

Office of the Mayor

Proclamation

Whereas:

Today, we recognize the 30th year of the Caribbean American Festival in Lima, Ohio, and celebrate the vibrancy and richness of the Caribbean culture.

WHEREAS: The Caribbean American Festival started back in 1963 when a group of families immigrated to Lima, Ohio from Trinidad, seeking job opportunities as welders, plumbers, pipefitters, and boilermakers, among other professions; and

WHEREAS: Patriarchs of these newly established families including Frank Sargeant, Errol Corbin, Errol Remy, Trevor Remy, Beresford Benjamin, Carlton Agard, David Lloyd, Amos Lawrence, Harold Phillip, Horace Cuffy, Horace Peters, Newsam Julien, and Sullivan Doughty, saw the need to continue the legacy and celebration of their Caribbean culture, so they took their children to the local park to meet with other newly immigrated families to enjoy Caribbean-style food and fellowship; and

WHEREAS: What started as a small gathering has grown to a community-wide celebration thanks to the welcoming spirit and hospitality of these original families; and

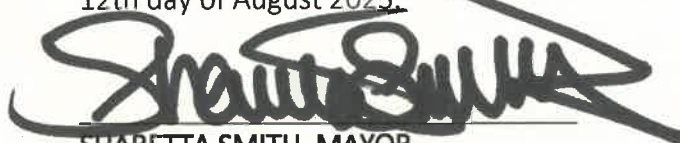
WHEREAS: There is no single Caribbean American identity, but the mix of cultures, languages, and religions alive across the United States and the islands reflects the diversity of spirit that defines the American story and the diversity of cultures within our own beautiful city.

NOW THEREFORE: I, Sharetta Smith, Mayor of the City of Lima, Ohio, do hereby proclaim August 12th, 2023, as

Caribbean American Festival Day

In Lima, Ohio, and encourage all citizens to become more aware of the significance of Caribbean culture in the heritage of our City and nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Seal of the City of Lima, Ohio, this 12th day of August 2023.



SHARETTA SMITH, MAYOR
CITY OF LIMA, OHIO

