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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## Ocoee Celebrates Black History Month

**OCOEE, Fla.** – In honor of Black History Month, the City of Ocoee will pay tribute throughout the month of February.

A proclamation recognizing the significance of black history will be read on Tuesday, **February 6** at the Ocoee City Commission meeting at 6:15 p.m.

The city's Human Relations Diversity Board will announce the winners of its 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Black History Month Essay Contest at an awards ceremony. The ceremony will be held on Wednesday, February 28 at 7 p.m., at City Hall, 150 North Lakeshore Drive. Students will recite their winning essays which address the theme "The Dream Starts With Me." The awards ceremony will be televised live on Ocoee TV, Channel 493 and streamed online at <http://www.ocoee.org/197/Ocoee-TV>.

The essay competition was open to 5<sup>th</sup> grade students who attend Ocoee schools. The following elementary schools participated in the contest: Citrus Elementary; Hope Charter School; Maxey Elementary; Prairie Lake Elementary and Spring Lake Elementary. The overall winner will be awarded a \$250 gift card from Best Buy. First place winners will receive a \$50 gift card from Best Buy.

In addition, Ocoee TV is airing programs that highlight significant people and events from African-American history. Attached is the Ocoee TV schedule. The city's 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration is also airing and can be viewed on Ocoee TV's YouTube channel at <https://youtu.be/EOVirOpqwYk>.

Residents may also visit City Hall to view biographical portraits of notable African-Americans. Motorists driving along Clarke Road will see several "Ocoee Celebrates Diversity" banners.

For more information, call 407-905-3100.

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