



PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** the City of Olathe is proud to recognize and celebrate the varied perspectives, backgrounds and cultures that make up our vibrant and diverse city, including the Deaf community; and
- WHEREAS,** many Deaf community members do not define themselves as one with “loss or impairment,” but rather as individuals with an alternative sensory and social experience who harness the power of visual language, and who also come from wide-ranging variations in onset of deafness, level of hearing, educational background, communication method, and cultural affiliations; and
- WHEREAS,** Olathe has been named one of America’s “Most Deaf Friendly Cities” in recognition of the opportunities and programs we offer, as well as a culture that embraces our deaf and hard-of-hearing residents; and
- WHEREAS,** we are proud to be home to the Kansas School for the Deaf, the Museum of Deaf History, Arts and Culture, and the Olathe Club of the Deaf; and
- WHEREAS,** the lives of all Olatheans are enriched by the contributions of our Deaf neighbors as well as this opportunity to recognize their achievements within our great City.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John Bacon, Mayor of the City of Olathe, do hereby proclaim September 2025 as

DEAF CULTURAL MONTH

in Olathe, encouraging all citizens to learn about and celebrate the values, culture, heritage, and languages unique to the Deaf community.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Olathe to be affixed this 2nd day of September, 2025.

John W. Bacon, Mayor

Brenda D. Swearingian, City Clerk