



# City of Bellevue | Proclamation

**Whereas:** Nowruz, which in Persian means “new day,” is an ancestral festivity based on the solar calendar, marking the first day of spring and the renewal of nature, celebrated on the vernal equinox in the northern hemisphere; and

**Whereas:** Nowruz is celebrated as a central, secular holiday by more than 300 million people all over the world, with origins in Zoroastrian rites in ancient Persia, and has been cherished, upheld and observed for over 3,000 years; and

**Whereas:** Nowruz, celebrated through centuries-long traditions, symbolizes a time of personal renewal along with the earth and coming together in community; and

**Whereas:** Many people who celebrate Nowruz live in the city of Bellevue and are valuable members of our community who make noteworthy contributions to our economy and society; and

**Whereas:** As a holiday that observes departure from the challenges of the past year and fostering hope for the upcoming one, the spirit of Nowruz inspires and motivates us to continually reach for compassion, community, and peace.

**Now, therefore, I,** Lynne Robinson, mayor of Bellevue, Washington, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim March 20, 2024, as:

## Day of Nowruz

In Bellevue, and encourage all members of the community to learn more about our many cultures in the city of Bellevue.

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Lynne Robinson, Mayor  
City of Bellevue