



Proclamation

WHEREAS, art can be a powerful vehicle for communication as well as a catalyst for social change; it can positively affect the senses and emotions; has the ability to express thoughts and experiences that are beyond words; and progresses the enlightenment of all cultures across the globe; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois has a rich history of art across all mediums and is home to several of the world's leading painters, sculptors, musicians, architects, dancers and others; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Margaret Burroughs is an artist, educator, humanitarian, renowned printmaker, poet, wife, mother and grandmother who has made significant contributions to the quality of life and the arts in Illinois; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Margaret Burroughs made the first of her many contributions to African American arts and culture when, at the age of 22, she founded the South Side Community Arts Center, a community organization that serves as a gallery and workshop studio for artists and students; and,

WHEREAS, in 1961, Dr. Margaret Burroughs, her husband Charles and other leading Chicago citizens founded the DuSable Museum of African American History, an internationally-recognized museum of African American art, and one of the few independent institutions of its kind in the United States; and,

WHEREAS, developed to preserve and interpret the experiences and achievements of people of African descent, the DuSable Museum of African American History is dedicated to the collection, documentation, preservation and study of the history and culture of Africans and African Americans; and,

WHEREAS, on June 19, residents throughout the state of Illinois and across the country will celebrate Juneteenth, the oldest known celebration commemorating the end of slavery in the United States; and,

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is an opportunity not only to commemorate the historic events of June 19, 1865 – when news that the Civil War had ended and that the enslaved were now free reached Galveston, Texas – but also is a time to learn from our history so that we may build a better future; and,

WHEREAS, during Juneteenth celebrations, often the elders and respected members of the African American community are called upon to recount the events of the past, to promote and cultivate knowledge and appreciation of African American history and culture; and,

WHEREAS, as the founder of numerous community institutions, a fighter for social justice and equality during the Civil Rights Movement, and a respected artist and pillar of the African American community, Dr. Margaret Burroughs has touched the lives of countless individuals and throughout her accomplished life has embodied the spirit of Juneteenth by brightening the futures of children and adults all across the Land of Lincoln:

THEREFORE, I, Pat Quinn, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim June 18, 2010 as **DR. MARGARET BURROUGHS DAY** in Illinois, in honor of the outstanding artistic, cultural, and social contributions of this extraordinary woman, and encourage all citizens to join in recognizing the great impact she has had in our communities, our state, and our nation as a whole.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.



Done at the Capitol, in the City of Springfield,
this EIGHTEENTH *day of* JUNE, *in*
the Year of Our Lord two thousand and
TEN, *and of the State of Illinois*
the one hundred and NINETY-SECOND

Jose White
SECRETARY OF STATE

Pat Quinn
GOVERNOR