



SPECIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 03-2024

A SPECIAL PROCLAMATION ON BEHALF OF SOUTH BEND COMMON COUNCILMAN DR. OLIVER DAVIS, AT-LARGE HONORING ALMA CIMARRONA AND AFROMEXICAN DANCE GROUP FOR THEIR WORK IN THE PROMOTION OF AFRO DESCENDANT HISTORY AND CULTURE

Whereas the history between African Americans and Mexico is rich and spans centuries, yet remains sorely unexamined.

Whereas, Gaspar Yanga, an enslaved African in Mexico, led one of the earliest African rebellions in the Western World, and has a city named after him in Veracruz, Mexico where he and others established one of the first free territories for African descendants.

Whereas, Vicente Guerrero, the second (2nd) Second President of Mexico and First (1st) President in North America of African descent, led Mexico to independence from colonial Spain and abolished the institution of slavery in Mexico which made it possible for enslaved Africans from the United States to realize some semblance of freedom.

Whereas Alma Cimarrona is a dance organization which celebrates and honors the history and influence of the African presence in Mexican dance and culture.

Whereas as we near the end of the United Nations' Decade for People of African Descent, the presence of in South Bend and Michiana Alma Cimarrona reminds us that we must do more to build bridges amongst us.

Whereas Black Lives Matter and Black History Matter today, tomorrow and into futurity.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that South Bend City Councilman Dr. Oliver Davis, At-Large, honor and thank Alma Cimarrona for their contributions to the study of Black history and dance.

Section I. This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon it being signed and approved by, Councilman Dr. Oliver Davis, At-Large.

Signed and Approved this 22 Day of February 2024 in the City of South Bend, County of St. Joseph, in the State of Indiana.

Councilman Dr. Oliver Davis, At-Large
South Bend Common Council

