

Mecklenburg County

North Carolina

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Mecklenburg County is home to a vibrant and diverse community, among which are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) citizens and residents; and

WHEREAS, Mecklenburg County's LGBTQ community have positively shaped the cultural, business, civic, faith, and social fabric of the county throughout its history; and

WHEREAS, Charlotte Black Pride and Charlotte Pride have been creating visibility for and promoting a positive image of LGBTQ Carolinians for more than two decades; and

WHEREAS, all modern Pride events find their origin in the iconic Stonewall Riots of June 1969 and the first Christopher Street Liberation Day March in 1970 in New York City, largely organized by LGBTQ people of color, transgender people, and young people; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ residents of Mecklenburg County first attempted to organize Gay Liberation Movement organizations as early as 1971, with Charlotte's first Pride events finally held in 1981 and the ensuing decades inspiring the creation of Charlotte Pride in 2000; and

WHEREAS, Charlotte Black Pride was founded in 2005 with the mission to promote LGBTQ pride primarily for, but not limited to, members of the Black community while building social awareness, embracing spirituality, and celebrating the diversity that exists within our community; and

WHEREAS, each July, Black members of the LGBTQ community and their allies gather to celebrate the history, culture, achievements, aspirations, and dreams during Charlotte Black Pride Week, culminating in Charlotte Black Pride's annual celebration, "Blaqtivism: You Belong Here"; and

WHEREAS, this August, Charlotte Pride will also carry forward a 45-year tradition of Pride events in Mecklenburg County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners does hereby proclaim July 11-18, 2026, as

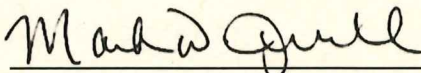
"CHARLOTTE BLACK PRIDE WEEK"

and August 7-16, 2026, as

"CHARLOTTE PRIDE WEEK"

in Mecklenburg County and encourage all citizens to join us in this special observance.

This 16th day of June 2026



Mark D. Jerrell, Chair
Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners

