

# *Proclamation*



*City of Dunkirk, New York  
Office of the Mayor*

**WHEREAS**, Juneteenth marks June 19, 1865, the day when the last enslaved people in the United States learned of their freedom—more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation—and stands as a defining moment in our nation’s ongoing pursuit of justice, equality, and human dignity; and

**WHEREAS**, Juneteenth calls us to honor the strength, resilience, and cultural contributions of African Americans, whose stories and achievements remain deeply rooted and grounded in the fabric of our shared American history; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Dunkirk proudly came together on June 13th and 14th to celebrate Juneteenth with unity, reflection, joy, and purpose—lifting up local voices, honoring heritage, and strengthening the bonds that keep our community rooted in its values and grounded in its commitment to one another; and

**WHEREAS**, this year’s celebration reflects the power of community leadership, collaboration, and love—demonstrating that when we stand together, we remain rooted in our past and grounded in our shared future; and

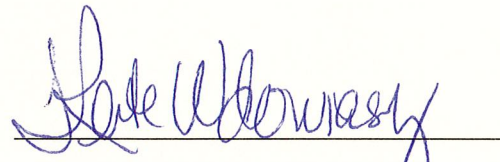
**WHEREAS**, the City of Dunkirk reaffirms its dedication to fostering a community where every resident is valued, respected, and empowered, and where the lessons of Juneteenth guide our collective work toward freedom, equity, and opportunity for all.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Kate Wdowiasz, Mayor of the City of Dunkirk, do hereby proclaim that the City proudly recognizes **Juneteenth** and extends heartfelt appreciation to all who participated in and supported the celebrations held on June 13th and 14th, 2026, honoring the theme “**Rooted and Grounded**”.

Let this proclamation stand as a reminder that our community’s strength comes from its roots, and our progress comes from staying grounded in unity, justice, and shared purpose.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Dunkirk to be affixed this 16<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2026.



  
Kate Wdowiasz, Mayor