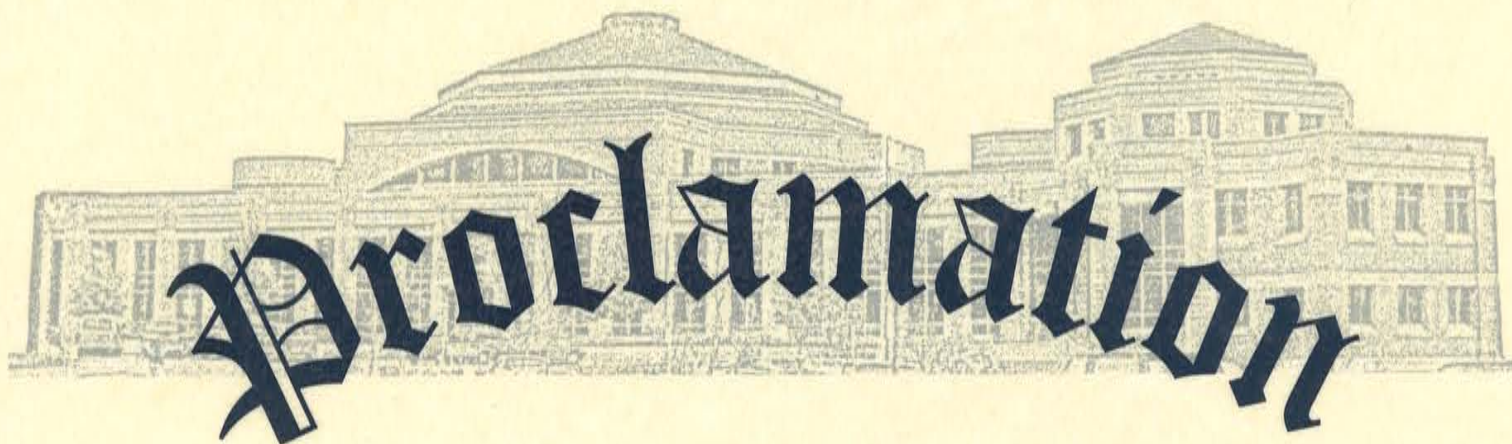


# City of Rochester



WHEREAS,

The indigenous peoples of North America, the First Americans, have lived in this area for nearly 13,000 years; and

WHEREAS,

Throughout their long history, the great Dakota Nation has traditional and cultural ties to the State of Minnesota, even to the great City of Rochester; it is time to celebrate that rich history; and

WHEREAS,

During Celebrate Dakota Week, we seek to build on and strengthen the rich Native American history that exists within our city and its Native American community through the collaborative efforts of the History Center of Olmsted County, the Friends of Indian Heights, the Rochester Public Schools, the Native American Center of Southeast Minnesota and Mayo Clinic Diversity Networking Group-Celebrate Dakota!; and

WHEREAS,

It is the aim of Celebrate Dakota Week to increase the awareness and knowledge of the Rochester community of the peoples of Dakota Nation that has and continues to reside in our fair city along with numerous other Native Americans from the Osage, Ojibwe, and Ho-Chunk Nations, whose ancestral voices, sacrifices, and lives have sanctified the land on which Rochester now resides; now it is time to listen and to learn that we might better understand *together*.

NOW THEREFORE:

I, Ardell F. Brede, Mayor of the City of Rochester do hereby proclaim May 16 - 21, 2011, as

## Celebrate Dakota Week

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the corporate seal of the City of Rochester to be affixed this 16<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2011.



Ardell F. Brede, Mayor  
City of Rochester, Minnesota