

# Awards/Recognitions Ceremony Docket

For Official Presentation: Monday, 11 September 2023 Draft Updated 9.8.2023:930hrs/srs

## Richmond City Council Officially Awards/Proclaims the following:

#	TITLE/RECIPIENT/SPEAKER	TYPE	SUMMARY/NARRATIVE	MAIN PRESENTER
1	<p><b>Venture Richmond 2nd Street Festival 35th Anniversary</b></p> <p><b>To be received by:</b> Sharon Bassard and Mavis Wynn of Venture Richmond</p>	<p>Richmond City Council and Mayor Levar M. Stoney</p> <p>Joint Recognition Award</p>	<p>To recognize, honor, and celebrate the Venture Richmond 2nd Street Festival as it celebrates its 35th Anniversary in the historic Jackson Ward Neighborhood, and thank all its staff, volunteers, supporters, sponsors, and visitors for their efforts in helping make this successful festival such a vibrant living part of our community tapestry and our city an even better place to live, love, work, learn, play, visit, and enjoy family.</p>	<p>PRESIDENT MAYOR JORDAN ROBERTSON</p>
2	<p><b>Richmond Recovery Month/ Richmond Addiction Professionals Day</b></p> <p><b>To be received by:</b> McShin Foundation Caritas</p>	<p>Richmond City Council Official Proclamation</p>	<p>To further recognize the important work of substance use treatment professionals and mental health and behavioral services to the community, and to honor the many successes of those in recovery, and officially proclaim the month of September to be <b>Richmond Recovery Month</b> and the day of September 20 to be <b>Richmond Addiction Professionals Day</b>, in perpetuity, in Richmond, Virginia, and encourage everyone to join in commemorating and celebrating these important observances.</p>	<p>ROBERTSON</p>



# RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL AND MAYOR LEVAR M. STONEY

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA - COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA - CITY OF RICHMOND

## RICHMOND OFFICIAL JOINT RECOGNITION AWARD

*By virtue of the authority vested in the United States of America, Commonwealth of Virginia, Virginia Code of Laws, and the Richmond City Charter: The Honorable Levar M. Stoney, Mayor of Richmond, and Richmond City Council, the governing legislative institution of Richmond, Virginia, in the United States of America, do hereby and officially recognize:*

### Venture Richmond **2nd Street Festival** 35th Anniversary

The Honorable Levar M. Stoney, Mayor of Richmond, and Richmond City Council, the governing legislative institution of Richmond, Virginia, in the United States of America, do hereby unite in solidarity and common purpose to recognize, honor, and celebrate the auspicious occasion of Richmond's beloved 2nd Street Festival celebrating its 35th Anniversary in the Jackson Ward Neighborhood.

Established in 1989, the 2nd Street Festival was created by Nina Abady as a collaboration of two nonprofits, Downtown Presents, of which she served as Director, and Richmond Renaissance, in support of City efforts to recognize and revitalize its downtown. Over the years, these two nonprofits and others, merged into the current single downtown promotion organization; Venture Richmond.

Held in October of that year, the inspiration and aspiration of the festival was for it to be a free event embracing and showcasing the vital historic, cultural, economic, and societal importance of North 2nd Street and the Jackson Ward Neighborhood, which for many years was considered to be the heart and soul of Richmond's African American community.

Located in the Jackson Ward Neighborhood, an affluent thriving Black community dating from the late 1800's, North 2nd Street became affectionately known as "Black Wall Street" by the early 1900's and for decades served as the nucleus of prosperous Black-owned businesses, including banks, theaters, insurance companies, and shops located on and around it, which was rare during the time.

Enjoying great success, the 2nd Street (or "two street") Festival has grown from a spot in front of the Hippodrome in the 500 block into a two day extravaganza spanning six city blocks and serving as an annual homecoming for generations of families who consider Richmond their home, visitors, and the community to make memories, reunite with old friends, make new friends, and enjoy fellowship.

Representing a renewed sense of purpose, the 2nd Street Festival is a family friendly event that hosts tens of thousands of attendees a year who come out to enjoy live music on multiple entertainment stages and a wide variety of cultural foods, crafts, vendors, and life.

**Now, Therefore,** Richmond City Council and Mayor Levar M. Stoney do hereby recognize, honor, and celebrate the Venture Richmond 2nd Street Festival as it celebrates its 35th Anniversary in the historic Jackson Ward Neighborhood, and thank all its staff, volunteers, supporters, sponsors, and visitors for their efforts in helping make this successful festival such a vibrant living part of our community tapestry and our city an even better place to live, love, work, learn, play, visit, and enjoy family.

