

ENROLLED ORIGINAL

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

22-96

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

May 2, 2017

To recognize the importance of DC Black Pride to the community and to welcome visitors from this region, across the country, and around the world to the festival and associated events.

WHEREAS, May 21, 2017, through May 29, 2017, marks the 27th Annual DC Black Pride celebration;

WHEREAS, DC Black Pride is the oldest and among the largest Black Pride events in the world, drawing more than 30,000 people to the Nation's Capital from across the United States as well as Canada, the Caribbean, South Africa, Great Britain, France, Germany, and the Netherlands;

WHEREAS, as the first Black Pride festival, DC Black Pride fostered the beginning of the Center for Black Equity and the “Black Pride Movement,” which now consists of 40 Black Pride festivals on 4 continents;

WHEREAS, the mission of DC Black Pride is to increase awareness of and pride in the diversity of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender in the African American community as well as support organizations that focus on health disparities, education, youth, and families;

WHEREAS, DC Black Pride is led by a volunteer Advisory Board that assists Earl D. Fowlkes, Jr. and Kenya Hutton with the coordination, planning, and execution of this annual event, which consists of Shannon Garcon, Genise Chambers-Woods, Re’ginald Shaw-Richardson, Ralph “Rocky” Ferguson, and Gladece Knight;

WHEREAS, Earl Fowlkes is celebrating 20 years of involvement with DC Black Pride and the Black Pride Movement around the globe;

WHEREAS, DC Black Pride 2017 is a multi-day festival featuring an awards reception, HIV/AIDS community town hall meeting and workshops, the Black Pride Film Festival and Poetry Slam, an interfaith service, and much more; and

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WHEREAS, the theme for this year's celebrations is "The Ties that Bind: Twenty-Seven Years of DC Black Pride!".

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution be cited as the "27th Annual DC Black Pride Recognition Resolution of 2017".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia hereby honors the hard work of all those involved in organizing the 27th Annual DC Black Pride Celebration and welcomes visitors from across the region, the country, and the world to DC Black Pride 2017 and associated events.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.