

MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON
PROCLAMATION NO.59

Proclaiming April as Superhero Month in Multnomah County, Oregon Oregon.

Multnomah County Finds:

- A. Superheroes have inspired generations of readers, artists, and storytellers by celebrating courage, creativity, justice, and the power of ordinary people to do extraordinary things.
- B. Comic books and graphic novels represent a powerful and influential form of storytelling that combines visual art and narrative to explore complex ideas, spark imagination, and engage readers of all ages.
- C. Portland has long been recognized as one of the nation's most vibrant centers for comic books, graphic novels, and cartoon arts, attracting artists, writers, editors, and publishers who have helped shape the modern comics industry.
- D. Portland's emergence as a comics hub accelerated in the 1980s with the founding of Dark Horse Comics, which helped transform the local creative landscape and attract a large community of cartoonists and graphic artists to the region.
- E. Over time, additional publishers and studios – including Oni Press and other independent creators – built upon this foundation, establishing Portland as home to a thriving comics ecosystem that includes publishers, studios, conventions, and hundreds of freelance creators.
- F. Portland's thriving comics culture is celebrated through events such as Rose City Comic Con, which brings together artists, writers, fans, and families from across the region to celebrate comics, pop culture, and creative storytelling.
- G. Portland's comics community has grown into one of the largest concentrations of cartoonists and graphic storytellers in the nation, with many prominent creators choosing to live and work in Multnomah County and the Portland region because of the collaborative and creative environment.
- H. This creative tradition has fostered a dynamic cultural scene that celebrates comics as both art and literature, supported by festivals, studios, independent publishers, and a passionate community of readers and fans.
- I. The opening of the Northwest Museum of Cartoon Arts here in Multnomah County elevates our longstanding role as a national center for cartoon arts and strengthens

Portland's reputation as a place where creativity, independent publishing, and artistic collaboration flourish.

J. Multnomah County Libraries support literacy, creativity, and artistic exploration through its extensive collection of comic books and graphic novels, ensuring that readers of all ages can discover new voices, stories, and artistic traditions.

K. Celebrating Superhero Month in Multnomah County provides an opportunity to honor both the fictional heroes who inspire us and the real-life artists, librarians, educators, and creators who strengthen our community through storytelling and imagination.

Multnomah County Proclaims:

This April 2026 is proclaimed to be Superhero Month in Multnomah County, Oregon. All county residents encourage residents to celebrate Portland's rich comics and cartoon arts community, visit the Northwest Museum of Cartoon Arts, explore the graphic novel collections at Multnomah County Libraries, attend local comic events such as Rose City Comic Con, and recognize the artists, writers, publishers, librarians, and fans who make Multnomah County a place where imagination, creativity, and storytelling continue to thrive.

ADOPTED this **1st** day of **April**, 2026.

REVIEWED:
JENNY M. MADKOUR, COUNTY ATTORNEY
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By: Jenny M. Madkour, County Attorney

SUBMITTED BY: Commissioner Julia Brim-Edwards, District 3 - East Portland