

Proclamation



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WHEREAS, Jim Alexander is an award-winning documentary photographer, curator, lecturer, photojournalist, media consultant, activist, and educator with more than 50 years of experience refining the art of documentary photography; and

WHEREAS, Jim began his career as a freelance photographer in 1964 in Waldwick, New Jersey after several years in the Navy; during this time he earned a certificate in Business Management from Rutgers University in 1967, followed by a degree in Commercial Photography from the New York Institute of Photography in 1968, the same year he met friend and mentor, Gordon Parks; and

WHEREAS, Jim documented the local and national response to the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and in 1970, was hired by Yale University; he accepted a position with the Atlanta Office of the Federation of Southern Cooperatives in 1976 and went on to the Atlanta Neighborhood Arts Center in 1977 as photographer in residence; and

WHEREAS, Jim has amassed an impressive collection of images of Black culture, music, and human rights photographs that are housed at Emory University's Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library; his honors include the 2024 President's Lifetime Achievement Volunteer Service Award, and ArtsXchange's 2021 Ebon Dooley Arts & Social Justice Lifetime Achievement Award, among many others; and

WHEREAS, Jim's work is in numerous major collections, including the Smithsonian American History Museum, the National Museum of African American History and Culture, Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American History and Culture, Clark Atlanta University Galleries, Hammonds House Museum, Atlanta University Center Library Collection, Hartsfield/Jackson Atlanta Airport Collection, and the Tubman Museum Collection;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes Jim Alexander for his historic contributions to human and civil rights through the artform of photography, and does hereby proclaim Saturday, August 16, 2025, as "**JIM ALEXANDER APPRECIATION DAY**" In Fulton County, Georgia.

Fulton County Board of Commissioners

Commissioner

Attest:

Clerk to the Commission

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