



# 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 are partnering to create a new 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 millennials 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

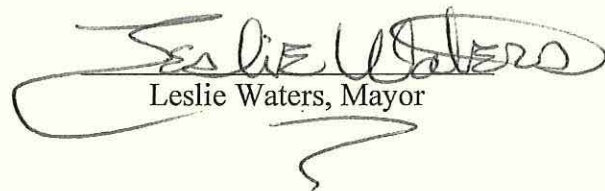
**WHEREAS**, Dr. Judithanne Scourfield McLauchlan, USFSP Political Science Professor and Coordinator of the USFSP and YMCA partnership, expresses support in the following comment: *"Bolstering this generation's civic literacy, particularly concerning local and state government, is vital to maintaining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

**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 21-25, 2021, 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 22<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2021.



  
Leslie Waters, Mayor