

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

23-85

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

May 7, 2019

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 20, 2019, through May 29, 2019, marks the 29th Annual DC Black Pride celebration;

WHEREAS, DC Black Pride is the oldest and one of the largest Black Pride events in the world, drawing thousands of residents and visitors from around the globe;

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, Kenya Hutton and Genise Chamber-Woods with the coordination, planning, and year after year the event and consists of Shannon Garcon; Palomas Yazmina Tadesse; Reginald Shaw-Richardson; Silas Burris and Demetrius Smith;

WHEREAS, as the very first Black Pride festival, DC Black Pride fostered the beginning of the Center for Black Equity (formerly known as the International Federation of Black Prides, Inc. (IFBP)) and the "Black Pride Movement," which now consists of 40 Black Prides on four continents;

WHEREAS, DC Black Pride 2019 is a multi-day festival featuring: an awards reception honoring NAACP President and CEO Derrick Johnson, and other awardees; Transgender and Youth community town hall meetings; Disputing Aging and educational workshops; a Poetry Slam; Interfaith Service; performances by musicians, dancers, and other artists; social events; and the DC Black Pride Health and Wellness Expo;

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WHEREAS, DC Black Pride remains one of the world's preeminent Black Pride celebrations, drawing more than 45,000 people to the Nation's Capital from across the United States, Canada, the Caribbean, South Africa, Great Britain, France, Germany, and the Netherlands;

WHEREAS, the theme for this year's celebrations is: Our Truths in Harmony;

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia welcomes visitors from this region and across the country and the world to the 2019 DC Black Pride Festival and associated events; and

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "DC Black Lesbian & Gay Pride Recognition Resolution of 2019".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes the hard work of all those involved in organizing the 29th Annual DC Black Pride Celebration.

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