City of Philadelphia

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

(Resolution No. 260404)

RESOLUTION

Honoring and congratulating Earl D. Fowlkes, Jr. during the week of Philadelphia Black Pride for his incredible and visionary leadership and dedicated service to the Black LGBTQ+ movement.

WHEREAS, Earl D. Fowlkes, Jr. is a distinguished national leader in the Black LGBTQ+ movement, whose decades of service have been instrumental in advancing equity, visibility, and community infrastructure for Black queer people across the United States. He currently serves in a leadership capacity with the Center for Black Equity, the premier national organization dedicated to supporting Black Pride initiatives and strengthening Black LGBTQ+ communities globally; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Fowlkes has played a foundational role in the development and expansion of the Black Pride movement. He previously served as President of DC Black Pride, one of the nation's earliest and most influential Black Pride celebrations and was an incorporator of the International Federation of Black Prides. His efforts served to lay the foundation upon which Michael Hinson and others founded Philly Black Gay Pride in 1999. Mr. Fowlkes helped establish a national and international framework that has supported the growth and sustainability of Black Pride events in cities across the country and abroad; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his leadership in Pride organizing, Mr. Fowlkes has been a committed advocate in the fight against HIV/AIDS, with a particular focus on prevention, education, and resources for Black communities disproportionately impacted by the epidemic. His advocacy also extends to uplifting Black LGBTQ+ youth and preserving the cultural legacy and contributions of the House and Ballroom community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Fowlkes' career also includes notable service in public policy and political engagement, including leadership within Democratic Party structures in Washington, D.C., where he has worked to advance inclusive policies and civic participation. His enduring legacy is defined by institution-building, strategic advocacy, and an unwavering commitment to ensuring that Black LGBTQ+ individuals are seen, supported, and celebrated at every level of society; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADEPHIA, Hereby honors and congratulates Earl D. Fowlkes, Jr. during the week of Philadelphia Black Pride for his incredible and visionary leadership and dedicated service to the Black LGBTQ+ movement.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That an Engrossed copy of this Resolution be presented to Earl D. Fowlkes, Jr. as further evidence of the admiration and respect of this legislative body.

CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Resolution, Adopted by the Council of the City of Philadelphia on the twenty-third day of April, 2026.

Kenyatta Johnson
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Elizabeth McCollum
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmember Landau

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Landau, Gauthier, Lozada, O'Rourke, Driscoll and Squilla