

City of Philadelphia



Council of the City of Philadelphia
Office of the Chief Clerk
Room 402, City Hall
Philadelphia

(Resolution No. 090059)

RESOLUTION

Honoring the African American Children's Book Project on the occasion of the Annual African American Children's Book Fair.

WHEREAS, The African American Children's Book Fair, is one of the largest and oldest in the nation and has enhanced multiculturalism in our City utilizing the joy of reading as a tool; and

WHEREAS, The importance of book fairs can not be understated for many of our youth use reading to better know the world around them and use books to help them develop into well educated adults; and

WHEREAS, One of the most important reasons to encourage reading in our children is that studies show that the more our youth read the more likely they are to make positive lifestyle decisions as they grow older; and

WHEREAS, Strictly judging by attendance, the event is a tremendous success as well over 4,500 people attended the Fair in 2008; and

WHEREAS, Rich or poor, no one leaves empty handed as posters, bookmarks and raffle books are distributed free of charge to attendees; and

WHEREAS, The books themselves are priced at a level where they are more affordable than in many of the bookstores in the region; and

WHEREAS, Many of the authors and illustrators will be in attendance as well as local celebrities to further enhance the excitement and vibrancy that the book fair exudes; and

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WHEREAS, One of the esteemed individuals in attendance will be New York Times best selling author Omar Tyree, a Philadelphia native, tireless creator of various creations who has become one of the world's most recognized authors, promoters and entrepreneurs, he was the recipient in 2001 of the NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Literature in Fiction and in 2006 he earned the Phyllis Wheatley Literary Award for Body of Work in Urban Fiction; and

WHEREAS, Tyree's work extends now as a passionate speaker on various community-related and intellectual topics that can be realized through his non-profit organization; The Urban Literacy Project an agency to promote literacy skills among disadvantaged youth and adults, and through his first book for children and young readers "*12 Brown Boys*"; and

WHEREAS, The 17th Annual African American Book Fair will be held free of charge on Saturday February 7th from one to three pm at the gymnasium of the Community College of Philadelphia located at 17th & Spring Garden Streets; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, That we hereby honor the African American Children's Book Project on the occasion of the Annual African American Children's Book Fair.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That an Engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to the founder of the African American Children's Book Project; Vanesse J. Lloyd-Sgambati, and Omar Tyree for his hard work and effort in the promotion of children's literacy, as evidence of the sincere sentiments of this legislative body.

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CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Resolution, Adopted by the Council of the City of Philadelphia on the twenty-ninth of January, 2009.

Anna C. Verna
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Patricia Rafferty
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmember Reynolds Brown

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Reynolds Brown, Goode, Rizzo, Clarke, Green, Greenlee, Kenney, Krajewski, DiCicco, Jones and Blackwell