

# COLUMBIA HEIGHTS

## PROCLAMATION

### Recognizing January 27, 2026, as International Holocaust Remembrance Day

January 27 is recognized by the United Nations as International Holocaust Remembrance Day, honoring the six million Jewish people murdered during World War II and the millions of others targeted during the Shoah.

Survivors of the Holocaust came to Minnesota seeking safety and dignity, rebuilt their lives, and contributed deeply to the cultural, economic, and civic life of our state. Their stories remind us of both the devastation of hatred and the resilience of the human spirit.

The fascist Nazi regime sought to ethnically cleanse Europe by blaming Jewish people and other targeted groups for Germany's economic and social struggles. Through propaganda, fear, and violence, the Nazis labeled entire communities as "problems" to be eliminated and justified their forced removal, imprisonment, and murder. As they occupied countries across Europe, they spread terror, hatred, and systematic persecution throughout the lands they controlled.

The Holocaust was ended only through the combined efforts of the Allied forces, with thousands of Minnesotans serving in World War II, including many who participated in the liberation of Nazi concentration camps. Minnesota continues to honor this history through education and remembrance.

Decades after the end of World War II, the lessons of the Holocaust remain urgent. Antisemitism and extremist ideologies persist, and acts of hate and violence continue to threaten Jewish communities and other marginalized groups. These realities demand renewed commitment to historical truth, education, and resistance to hatred.

Across Minnesota and the nation, communities, schools, and institutions remain dedicated to teaching the history of the Holocaust and confronting the forces of hate, radicalization, and misinformation. Remembering the Shoah is not only an act of memory, but a call to action to defend democracy, human rights, and the dignity of all people.

**Now, therefore, I, Amáda Márquez Simula, Mayor of Columbia Heights, do hereby proclaim January 27, 2026, as **International Holocaust Remembrance Day** in the City of Columbia Heights.**

**In Columbia Heights, we celebrate culture, community, and connection. We honor the diversity of our residents and the traditions they bring. Let this proclamation reflect our ongoing commitment to belonging, equity, and shared humanity in our city.**

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**Amáda Márquez Simula, Mayor**  
January 26, 2026