

PROCLAMATION

Jewish American Heritage Month May 2026

WHEREAS, the Village of Oak Park is committed to advancing equity, inclusion, and belonging, and to recognizing and celebrating the diverse identities, histories, and contributions that strengthen our community; and

WHEREAS, Jewish American Heritage Month is observed each May to honor the rich history, culture, and enduring contributions of Jewish Americans to the United States and to communities such as Oak Park; and

WHEREAS, Jewish Americans have made significant and lasting contributions across public service, education, civil rights, business, arts and culture, science, and social justice movements, helping to shape a more just and equitable society; and

WHEREAS, Oak Park has a longstanding legacy of welcoming diversity and fostering an inclusive community, and recognizes the Jewish community as an integral part of that history and continued progress; and

WHEREAS, the Village acknowledges both the achievements and the challenges faced by Jewish Americans, including the persistence of antisemitism, and affirms its commitment to confronting hate, discrimination, and bias in all forms; and

WHEREAS, Jewish American Heritage Month provides an opportunity for residents to deepen understanding, celebrate cultural traditions, and engage in meaningful dialogue that promotes equity, respect, and cross-cultural connection; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Oak Park continues its work to embed equity into policies, practices, and community engagement, ensuring that all residents feel seen, valued, and supported;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Vicki Scaman, President of the Village of Oak Park, and the Board of Trustees do hereby proclaim May 2026 as Jewish American Heritage Month in the Village of Oak Park, IL, and encourage all residents, community organizations, schools, and businesses to join in celebrating the contributions, heritage, and resilience of Jewish Americans, while advancing our shared commitment to equity, inclusion, and belonging for all.

DATED this ____ day of May 2026.

Vicki Scaman

Village President

ATTEST

Christina M. Waters

Village Clerk