

are a sanctuary for 7,000 marine species. This important Monument is our Nation's largest single conservation area and the largest protected marine area in the world. Earlier this year, I was also proud to sign into law the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act of 2006 to end over-fishing and rebuild our Nation's fish stocks through more effective, market-based management. Internationally, we continue to lead in protecting the maritime environment while preserving the navigational freedoms essential to the security and prosperity of every nation. By working to build a well managed system of offshore aquaculture, we can provide a healthy source of food and reduce pressure on our ocean ecosystems.

During National Oceans Month and throughout the year, we recognize all who are dedicated to making our oceans, coasts, and Great Lakes cleaner, healthier, and more productive, including the many Federal agencies that make up the Committee on Ocean Policy. One of these agencies, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, celebrates two centuries of dedicated research and conservation of coastal and marine environments. By continuing to work together, we can conserve and enjoy the splendor of these magnificent waters now and for generations to come.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim June 2007 as National Oceans Month. I call upon the people of the United States to learn more about the vital role oceans play in the life of our country and ways we can conserve their many national treasures. I encourage all our citizens to observe this month with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirtieth day of May, in the year of our Lord two thousand seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-first.

GEORGE W. BUSH

Proclamation 8151 of May 31, 2007

Black Music Month, 2007

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

During Black Music Month, we recognize the outstanding contributions that African-American singers, composers, and musicians have made to our country, and we express our appreciation for the extraordinary music that has enriched our Nation.

The music of African-American musicians has helped shape our national character and become an important part of our musical heritage. Often born out of great pain and strong faith, that music has helped African Americans endure tremendous suffering and overcome injustice with courage, faith, and hope. By speaking to the human experience and expressing heartfelt emotion, African-American artists have inspired people across the generations in America and around the world with their vision and creativity.

This month is an opportunity to honor the men and women who have created some of the best music America has ever produced. Great musical talents such as Ray Charles, Louis Armstrong, Mahalia Jackson, Ella Fitzgerald, Duke Ellington, and James Brown have enriched our culture with innovative talent and artistic legacies that continue to influence musicians today. We remember so many wonderful artists and celebrate the achievements of black musicians whose work reflects the diversity of our citizens and lifts the human spirit.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim June 2007 as Black Music Month. I encourage all Americans to learn more about the history of black music and to enjoy the great contributions of African-American musicians.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirty-first day of May, in the year of our Lord two thousand seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-first.

GEORGE W. BUSH

Proclamation 8152 of May 31, 2007

National Child's Day, 2007

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Today's children are tomorrow's leaders, and our Nation has a responsibility to ensure that they develop the character and skills needed to succeed. On National Child's Day, we underscore our commitment to our children and pledge to provide them with the care, protection, and education they deserve.

Children are great blessings in our lives. They rely on the love and guidance of parents, family members, mentors from faith-based and community organizations, and teachers to help them gain a sense of confidence and learn that their actions have consequences. All of us play an important role in teaching our children that the decisions they make today will affect them for the rest of their lives.

My Administration is committed to helping young Americans reach their full potential. One of my top priorities is to reauthorize the No Child Left Behind Act, a good law that has brought great progress. Students are scoring higher and beginning to close the achievement gap, proving that when we set expectations high, America's schools and students will rise to meet them. My Administration is also ensuring that our country is competitive by enhancing math and science education through the American Competitiveness Initiative. Additionally, the Department of Health and Human Services and its partners are working to prevent childhood obesity by encouraging America's youth to exercise and practice healthy eating habits. And the Helping America's Youth initiative, led by First Lady Laura Bush, raises awareness about the challenges that face our young people and motivates caring adults to connect with children in three key areas: family, school, and