

# Proclamation

**WHEREAS,** In 1988, the first planning committee for Arlington's Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration was initiated and in January 1989, the committee held its first event organized by representatives from the Arlington Chamber of Commerce, City of Arlington, Arlington Independent School District, Arlington Ministerial Association, Black Citizens Advisory Committee, U.S. Postal Service, Marion Anderson Society, Fort Worth Star-Telegram, the University of Texas at Arlington and Tarrant County College; and

**WHEREAS,** The first MLK Celebration attracted nearly 1,000 participants and today has grown to more than 5,000; and

**WHEREAS,** Over the years, diversity training, awards banquets, art, essay and step show competitions, festivals and other multicultural events have been incorporated and the four-day celebration in Arlington remains one of the nation's longest, most comprehensive MLK celebrations; and

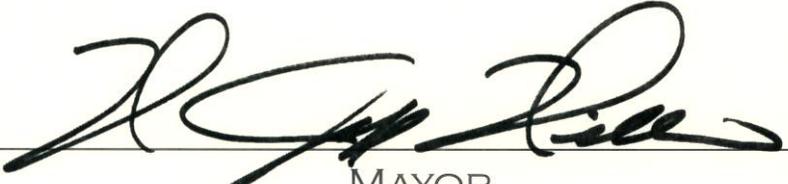
**WHEREAS,** The City is proud to recognize the significant contributions of the many individuals and organizations who have helped to build and grow this celebration; and

**WHEREAS,** This year the Arlington community celebrates the 27<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Sharing the Dream celebration, and we look forward to many more years of celebrations that pay tribute to a civil rights leader who forever changed our nation as a people.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I,** W. Jeff Williams, Mayor of the City of Arlington, Texas, and on behalf of the Arlington City Council, do hereby proclaim January 18, 2016 as

## MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City to be affixed this 18th day of January in the year of Our Lord two thousand and sixteen.*

  
MAYOR

