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

**OCOEE, Fla.** – In recognition of Black History Month, the City of Ocoee issued a proclamation at its City Commission meeting held on February 2. The proclamation reads in part, “Black History Month serves as a celebration of African American achievements and the crucial role they had in American history, as well as a time to recognize the severe adversity generations of black Americans had to overcome to achieve legitimate citizenship in our society.”

The city is holding its 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Black History Month Essay Contest. The essay competition is open to 5<sup>th</sup> grade students that attend Ocoee schools. The theme for the essay contest is “What does unity within our diverse community mean to me?” The overall winner will be awarded a \$200 gift card from Best Buy. First place winners will receive a \$100 gift card from Best Buy. A virtual essay awards ceremony will be held on February 25 at 7 p.m. The ceremony will be broadcast on Ocoee TV Spectrum Channel 493 and a livestream at <https://www.ocoee.org/197/Ocoee-TV>.

Ocoee TV is airing past essay award ceremonies and the segments may be viewed on the city's [YouTube](#) channel. Biographical portraits of notable African-Americans are displayed at City Hall and Ocoee Celebrates Diversity pole banners are stationed along Clarke Road from White Road to Silver Star Road.

For more information, call 407-905-3100.

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