In witness whereof, this pronouncement was respectfully prepared and hereunto established for effectuation on behalf of the residents of Richmond on the eleventh day of September, two thousand twenty-three, in the two hundred eighty-seventh year of the City of Richmond, founded in 1737, the two hundred forty-eighth year of the Commonwealth of Virginia, established in 1776, and the United States of America.

The Honorable Michael J. Jones  
Council President, Richmond City Council  
Councilmember, Richmond South Central 9th Voter District



The Honorable Levar M. Stoney  
Mayor  
City of Richmond



The Honorable Kristen M. Nye  
Council Vice President, Richmond City Council  
Councilmember, Richmond Southwest 4th Voter District





# Richmond City Council

The Voice of the People

Richmond, Virginia

## RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL OFFICIAL PROCLAMATION

By virtue of the authority vested in the United States of America, Commonwealth of Virginia, Virginia Code of Laws, and the Richmond City Charter, Richmond City Council, the governing legislative institution of Richmond, Virginia, in the United States of America, does hereby and officially proclaim:

### Richmond Recovery Month/ Richmond Addiction Professionals Day

**Whereas**, Richmond City Council, the governing legislative institution of Richmond, Virginia, in the United States of America, does hereby declare and affirm that substance use treatment and mental health services are critical to helping enable those with mental health and substance use disorders to live healthy and rewarding lives; and

**Whereas**, according to the U. S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, drug overdoses took more than 100,000 lives in the United States in 2022, with provisional data indicating that two thirds of these deaths involved overdoses of opioids and synthetic opioids; and

**Whereas**, addiction is a treatable condition affecting a person's brain through the use of drugs, alcohol, and other substances and behaviors which become compulsive and relapsing despite damage caused to that person's health and relationships; factors such as genetics and mental illness make certain people susceptible to addiction; and

**Whereas**, nearly 21 million Americans have at least one addiction (also known as a substance use disorder), yet only ten percent receive treatment for that addiction; and

**Whereas**, approximately one in five Americans diagnosed with depression or an anxiety disorder also have a substance use disorder; and

**Whereas**, *National Recovery Month* is an observance held every September in America to promote new evidence-based treatment and recovery practices, support the nation's strong and proud recovery community, and highlight the dedication of behavioral and mental health service providers and addiction professionals who make recovery in all its forms possible; and

**Whereas**, *National Recovery Month* was established by the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), a division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services when, in 1989, it started a nationwide observance honoring the dedication and hard work of addiction professionals in the United States called *Treatment Works! Month*; and

**Whereas**, *Treatment Works! Month* was restructured to *National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month* in 1998 to include recognition of those suffering from substance use disorder and highlight their work towards recovery, and again in 2011, when it was renamed *National Recovery Month* and expanded to include recognition of segments of the behavioral and mental health fields; and

**Whereas**, SAMHSA also established a day in September, typically September 20, to be *National Addiction Professionals Day* as part of *National Recovery Month* to further highlight the hard work and vital role held by addiction professionals to the substance use recovery process;

**Now, Therefore**, in order to even further recognize the important work of substance use treatment professionals and mental health and behavioral services to the community, and to honor the many successes of those in recovery, Richmond City Council does hereby officially proclaim the month of September to be **Richmond Recovery Month** and the day of September 20 to be **Richmond Addiction Professionals Day**, in perpetuity, in Richmond, Virginia, and encourages everyone to join in commemorating and celebrating these important observances.

In witness whereof, this pronouncement was respectfully prepared and hereunto established for effectuation on behalf of the residents of Richmond on the eleventh day of September, two thousand twenty-three, in the two hundred eighty-seventh year of the City of Richmond, founded in 1737, the two hundred forty-eighth year of the Commonwealth of Virginia, established in 1776, and the United States of America.

The Honorable Michael J. Jones  
Council President, Richmond City Council  
Councilmember, Richmond South Central 9th Voter District

The Honorable Kristen M. Nye  
Council Vice President, Richmond City Council  
Councilmember, Richmond Southwest 4th Voter District

The Honorable Ellen F. Robertson  
Councilmember, Richmond City Council  
Councilmember, Richmond Gateway 6th Voter District

Richmond City Council - Richmond City Hall - 900 East Broad Street - Richmond, Virginia 23219 - U.S.A.