

PROCLAMATION

LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUEER, PLUS (LGBTQ+) PRIDE MONTH – JUNE 2025

WHEREAS, the Village of Oak Park supports the rights of every citizen to experience equality and freedom from discrimination; and

WHEREAS, all people regardless sexual orientation, gender identity or expression have the right to be treated on the basis of their intrinsic value as human beings; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Oak Park has a diverse LGBTQ+ community and is committed to supporting visibility, dignity, and equity for all people in the community; and

WHEREAS, the LGBTQ+ community contributes to the cultural, civic, and economic successes of the Village of Oak Park; and

WHEREAS, in honor of the 1969 Stonewall Uprising led by Marsha P. Johnson, Sylvia Rivera, and Miss Major Griffin-Gracy, whom were all transwomen of color. Their efforts with many more led to the subsequent first Pride march in New York City in 1970, Americans come together each June to celebrate the LGBTQ+ community; and

WHEREAS, the Oak Park Area Lesbian and Gay Association, one of the largest LGBTQ+ membership organizations in Illinois, helped make the Village of Oak Park a statewide and national leader in LGBTQ+ civil rights for the past 35 years; and

WHEREAS, our society is slowly embracing new understandings of sexuality and gender, we must also acknowledge that the need for education and awareness remains vital to end discrimination and prejudice; and

WHEREAS, the Village last year embraced the evolution of the Pride flag to the ‘Progress Pride Flag’ that includes new colors and a new design that are meant to represent people of color, as well as people who are transgender, intersex, or non-binary. The Progress flags continue to be reflected here in Chamber Council and proudly flown outside Village Hall; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Oak Park is proud to celebrate Pride Month in collaboration with community partners through two inclusive and family-friendly events. On Thursday, June 5, the Village will join Downtown Oak Park for a special Pride-themed Thursday Night Out, featuring vibrant activities for all ages, including face painting and a bounce house on Westgate. The celebration continues on Saturday, June 7 with Out in the Burbs, a collaborative Pride festival with the OPRF Chamber of Commerce. Taking place from 12 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Marion Street and Westgate, this event will include live music, local vendors, food, interactive youth programming, a gaming truck, photo booth, and more. All are encouraged to attend and show their support by wearing rainbow-themed attire. In addition, stop by Village Hall to see a special PRIDE installment located on the pathway to the courtyard.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Vicki Scaman, President of the Village of Oak Park and Board of Trustees, do hereby proudly proclaim June as ***LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUEER, PLUS (LGBTQ+)*** ***PRIDE MONTH*** in the Village of Oak Park, Illinois, to inspire equity, create alliances, celebrate diversity, and encourage our residents to reflect on the ongoing struggle for equality for the LGBTQ+ community and celebrate the contributions that enhance our Village.

DATED this 3rd day of June, 2025.

Vicki Scaman
Village President

ATTEST

Christina M. Waters
Village Clerk