



City of Iowa City
PROCLAMATION

Whereas, from the very beginning of our nation, a bedrock principle of our society has been that we are all created equal; and

Whereas, while not everyone has historically been treated equally in practice, as time passes we persist in the quest to continually improve the condition of all; and

Whereas, love is one of the most fundamental of human emotions, often publicly memorialized by marriage, which also confers societal protections and advantages not enjoyed by unmarried couples; and

Whereas, in the words of US Supreme Court Justice Kennedy, “no union is more profound than marriage, for it embodies the highest ideals of love, fidelity, devotion, sacrifice, and family. In forming a marital union, two people become something greater than once they were;” and



Whereas, on April 3, 2009, the Iowa Supreme Court chose love over bigotry in deciding Varnum v. Brien, holding that the Iowa Constitution gave same-sex couples the right to marry, slightly more than six years before the US Supreme Court, in Obergefell v. Hodges, found that same right in the United States Constitution; and

Whereas, while many 10th anniversary celebrations will be held to commemorate the Iowa Supreme Court decision, including the OneIowa Gala Celebration on April 12 in Des Moines, the celebration in the hearts of those now able to marry, as well as their family and loved ones, is paramount; and

Whereas, the freedom to marry the person one loves is surely an “unalienable right” as sacred as “Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness;”

Now, Therefore, I, James A. Throgmorton, Mayor of Iowa City, do hereby proclaim April 3, 2019 to be

MARRIAGE EQUALITY DAY



Mayor

Signed in Iowa City, Iowa,
this ____ day of April, 2019.