



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Octavia Butler was a visionary and influential author whose groundbreaking work greatly contributed to the science fiction and speculative fiction genres; and

WHEREAS, Octavia Butler was born on June 22, 1947, in Pasadena, California, and her literary contributions have captivated readers around the world; and

WHEREAS, Octavia Butler became the first science fiction writer to receive the prestigious MacArthur Fellowship in 1995, acknowledging her exceptional talent and literary achievements; and

WHEREAS, Octavia Butler's work explores important themes such as race, gender, power dynamics, and social justice, challenging readers to critically examine the world we live in; and

WHEREAS, Octavia Butler's novels, including "Kindred," "Parable of the Sower," and "Lilith's Brood," have garnered numerous awards and accolades, including the Hugo, Locus and Nebula Awards for Best Novelette in 1985 and the Nebula Award for Best Novel in 1999 leaving an indelible mark on the literary landscape; and

WHEREAS, Octavia Butler's profound influence extends beyond her written works, inspiring countless authors, artists, and readers to engage in meaningful conversations about the future of humanity and the importance of empathy and understanding; and

WHEREAS, it is important to honor and celebrate the contributions of Octavia Butler, recognizing her significant impact on literature and the promotion of diverse voices within the genre; and

WHEREAS, Octavia Butler resided in the City of Lake Forest Park, Washington, for a significant portion of her life, drawing inspiration from the natural beauty and vibrant community of our city and writing her final novel, Fledgling, in 2005, and it is fitting to honor her connection to our community on this special day.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Lake Forest Park do hereby proclaim June 22nd as "Octavia Butler Day" in our city and encourage all residents to take part in activities that celebrate her legacy. This day shall serve as a reminder of the transformative power of literature and the importance of embracing diverse perspectives in shaping a more inclusive and equitable society.

Signed this 22nd day of June, 2023.

Jeff Johnson, Mayor
City of Lake Forest Park