

# City of Philadelphia



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

(Resolution No. 230434)

## RESOLUTION

Declaring May 2023 Haitian Heritage Month in the City of Philadelphia, in recognition of the contributions of Haitians and Haitian-Americans.

WHEREAS, Haitian Heritage Month is celebrated by the Haitian diaspora around the world to commemorate Haitian history, heritage, and culture. Heritage Month is an expansion of the annual Haitian Flag Day, a national holiday that falls on May 18th; and

WHEREAS, Haitian Flag Day is celebrated globally to commemorate Haiti's independence from France. Haiti is the first independent nation in Latin America, the first post-colonial, independent, Black-led nation in the world, and the only nation whose independence was gained because of a successful enslaved persons rebellion. The City of Philadelphia will commemorate Haitian Flag Day on May 18th with a flag-raising ceremony at City Hall; and

WHEREAS, As an opportunity for Haitians to express their pride in their culture, traditions, and family, Haitian Flag Day also celebrates the first adoption of the Haitian flag. The Haitian flag is a vibrant blue and red with the motto "L'Union fait la force," which translates to "Union makes strength". The national coat of arms is displayed in the center with symbols of justice and liberty such as flags, rifles, hatches, cannons, and anchors; and

WHEREAS, Haitians have brought their heritage of sense, intelligence, and bold creativity to every corner of the globe. According to the Pew Charitable Trust, Haitians are one of the largest immigrant communities in Philadelphia; and

WHEREAS, Philadelphia's vibrant Haitian community contributes to the city's lively and growing immigrant community. Haitian Philadelphians are small business owners, educators, public servants, police officers, health professionals, artists, faith leaders, and much more; and

WHEREAS, Haitians, like all immigrants, make Philadelphia stronger, resilient, and diverse. The city is at its best when neighbors of all backgrounds come together to celebrate their differences and similarities; now, therefore, be it

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*RESOLUTION NO. 230434 continued*

RESOLVED, the Council of the City of Philadelphia declares May 2023 Haitian Heritage Month in the City of Philadelphia, in recognition of the contributions of Haitians and Haitian-Americans.

FURTHER RESOLVED, An Engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to the organizers of Philadelphia's Haitian Flag Day ceremony as a token of this body's respect and appreciation.

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*RESOLUTION NO. 230434 continued*

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*RESOLUTION NO. 230434 continued*

CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Resolution, Adopted by the Council of the City of Philadelphia on the eleventh day of May, 2023.

Darrell L. Clarke  
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Michael A. Decker  
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmembers Gauthier and Phillips

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Gauthier, Phillips, Brooks, Gilmore  
Richardson, Vaughn, Squilla, Jones, Driscoll, Lozada, Bass  
and Thomas