

Awards/Recognitions Ceremony Docket

For Official Presentation: Monday, 25 September 2023 Draft Updated 9.22.2023; 912hrs/srs

Richmond City Council Officially Awards/Proclaims the following:

#	TITLE/RECIPIENT/SPEAKER	TYPE	SUMMARY/NARRATIVE	MAIN PRESENTER
1	Richmond African Diaspora Heritage Month To be received by: Dr. Patricia W. Cummings Richmond City Council - Richmond Sister Cities Commission	Richmond City Council Official Proclamation	To further recognize, honor, and celebrate people of African descent represented as part of the African Diaspora as vital members of our community and establish the month of September to henceforth and hereafter be forever known as Richmond African Diaspora Heritage Month, in perpetuity, in Richmond, Virginia, and call on and encourages all Richmond residents to join in commemorating and celebrating this important observance in helping make our city an even more inclusive and better place to live, love, work, learn, play, visit, and enjoy family.	LAMBERT



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 African Diaspora Heritage Month

Whereas, Richmond City Council, the governing legislative institution of Richmond, Virginia, in the United States of America, does hereby recognize, honor, and celebrate people of African descent as vital members of our community and critical to the historic, ongoing, and future advancement and progress of our city, state, country, and world; and

Whereas, Richmond serves as a vibrant and thriving example of the amazing diversity of social, ethnic, and racial identity heritages and histories that make up our great nation and is proud of its strong community that includes Diasporas representing the movements and relocations of many peoples and their descendants from numerous historic indigenous origins and homelands to different parts of the world throughout the centuries; and

Whereas, the United Nations recognizes the African Diaspora representing hundreds of millions of people self-identifying as being of African descent living outside of the African continent that in the United States includes the nearly 50 million people who identify themselves as Black, which comprises 20 percent of Virginia's population and nearly 50 percent of Richmond's; and

Whereas, in honoring the importance, freedoms, and human rights of the African Diaspora, the United Nations established August 31 as the International Day for People of African Descent and the years, beginning January 1, 2015 and ending December 31, 2024, as its International Decade for People of African Descent; and

Whereas, in 2021, there were 4.8 million foreign-born Black Americans, which represented about 10 percent of the U.S. Black population; and

Whereas, in recent years the African Union, representing countries of the African continent, has been pursuing and promoting recent African Diaspora immigrants from Africa to the U.S. who are willing to contribute to development of the African continent and interests of the African Union; and

Whereas, the history of the world has shown that continued human progress and the success of society and civilization has been built on a foundation of inclusiveness and diversity of social, ethnic, and racial identity;

Now, Therefore, to further recognize, honor, and celebrate people of African descent represented as part of the African Diaspora as vital members of our community, Richmond City Council does hereby officially proclaim and establish the month of September to henceforth and hereafter be forever known as **Richmond African Diaspora Heritage Month**, in perpetuity, in Richmond, Virginia, and calls on and encourages all Richmond residents to join in commemorating and celebrating this important observance in helping make our city an even more inclusive and 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 twenty-fifth 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 Ann-Frances Lambert
Councilmember, Richmond City Council
Richmond Northside 3rd Voter District

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