

City of Philadelphia



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

(Resolution No. 260367)

RESOLUTION

Honoring Temple University's Jazz Band and Terell Stafford on winning the 2026 National Collegiate Jazz Championship and recognizing this accomplishment as a source of pride for the City of Philadelphia.

WHEREAS, Temple University's Jazz Band, under the direction of Terell Stafford, won the 2026 National Collegiate Jazz Championship in January at Jazz at Lincoln Center in New York City; and

WHEREAS, The win was the program's first national title since 2020 and the second in the band's history; and

WHEREAS, The 19-member ensemble competed against leading college jazz programs from across the country and earned this recognition through preparation, discipline and strong ensemble playing; and

WHEREAS, Terell Stafford, who has led Temple's jazz program for nearly 30 years, has built a culture that emphasizes musical unity, seriousness of purpose, and a focus on the music itself rather than competition alone; and

WHEREAS, Stafford said the goal was not to chase a win, but to play with honesty, joy and clarity, and that approach helped shape the band's performance at the championship; and

WHEREAS, The group performed selections including "Windows" by Chick Corea, arranged by Ted Nash, as well as Duke Ellington's "I Got It Bad (And That Ain't Good)" and "Second Line," which highlighted the band's cohesion and shared sound; and

WHEREAS, Temple students also received additional recognition at the competition, including honors for outstanding combo performance, two outstanding section recognitions and twelve individual performance awards including the Harry Carney Good Citizen of Jazz Award and the Earl Hines Outstanding Musician Award; and

City of Philadelphia

RESOLUTION NO. 260367 continued

WHEREAS, This achievement reflects not only the work of the student musicians and their director, but also Temple University's continued investment in arts education and opportunities for young artists to perform at a high level; and

WHEREAS, Philadelphia has a long and important jazz tradition, and Temple's Jazz Band carries that tradition forward through excellence, collaboration and dedication to the craft; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, Hereby honors Temple University's Jazz Band and Terell Stafford for winning the 2026 National Collegiate Jazz Championship and extends the congratulations and respect of this legislative body.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That an Engrossed copy of this Resolution be presented to Temple University's Jazz Band and Terell Stafford as evidence of the admiration of the Council of the City of Philadelphia.

City of Philadelphia

RESOLUTION NO. 260367 continued

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

Kenyatta Johnson
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Elizabeth McCollum
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmember Ahmad

Sponsored by: Council President Johnson, Councilmembers Ahmad, Phillips, Gauthier, Jones, Landau, Lozada, Brooks, Harrity, Driscoll, Squilla and Bass