

City of University Park
Proclamation
Office of the Mayor

Celebration of Story Day
March 20, 2026

WHEREAS, *World Storytelling Day is a global celebration observed each year on the vernal equinox, when people across many countries take part in sharing and listening to stories that reflect their cultures and lived experiences; and*

WHEREAS, *since its beginning in 2001, this observance has grown into an international tradition that encourages the exchange of stories and strengthens the sense of community among storytellers and audiences worldwide; and*

WHEREAS, *storytelling has long served as a way for communities to pass down history, wisdom, and shared values, preserving cultural heritage and helping people understand the experiences of others; and*

WHEREAS, *the practice of storytelling continues to evolve and thrive in spoken, written, visual, and digital forms, offering people of all ages opportunities to learn, imagine, and connect with one another; and*

WHEREAS, *the City of University Park and Highland Park ISD are enriched by a strong tradition of civic engagement, educational excellence, and cultural life, where schools, libraries, families, and community organizations foster creativity, literacy, and meaningful dialogue; and*

WHEREAS, *Southern Methodist University, located in University Park, has for more than a century contributed to the cultural and educational vitality of the community through its commitment to the arts and humanities, including the Department of English and other programs that nurture writers, scholars, educators, and creative voices who strengthen the region's storytelling tradition; and*

NOW, THEREFORE, *I, Mayor Tommy Stewart, of the City of University Park, do hereby proclaim Friday, March 20, 2026 as **Celebration of Story Day** in University Park.*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, *I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of University Park to be affixed this 17th day of March 2026.*



Tommy Stewart

Tommy Stewart
Mayor