

**PROCLAMATION**

*WHEREAS, in 1915, Dr. Carter G. Woodson of Virginia founded the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History, the organization which originated the annual observance of Negro History Week; and*

*WHEREAS, this observance has continued and, since 1976, has been celebrated throughout the month of February as National Black History Month; and*

*WHEREAS, the theme for Black History Month 2002 is "The Color Line Revisited: Is Racism Dead?"; and*

*WHEREAS, an exhibit is on view in the Vola Lawson Lobby of City Hall during the month of February detailing the status and evolution of the Alexandria Black History Resource Center's forthcoming permanent exhibition "Securing the Blessings of Liberty"; and*

*WHEREAS, the public will be invited to participate in the creation of the exhibition by sharing their thoughts and experiences related to "freedom," "liberty," "justice," and what living in the United States means to them; and*

*WHEREAS, during Black History Month, the Center will continue its commitment to document, preserve and disseminate the African American story with an exhibition of inspired and controversial photographs by acclaimed artist David Levinthal called Blackface; and*

*WHEREAS, the Alexandria Black History Resource Center has planned a series of special events that highlight and celebrate all aspects of African American history and culture;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, KERRY J. DONLEY, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council and the citizens of Alexandria, do hereby proclaim the month of February 2002, as:*

**"BLACK HISTORY MONTH"**

*in Alexandria, Virginia.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of January 2002.*

**KERRY J. DONLEY** **MAYOR**  
*On behalf of the City Council  
of Alexandria, Virginia*

ATTEST:

Beverly I. Jett, CMC City Clerk