



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS: The autism community aspires to lead all of us from the point of awareness into a place of acceptance when discussing, learning, and living with neurodivergence; and
- WHEREAS: In the United States, one in 36 children were identified with autism; and
- WHEREAS: Those with autism make tremendous contributions to Minnesota's art, technology, culture, economy, and every other aspect of our communities; and
- WHEREAS: Minnesota affirms the values of equity and inclusion of people with autism as part of the vibrant and diverse make-up of Minnesota's communities. Minnesota recognizes the intersectional identities of people with autism and the rich and diverse community and culture that is built around their lived experiences; and
- WHEREAS: Minnesota acknowledges that although this celebration of autistic culture and community provides a starting point, there remains significant room for progress towards equitable access and inclusion for all Minnesotans with autism; and
- WHEREAS: There are many opportunities for Minnesota to take a more active role in engaging people of all neurotypes, and creating a welcoming and accessible society for people with autism; and
- WHEREAS: Minnesota will work in partnership with the autism community to move beyond awareness and into celebration of neurodiversity by honoring Autism Acceptance Month this April and World Autism Day on April 2.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim April 2024 as:

## AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April.

  
GOVERNOR

  
SECRETARY OF STATE