

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, libraries are cornerstones of democracy, promoting the free exchange of information and ideas for all;

WHEREAS, libraries provide the opportunity for everyone to pursue their passions and engage in lifelong learning, allowing them to live their best life;

WHEREAS, libraries strive to develop and maintain programs and collections that are as diverse as the populations they serve and ensure equity of access for all;

WHEREAS, libraries serve as safe spaces for all members of the community to connect, express themselves, and learn, regardless of age, race, ethnicity, creed, ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or socio-economic status;

WHEREAS, libraries adapt to the evolving needs of their communities, continually expanding their collections, services, and partnerships;

WHEREAS, libraries play a critical role in providing opportunities for job seekers, small businesses, and entrepreneurs from all economic, social and cultural backgrounds, by providing internet and technology access, literacy skills, and connection to services, resources and information;

WHEREAS, libraries are accessible and inclusive places that promote a sense of local connection, advancing understanding, civic engagement, and shared community goals;

WHEREAS, our Santa Clara City Library supports the intellectual freedom and freedom to read of its community by providing a diverse and balanced collection including challenged and banned books, ensuring those books are accessible, and educating others on banned and challenged books through displays and book lists, providing sanctuary for all seeking the freedom to read;

WHEREAS, our Santa Clara City Library provided services to more than 600,258 people in 2024 through the Central Park Library, the Northside Branch Library, the Mission Branch Library, the bookmobile, our adult and family literacy services and our virtual branch;

WHEREAS, libraries, librarians, and library workers are joining library supporters and advocates across the nation to celebrate National Library Week;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Mayor Lisa M. Gillmor, Mayor of the City of Santa Clara, proclaim National Library Week, April 6-12, 2025. During this week, I encourage all residents to visit their Santa Clara City Library to explore the wealth of resources available.