



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Civil rights leader Clyde Bellecourt dedicated his life to the fair treatment of all American Indians. He cleared a path with his activism to advance conditions for American Indians in many aspects of society; and
- WHEREAS: Clyde Bellecourt was a citizen of the White Earth Nation and proudly known in Ojibwe as Neegawnwaywidung - "Thunder Before the Storm"; and
- WHEREAS: Clyde Bellecourt was a cofounder of the American Indian Movement (AIM), which started in 1968 as a Minneapolis organization that fought against discrimination of American Indians, and his leadership sparked a national, and later global, movement that brought attention to important issues in all communities; and
- WHEREAS: Clyde Bellecourt was passionate about education, police reform, treaty rights, and the protection and preservation of American Indian language, culture, and practices to ensure children, grandchildren, and future generations have opportunities to learn and participate in cultural practices; and
- WHEREAS: Clyde Bellecourt established the Peacemaker Center for Indian youth; the American Indian Movement Patrol; a Legal Rights Center; the Native American Community Clinic; Women of Nations Eagle's Nest Shelter; the International Indian Treaty Council; the American Indian Opportunities Industrialization Center; and helped to create the National Coalition on Racism in Sports and the Media; and
- WHEREAS: Clyde Bellecourt is survived by his loving wife, Peggy Bellecourt; daughters, Susan and Tanya; sons, Little Crow and Wolf; nine grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren; and
- WHEREAS: Clyde Bellecourt's fight for justice and fairness leaves behind a powerful legacy that will continue to inspire people across the State of Minnesota and the world for generations to come. His tenacity, bravery, and empowering leadership will not be forgotten; and
- WHEREAS: With its deepest gratitude, the State of Minnesota recognizes Clyde Bellecourt for his dedication to Indian Country.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Saturday, January 15, 2022, as:

## CLYDE BELLECOURT DAY

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 13<sup>th</sup> day of January.

Handwritten signature of Tim Walz in black ink.

GOVERNOR

Handwritten signature of Steve Simon in black ink.

SECRETARY OF STATE