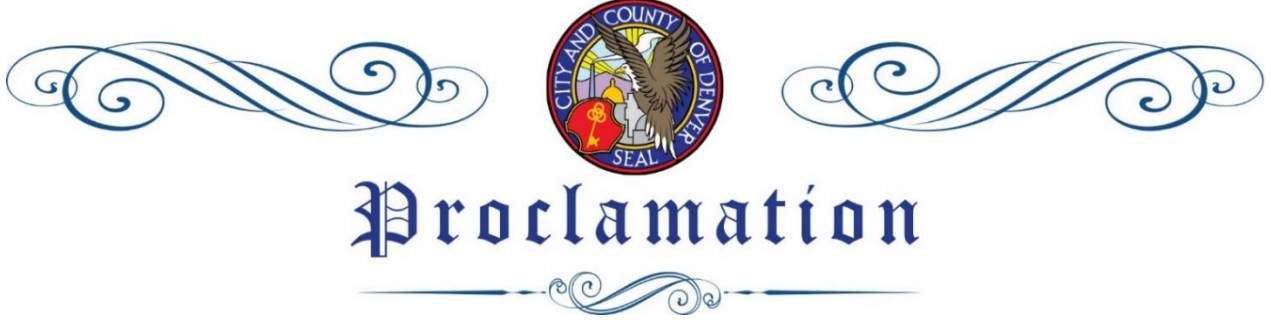


DENVER CITY COUNCIL



Proclamation No. 24-0933

A Proclamation Celebrating America 250 - Colorado 150: Denver's Commitment to Participate in Colorado's 2026 Sesquicentennial Commemoration

WHEREAS, the year 2026 marks the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence; and

WHEREAS, the year 2026 marks Colorado's 150th anniversary of statehood; and

WHEREAS, Denver founded in 1858 has contributed proudly and significantly to the history of our nation and our state for more than 166 years; and

WHEREAS, in 2016 the United States Congress established by Joint Resolution the United States Sesquicentennial Commission to encourage observance of the 250 years of our nation's existence; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado legislature established the America 250 - Colorado 150 Commission with the passage of Senate Bill 2022-011, and the Commission has determined its mission and purpose is to celebrate Colorado by acknowledging the completeness of our shared history, honor what makes Colorado unique, and strive toward a more perfect union; and

WHEREAS, it is essential to acknowledge that the history of this land extends far beyond these anniversaries, encompassing the rich and diverse cultures and histories of Indigenous peoples and all communities who have contributed to the tapestry of our state and nation; and

WHEREAS, the events and celebrations organized as part of the Sesquicentennial in Denver should reflect the voices and leadership of our diverse communities, ensuring that all perspectives are included and honored; and

WHEREAS, it is vital that the decisions made by this Commission are inclusive of the entire state, recognizing both the triumphs and the challenges of our collective history, to foster a comprehensive and honest reflection of our past; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the City of Denver engages fully with our past and looks toward a shared future; and

WHEREAS, the mayor and city council of the City of Denver thus encourage its citizens to create and participate in programs that will commemorate the history of our city, our state, and our nation; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Mayor Mike Johnston, and the following members of Denver City Council, do hereby proclaim that the City of Denver will fully engage in commemorative activities leading up to and during the Commission's stated length of observance: July 4, 2025 through December 31, 2026.

We, Mayor Mike Johnston and Denver City Council members, urge all community members to take advantage of the resources available from the America 250 Commission, the America 250 - Colorado 150 Commission, and the City of Denver to observe the sesquicentennial anniversary by coordinating commemorative events, planning historical activities, providing opportunities for public discourse, creating new scholarship around Colorado's complete history, creating new educational opportunities, and by seeking opportunities for historic preservation. As representatives of the City of Denver, we pledge to uplift, support, and generate commemorative opportunities.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL July 22, 2024

Amund P. Sandora

PRESIDENT

