

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this fourteenth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and nineteenth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 1:37 p.m., October 19, 1994]

NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on October 15, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on October 21.

Proclamation 6742—Country Music Month, 1994

October 14, 1994

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Country music is a distinctly American treasure, drawing on the deepest cultural roots of our Nation's people. It reflects a storytelling impulse born of mountain balladry and cowboy songs. It combines an exciting instrumental texture of string bands and jazz orchestras, a heartfelt vocal style of religious and blues singing, and a contagious rhythm that inspires dancing in listeners of all ages.

The emotions of the myriad peaks and valleys of life find a vibrant voice in country music. Relating experiences all of us share, these songs boast a long and proud tradition in our national heritage. For the better part of our history, country music's many talented singers and songwriters from across the land have touched the hearts and minds of our citizens—rural and urban, rich and poor, young and old. Today, this wonderful art form is enjoyed and celebrated around the world as a uniquely American gift.

This month, we pause to commend and to appreciate the efforts of singers, songwriters, musicians, and all those in this thriving industry who work to maintain the vitality of the country music legacy.

The Congress, by Public Law 103-107, has designated October 1994 as "Country Music Month" and has authorized and requested

the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this month. I urge all Americans to join me in recognizing the rich contributions that country music has made to our cultural heritage.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 1994 as Country Music Month.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this fourteenth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and nineteenth.

William J. Clinton

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Proclamation 6743—National Character Counts Week, 1994

October 14, 1994

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Our concern about character and ethics is one of the great strengths of our Nation. In 1994, America celebrates the continuing creation of and support for programs that, by definition, are character-building—from our proud military units and law enforcement groups to our new National Service program, AmeriCorps. As we seek to instill important values in a new generation of Americans, we must redouble our efforts to improve student learning, responsibility, and sense of belonging. We must revitalize the American ideal of community if our schools are to achieve their full potential. Adults, children, teachers—all of us must set an example. All of us can make a new beginning.

Schools need to emphasize the fundamentals: building character and creating a stronger sense of self-worth. The process of building moral values begins with the family, and