, libraries provide the opportunity for everyone to pursue their passions and engage in lifelong learning, allowing them to live their best life;

WHEREAS, libraries have long served as trusted institutions for all members of the community regardless of race, ethnicity, creed, ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or socio-economic status;

WHEREAS, libraries strive to develop and maintain programs and collections that are as diverse as the populations they serve and ensure equity of access for all;

WHEREAS, libraries adapt to the ever-changing needs of their communities, continually expanding their collections, services, and partnerships;

WHEREAS, libraries play a critical role in the economic vitality of communities by providing internet and technology access, literacy skills, and support for job seekers, small businesses, and entrepreneurs;

WHEREAS, libraries are accessible and inclusive places that promote a sense of local connection, advancing understanding, civic engagement, and shared community goals;

WHEREAS, libraries are cornerstones of democracy, promoting the free exchange of information and ideas for all;

WHEREAS, libraries, librarians, and library workers are joining library supporters and advocates across the nation to celebrate National Library Week;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, *Robert K Nelson, Mayor of City of Bay City*, proclaim National Library Week, April 23-29, 2023. During this week, I encourage all residents to visit their library to explore the wealth of resources available.