



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature has provided scholarships to high school students to improve civics literacy in Florida; and

WHEREAS, the University of South Florida St. Petersburg and the YMCA continue to partner in this Civics Fellows Program; and

WHEREAS, the Civics Fellows Program will help to deepen understanding of government at the local and state levels; and

WHEREAS, the Civics Fellows Program will teach the importance and impact of local and state government on society; and

WHEREAS, there will be a focus on improving civic engagement for future generations of leaders; and

WHEREAS, the Civics Fellows Program will increase rates of Generation Z participating in important society institutions including volunteering, voting and school events; and

WHEREAS, the Civics Fellows Program will provide hands-on experiences in government and public service; and

WHEREAS, the USFSP and the YMCA will provide a university experience to high school students through a summer institute program, whereby participants earn up to six college credits in politics and leadership; and

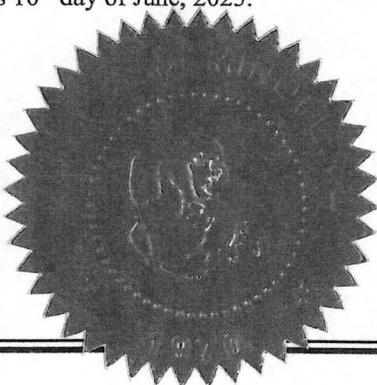
WHEREAS, Dr. Judithanne Scourfield McLauchlan, USFSP Political Science Professor and Coordinator of the USFSP and YMCA partnership, expresses support in the following comment: *"Bolstering this generation's civic literacy, particularly concerning local and state government, is vital to maintaining and strengthening the foundation of our democracy."* And

WHEREAS, Dr. McLauchlan has received the great honor of being appointed the Frank E. Duckwall Professor of Florida Studies, with a focus on Florida Politics and Government.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Leslie Waters, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Seminole, Florida, and on behalf of the entire City Council, do hereby proclaim the week of June 9-13, 2025, to be:

"CIVICS FELLOWS PROGRAM WEEK"

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Seminole, Florida to be affixed this 10th day of June, 2025.




Leslie Waters, Mayor