

**City of East Lansing, Michigan**  
**Resolution acknowledging July as Parks, Recreation and Arts Month**  
**June 21, 2022**

**WHEREAS**, we reside in the state of Michigan which has 3,288 miles of shoreline along the great lakes, 10,031 lakes, and several other bodies of water, and the aquatics programming facilitated by our parks and recreation department is essential to provide water safety and swimming training to keep our residents safe in and around these bodies of water; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of East Lansing has 5.8 miles of trails, 34 parks, 514 acres of parks and green space, an Aquatic Center, Softball Complex, Soccer Complex and a Community Center for community use; and

**WHEREAS**, parks, recreation, and arts, provides copious volunteer opportunities for our community, including a dedicated, seven member Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission, and acknowledges and appreciates the dedication of our community members and our Commissioners; and

**WHEREAS**, the arts are an integral part of parks and recreation, improving quality of life, providing varied landscapes, and connecting people, places, and nature in our community; and

**WHEREAS**, parks, recreation, and arts, provides opportunities to acquire new skills, build knowledge and enjoy new experiences; and

**WHEREAS**, parks, recreation, and arts, embraces diversity, equity and inclusion and values how diversity enriches our community and justly provides park, recreation, and nature-based opportunities that are essential to the quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, parks, recreation, and arts, provides exceptional customer service to provide service equitably and inclusively to all community members and guests; and

**WHEREAS**, parks, recreation, and arts, team members embrace inclusivity and diversity within the employment process to have a workforce representative of the wonderfully diverse community we serve; and

**WHEREAS**, restoration of natural areas through invasive plant removal and native plant plantings is essential to the health and well-being of local flora, fauna and people; and

**WHEREAS**, our parks and recreation aquatics team fosters a welcoming atmosphere for people of all backgrounds and strives to provide quality programming that promotes health, fitness, water safety and basic swimming skills; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of East Lansing's school age programs recognizes the importance of facilitating diverse and inclusive quality activities, and providing positive, nurturing, and engaging role models, through recreational interactions in a safe and welcoming environment that is both educational and stimulating, to enhance the developmental growth of the whole child including social, emotional, physical, cognitive, and creative needs for the surrounding community; and

**WHEREAS**, parks, recreation, and arts, values the arts through teaching, acquisition, visualization, exploration, and experiences; and

**WHEREAS**, the All-of-us Express Children's Theatre is entering its 34<sup>th</sup> year of offering young people of all backgrounds, cultures, and lifestyles the opportunity to produce professional quality plays, study many aspects of the dramatic arts, and develop valuable life skills while providing outstanding entertainment to the East Lansing community; and

**WHEREAS**, parks, recreation, and arts provide opportunities, venues, and open spaces for community members to engage in achieving their fitness and wellness goals and contribute to their emotional, intellectual, and social health; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of East Lansing’s Parks, Recreation and Arts Department recognizes the importance of its youth recreation sports programs and middle school athletic programs, which provide area youths and adults opportunities to make lasting community memories while engaging in healthy physical and social activity; and

**WHEREAS**, Community Events presents annual, free events including the Summer Concert Series, Play in the Park, the Moonlight Film Festival, the Children’s Cultural Concert series, Crystal Awards, and Winter Glow; and creates a sense of place and togetherness for the East Lansing community; and, invests in uplifting and highlighting local and Michigan-based artists and musicians; and

**WHEREAS**, the East Lansing Farmers Market features 100% homegrown products and provides community members with a diverse selection of fresh produce and products, including vegetables, fruit, artisan bread, cheese, meat, coffee, maple syrup, honey, and flowers; and, in 2021 served over 22,000 guests, processed \$8,739 in food assistance transactions, invited 44 musicians to perform for the community, and provided an opportunity for 30 vendors to sell produce and food products to the community; and

**WHEREAS**, the Summer Solstice Jazz Festival is a free, two-day musical event celebrating the best in local, regional, and national jazz; has provided entertainment to the East Lansing community for 26 years; and consistently features nationally renowned, critically acclaimed musicians; and

**WHEREAS**, the East Lansing Art Festival has provided free access to fine art for all for 59 years; and

**WHEREAS**, parks, recreation, and arts, provide enrichment opportunities and provides venues for the community to congregate in times of celebration, education, entertainment, or memorial in both natural outdoor park settings and quality indoor recreation facilities; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the East Lansing City Council recognizes July as Parks, Recreation and Arts Month in the City of East Lansing.

Moved by Councilmember \_\_\_\_\_, supported by Councilmember \_\_\_\_\_, to approve the Resolution.

YEAS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

NAYS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ron Bacon, Mayor  
Adopted: June 21, 2022

CLERKS CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the East Lansing City Council at its regular meeting held on Tuesday, June 21, 2022, the original of which is part of the City Council’s minutes.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Shuster, City Clerk  
City of East Lansing  
Ingham County, Michigan