



# City of Bellevue | Proclamation

**Whereas:** Arab Americans have long been an integral part of communities across the United States, including here in Bellevue, contributing to the city's cultural richness, economic vitality and civic life; and

**Whereas:** Arab Americans have made and continue to make meaningful contributions across many fields, including business, education, healthcare, public service, arts and culture, helping to shape a vibrant and thriving community; and

**Whereas:** Bellevue is committed to being a welcoming city where people of all backgrounds feel a sense of belonging and are respected, valued and able to fully participate in community life; and

**Whereas:** recognizing and celebrating Arab American heritage helps foster greater understanding, appreciation and connection among neighbors, while countering misconceptions and harmful stereotypes; and

**Whereas:** Arab Americans, like all members of our community, seek a peaceful, inclusive society where every individual is treated with dignity, feels safe and has the opportunity to succeed; and

**Whereas:** National Arab American Heritage Month provides an opportunity to honor the history, culture and contributions of Arab Americans, and to reflect on the importance of diversity in strengthening our city.

**Now, therefore, I, Mo Malakoutian, Mayor of Bellevue, Washington, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim **April 2026** as**

## **National Arab American Heritage Month**

in Bellevue and encourage all residents to learn about, celebrate and recognize the contributions of Arab Americans to our community and our nation.

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Mo Malakoutian, Mayor



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