



Gahanna

Proclamation

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH MARCH 2024

WHEREAS: Women's History Month is an annual celebration to honor and celebrate the achievements, successes, and sacrifices American women have made to strengthen our nation since its inception; and

WHEREAS: The concept of Women's History Month had its origins on a single day in 1908, when more than 15,000 women in New York City united and marched to demand shorter working hours, better pay, an end to child labor and the right to vote; and

WHEREAS: Women of every race and ethnic background have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of our communities in countless recorded and unrecorded ways; and

WHEREAS: As of 2024, women represent 40% of the City of Gahanna's employee base, with 12 women holding leadership positions as directors, managers or supervisors, and women holding six of the nine elected positions in city government; and

WHEREAS: The women who serve the City of Gahanna in local government are accomplished professionals in their fields, including but not limited to:

- Juris Doctorate degrees (Laurie Jadwin, Merisa Bowers, Priya Tamilarasan, and Miranda Vollmer);
- Master of Library and Information Science (Sophia McGuire);
- Certified Professional Engineer (Paige Wright);
- ISA certified Arborist (Julie Predieri); and

WHEREAS: Many of the women who serve the City of Gahanna in local government also represent the City as Board members and participants of regional, state and national professional organizations, including but not limited to:

- American Society of Safety Professionals (Melissa Jackson);
- Association of Mayors Court Clerks, Board Member and Past President (Amanda Parker);
- Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (Angelia Collins and Kathrine Teeter);
- Capital City Business and Professional Women's Club (Gina Shephard);
- Central Ohio Tree Commission, Board Member (Julie Predieri);
- Columbus LGBTQ Leadership Roundtable (Merisa Bowers);
- Government Finance Officers Association (Joann Bury);
- International Institute of Municipal Clerks (Pam Ripley);
- Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission, Executive Committee (Laurie Jadwin);
- National Trial Lawyers Association (Priya Tamilarasan);
- National Emergency Number Association (Angelia Collins and Kathrine Teeter);
- Ohio Municipal Clerks Association (Pam Ripley);
- Ohio Public Employers Labor Relations Association, Board Member (Miranda Vollmer); and

WHEREAS: In addition, women have earned certifications and accreditations that both enhance and advance their skills in service to citizens of our community, including but not limited to:

- CPR/AED accreditation as Professional Rescue Instructors (Chelsea Heppert and Krista Johnston);
- Certified Kayak Instructor, American Canoe Association (Chelsea Heppert);
- Certified Meeting Planner (Gina Sheppard);
- Center Manager Certification, National Emergency Number Association (Angelia Collins);
- Internal Affairs Certification, Public Agency Training Council (Angelia Collins);
- Digital Forensic Examiner, United States Secret Service (Blair Thomas);
- Certified Fraud Examiner (Blair Thomas);
- Associate Safety Professional (Melissa Jackson);
- Certified Parks and Recreation Professional (Nichole Butler);
- Certified Municipal Clerk (Pam Ripley);
- Certified Records Analyst, Institute of Certified Records Managers (Sophia McGuire);
- Certificate in Public and Nonprofit Leadership (Kaylee Padova);
- Voinovich Academy for Excellence in Public Service (Laurie Jadwin and Kaylee Padova); and

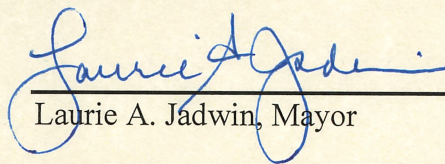
WHEREAS: Women have been leaders in achieving groundbreaking roles within the City of Gahanna, such as being appointed as the first Community Liaison Officer within the Gahanna Division of Police (Kelie Moffit), the first woman and person of color to hold the office of City Attorney (Priya Tamilarasan), the youngest woman to be elected to Gahanna City Council (Kaylee Padova), and the longest serving member of Gahanna City Council (Karen Angelou); and

WHEREAS: The City of Gahanna is proud to celebrate the past, present and future contributions of women who have been and are in service to the citizens of our city, and who are empowering future generations of women leaders and innovators.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Laurie A. Jadwin, Mayor of the City of Gahanna, Ohio, urge Gahanna citizens to recognize the contributions of women to our community and to our nation, and do hereby proclaim the month of March 2024 as

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Gahanna, Ohio, to be affixed 1st day of March in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Four.



Laurie A. Jadwin, Mayor

